



Universität Vechta
University of Vechta

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International Week 2026

June 8 - 12, 2026

<https://www.uni-vechta.de/international-office/internationalisierung-zuhause/internationale-woche>





Program International Week

June 08 – 12, 2026

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WiFi

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Welcome Address

Dear colleagues, dear guests,

Welcome to the International Week 2026 at the University of Vechta.

This week, a true highlight in our academic year, reflects our understanding of research and how it shapes our university: research that is open to dialogue, connected across borders, and engaged with the challenges of our time.

By bringing together international scholars, students, and colleagues from across the university, we create a space where ideas travel, perspectives meet, and new collaborations can emerge. From guest lectures in our classrooms to the Research+ Conference, the program is designed to make research visible, to invite exchange, and to think together about the future of science and society.

Internationalization, for us, is not a separate activity — it is part of how we do research.

I wish you an inspiring week and many stimulating conversations.

Prof. Dr. Christopher Osterhaus

Vice President for Research, Junior Researchers and International Affairs



Week Overview

Monday, 08.06.2026

Time	Module	Event	Speaker	Location
08:00 – 10:00	pkb 002.2 Theorien Internationaler Beziehungen	Contemporary Orientation of Türkiye's Foreign Policy in its "Near Abroad"	Prof. Yavuz Cilliler	E137b
10:00 – 12:00	Bachelor-Seminar wnb003.1 Gruppe A, Handlungstheorie	Vier Arten der Autonomie	Prof. Dr. Oliver Sensen	J12
10:00 – 12:00	ewb010 Bildung für nachhaltige Entwicklung	Rethinking Education for Sustainable Development Through a Decolonial Lens: New Pathways for Transformative Learning	Dr. María Angélica Mejía- Cáceres	Q111
11:30 – 12:00		Guided Campus Tour	Komfortzone, R 036	
12:00 – 14:00		Lunch Please bring your meal voucher	University Canteen	
12:00 – 14:00	swb005.1	The Consolidation of the Far Right in Brazil and the New Contours of Political Polarization	Dr. Henrique Zeferino de Menezes	R005
16:00 – 18:00	pkb 002.2 Theorien Internationaler Beziehungen	Contemporary Orientation of Türkiye's Foreign Policy in its "Near Abroad"	Prof. Yavuz Cilliler	E137b
18:00	Opening Ceremony Prof. Dr. Christopher Osterhaus <i>Vice President for Research, Junior Researchers and International Affairs</i> Chair: Magnus Frampton			Aula
18:00 – 20:00	wnb003.2: Ethische Theorien	Autonomie und moralische Verpflichtung" bzw. "Autonomie als oberstes Prinzip der Moral"	Prof. Dr. Oliver Sensen	E133



Tuesday, 09.06.2026

Time	Module	Event	Speaker	Location
09:00 – 10:00	Dealing with Pluralism of Values (wnb009.2)	Truth, Dialogue, and Peace: Nicholas of Cusa on Religious Pluralism.	Prof. Dr. Paula Pico Estrada	E035
10:30 – 11:30	Dealing with Pluralism of Values (wnb009.2)	Democracy, Dialogue and Emotions: New Challenges in Value Pluralism.	Prof. Dr. Daniel Busdygan	E035
10:00 – 12:00	mub003.4	Becoming different - music therapy as an approach to music education	Prof. Dr. Oliver Schöndube	F045
10:00 – 14:00	pbx014 Nachhaltige Entwicklung: Praktische Zugänge zu BNE	The value of innovation and retooling in education	Dr. María Angélica Mejía-Cáceres	E135
12:00 – 13:30	swb005.2	Demokratie im Schockmodus? Neue Rechte, soziale Konflikte und die Neudefinition der demokratischen Ordnung im Argentinien von Javier Milei	Prof. Dr. Guillermo Santos	R005
12:00 – 14:00		Lunch Please bring your meal voucher		University Canteen
13:15 – 13:45		Soundwalk	Prof. Dr. Karin Zimmer	Info-Point
14:00 – 16:00	pkb008 (pk0017a) Kolloquium zur Demokratieforschung und -vermittlung: Ausgewählte Themen	The crisis of democracy in Korea	Prof. Dr. Yong-Min Kim	E137b
14:00 – 16:00	mub006.2: Bausteine II: Musikalische Umgangsweisen und Instrumentenkunde	The transformative power of music for social participation	Pedro Carneiro	F045
14:00 – 16:00	Digitale Kulturwissenschaften und kulturelles Archiv (kwm018)	Community Knowledge Infrastructures for Emerging PFAS Contamination	Dr. Tim Schütz	N118
14:00 – 19:00	Regionale Geographie II: Europa und Außereuropa	Land, Property, and Modern Governance Mapping contributions of urban agriculture to sustainability and wellbeing outcomes in Indian cities	Dr. Menokhono & Dr. Sheetal Patil	U020



Wednesday, 10.06.2026

Time	Module	Event	Speaker	Location
10:00 – 12:00	Exegese und Theologie des Neuen Testaments: Taufe und Eucharistie als Fundament der Ekklesia	Menschenrechte in der Krise, Demokratie am Abgrund: Kann sich ein universales Ethos noch behaupten?	Prof. Dr. Markus Krienke	N07
10:00 – 12:00	pbb062: Verstehen, was andere denken: Förderung sozialkognitiver Kompetenzen für den Schulerfolg	From Cognitive Development to Educational Practice	Prof. Dr. Silvia Guerrero Moreno	F114 (Music Hall)
12:00 – 14:00		Lunch Please bring your meal voucher		University Canteen
12:00 – 14:00	Gym019.1 Wohn- und Versorgungsformen im Alter	Key Turning Points in Gerontology in Türkiye: Practice, Services, and Field Experience	Dr. F. Sila Ayan	Q115
12:00 – 14:00	Seminar wnb003.1 Gruppe B, Handlungstheorie	Die Rolle von Gefühlen in Handlungen	Prof. Dr. Oliver Sensen	N02
14:00 – 15:00		Informationsveranstaltung für Lehrende und Mitarbeitende zur Erasmus Staff Mobility	Sarah Winkler	E131



Research+ in Dialogue: International Perspectives on Science and Society

Aula			
14:00 – 14:15	Welcome and Opening Remarks		
	<i>Christopher Osterhaus</i> <i>Vice President for Research, Junior Researchers and International Affairs</i>		
14:15 – 15:00	Panel Discussion: Science and academic freedom in times of global polycrises		
	Guests: Gabriele Dürbeck (Vechta, Germany), Lena Oetzel (Salzburg, Austria), Daniel Ramiro Sanchez Fernandez (Salta, Argentina), Veith Selk (Vechta, Germany) <i>Chair: Christine Vogel (Vechta, Germany)</i>		
15:00 – 16:00	Parallel Sessions I		
	Kleine Aula	Aula	E137b
	Ethical Perspectives <i>Chair: Jean-Christophe Merle</i>	Environment, Technology, and Society in Transition <i>Chair: Amelie Bernzen</i>	Crises of Democracy <i>Chair: Stephan Sandkötter</i>
	Jean-Christophe Merle & Oliver Sensen, Daniel Busdygan, Paula Pico Estrada <i>How to respect others</i> Silvia Pellegrini & Markus Krienke <i>Anthropocene and Transhumanism</i>	Mirka Erler, Bernzen & Menokhono, Sheetal Somashekar Patil <i>Land, Property, and Development: Negotiating Rights and Identity in India</i> Johanna Böttcher, Igor Blumberg, Nick Lin-Hi <i>Determinants of Consumer Acceptance of Cell-Based Fish: Insights from Qualitative and Quantitative Studies</i> John-Oliver Engler <i>One ppm at a time: Quantifying extreme risk associated with increasing atmospheric CO2 levels</i> Güliz Karaarslan-Semiz & Marco Rieckmann <i>A Framework for Professional Action Competence: Assessing Educators' Competencies in Sustainability and Climate Change Education</i>	Seul A. Lee & Yong-Min Kim Jörg Baudner & Yavuz Cilliler Stephan Sandkötter & Henrique Zeferino de Menezes, Guillermo Santos <i>Polarization, De-democratization and how to resist? An international comparison</i> (Session continues after the break)
16:00 – 17:00	Poster Exhibition & Refreshment Break		



Parallel Sessions II

Kleine Aula

Education and Psychology

Chair: Christopher Osterhaus

17:00 – 18:30

Marco Rieckmann & María Angélica Mejía Cáceres
How Action-Research Shapes Next-Generation Educational Design

Silvia Guerrero Moreno
Rethinking Schooling Through Developmental Science: What Do Child-Centered Contexts Teach Us About the Future of Education?

Jana Warnke
Talking Minds: How Language and Conversation Shape Advanced Theory of Mind

Christopher Osterhaus & Daniel Sanchez, Mariela Capaldo
The Value of International Collaboration in Research: Insights from the ESCoLAR Project

Anke König & Linda Wellmeyer
Exploring Cultural Patterns Through Video-Cued Multi-Vocal Ethnography: A Cross-Cultural Methodological Approach

Aula

Perspectives on Society, Health, and Education

Chair: Lina Franken

Andrea Teti & Sila Ayan
A Brief History of Gerontology in Türkiye and Future Directions in Gerontological Practice and Education

Lina Franken & Tim Schütz
Civic Archiving with the Platform for Experimental Collaborative Ethnography (PECE)

Burghart Schmidt & Ghazi Gherairi
The African cultural renaissance, twenty years on

Michael Braksiek
Different Professions? Comparing Physical Education Teachers in Germany and the United States

Till Schmäing
Inquiry-based learning in teacher education: How do teachers' preferences vary across different education systems in Europe?

18:30 – 19:30

Closing Session

Oliver Schöndube & Pedro Carneiro
The Participatory Orchestra

Poster Prize Award and Closing Remarks

Christopher Osterhaus

Aula

19:30

Party, organized by the student council, location: Sports Field



Thursday, 11.06.2026

	Module	Event	Speaker	Location
10:00 – 16:00	Cultural Program: Museumsdorf Cloppenburg https://museumsdorf.de/en/9246-2/ (for guests of the International Week and Staff Week) Please bring comfortable shoes for walking.		Meeting Point: Komfortzone (R036)	
14:00 – 16:00	kwm016.1 Diskurse und Repräsentationen kulturellen Wandels	Geschichtsbilder und -narrative auf Social Media	Prof. Dr. Lena Oetzel	Q115
14:00 – 18:00	Interkulturelles Training für Outgoing Studierende Teil 1 nur mit Anmeldung bis 05.06.: international.office@uni-vechta.de			R023
16:00 – 18:00	pbx 133.1/2: Ortsgeschichte Geschichtsorte	The African cultural renaissance, twenty years on	Prof. Dr. Ghazi Gherairi	P110

Friday, 12.06.2026

	Module	Event	Speaker	Location
09:00 – 13:00	Interkulturelles Training für Outgoing Studierende Teil 2 nur mit Anmeldung bis 05.06.: international.office@uni-vechta.de			R023

Guests

Education studies

Dr. María Angélica Mejía-Cáceres
Université Paris Cité

Dr. María Angélica Mejía Cáceres is a Colombian-born educator and researcher specialising on environmental education and socio-environmental justice. She holds a Ph.D. in Science and Health Education from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Brazil. Currently, Dr. Mejía Cáceres serves as the Educational Program Development Manager at the Learning Planet Institute. She is also actively involved in research, contributing to various publications on topics like environmental education, critical pedagogy, and Interdisciplinarity. Her work often integrates Freirean perspectives and aims to bridge the gap between scientific knowledge and environmental education.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Marco Rieckmann

Geography

Dr. Menokhono
Tata Institute of Social Sciences

IncLand (Inclusive Land) project at TISS, Mumbai, headed by Prof. M. Sekher. Previously, she served as a full-time Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at Assam Don Bosco University (2021–2023). She has also been involved in international academic collaborations and capacity-building programmes and recently developed a course, as an outcome of her current project, for the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC–TISS) International Certificate Programme on Land Administration.

Invited by Dr. Mirka Erler

Dr. Sheetal Somashekar Patil
Indian Institute for Human Settlements

Sheetal Somashekar Patil is an economist and interdisciplinary researcher whose work spans over two decades across research, teaching, and practice in sustainability and agri-food systems. She holds a Master's degree in Economics from CV Raman University (2017), a Bachelor's degree in Economics from EILM University (2012), a BCA from Indira Gandhi National Open University (2004), and a Diploma in Civil Engineering from the Government Polytechnic Institute in Pune (1998). Sheetal Patil has extensive professional experience, having worked for 11 years as a Research Associate and Senior Research Associate at the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), followed by nine years as a faculty member at Azim Premji University. She now contributes to the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) School of Environment and Sustainability in Bangalore, where her work focuses on integrated agri-food systems, urban and peri-urban food systems, and climate change adaptation. Her research connects food, water, and ecological systems within the broader context of urbanisation and sustainability. She co-authored the 2019 book *Agrarian Change and Urbanization in Southern India*, which explores the complex dynamics of smallholder agriculture amid rapid urban growth. Since 2024, she has been closely cooperating with Prof. Amelie Bernzen at Vechta University on Food Waste Revalorisation in Bangalore within a DFG-funded project.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Amelie Bernzen

Dr. F. Sıla Ayan **İnönü University**

Dr. Fatma Sıla Ayan is a Lecturer and researcher in the field of Gerontology, currently affiliated with İnönü University, Türkiye. She completed her Bachelor's degree in Gerontology at Akdeniz University and her Master's degree in Women's Studies at Dokuz Eylül University. She earned her PhD in Elderly Health from Aydın Adnan Menderes University, where her doctoral research focused on the effects of music listening on anxiety, sleep quality, and quality of life in older adults following coronary bypass surgery. She is currently continuing a second doctoral program in Gerontology at Akdeniz University.

Dr. Ayan's academic interests broadly encompass healthy aging, geroprevention, health literacy, rational drug use, sleep and mental well-being in later life, women's aging experiences, and community-based gerontological practices. Her work integrates theoretical perspectives with applied research, with particular attention to non-pharmacological interventions, interdisciplinary approaches, and socially responsive models of care.

Alongside her academic training, Dr. Ayan has accumulated substantial field experience in gerontological practice. She has been involved in community-based studies, institutional care settings, and applied research projects addressing the needs of older adults in diverse contexts, including post-disaster environments. Her fieldwork has informed her understanding of aging not only as a clinical or biological process, but also as a social, cultural, and lived experience shaped by inequality, policy, and local resources.

Dr. Ayan is actively engaged in gerontology education and undergraduate teaching. Her pedagogical approach emphasizes experiential learning, andragogical principles, and the integration of theory with practice.

Through her combined academic, educational, and field-based work, Dr. Ayan aims to contribute to the development of gerontology as a practice-oriented, interdisciplinary, and socially grounded discipline, both within Türkiye and in international academic contexts.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Andrea Teti

History

Prof. Dr. Ghazi Gherairi **Université de Carthage**

Professeur Ghazi Gherairi est Professeur Ghazi GHERAIRI est juriste, universitaire et diplomate. -Professeur de droit public à la Faculté des sciences juridiques, politiques et sociales de Tunis, Université de Carthage, Tunisie.

Il a été :

- Ambassadeur de la Tunisie auprès de l'UNESCO ainsi qu'auprès de l'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (2016/2022),
- Vice président du comité du patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO -Porte-parole de la Haute Instance de Réalisation des Objectifs de la Révolution, de Réforme Politique et Transition Démocratique en Tunisie. (2011)

Ses centres d'intérêts académiques sont le droit public (Administratif et constitutionnel) et le droit international de la culture (Protection du patrimoine, restitutions des biens culturels etc.)

Invited by Prof. Dr. Burghart Schmidt

Prof. Dr. Lena Oetzel
Universität Salzburg

Dr. Lena Oetzel is Associate Professor at the department of History at the University of Salzburg. She is an expert in early modern female rule, diplomatic history, early modern peace research. She wrote her PhD Thesis on criticism of rule with Elizabeth I. of England (1558-1603). Her second book focussed on the Westphalian peace congress as a special diplomatic sphere and is about to be published with Wallstein. She is co-editor of "Early Modern European Diplomacy. A Handbook" (De Gruyter, 2024). She is currently working on a new project on the representation of the early modern period in popular culture, e.g. Social Media, historical novels. Oetzel is also member of hist4dem, a network of historians for a democratic society.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Christine Vogel

Catholic Theology

Prof. Markus Krienke
Università della Svizzera italiana

Markus Krienke (1978) ist ordentlicher Professor für Moderne Philosophie und Sozialethik an der Theologischen Fakultät von Lugano (Università della Svizzera italiana, USI) und Direktor des dortigen Rosmini-Lehrstuhls. Zudem lehrt er Philosophische Anthropologie an der Päpstlichen Lateranuniversität in Rom sowie kirchliche Soziallehre an der Theologischen Fakultät für Norditalien in Mailand. Er unterrichtet außerdem Moralphilosophie und Berufsethik am Institut Progetto Uomo der Päpstlichen Universität Salesiana mit Sitz in Montefiascone sowie History of Political Thought an der European School of Economics (ESE) in Mailand. Er ist Mitglied der Europäischen Akademie der Wissenschaften und Künste sowie des italienischen wissenschaftlichen Beirats der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) und Senior Fellow des Tocqueville-Acton-Zentrums. Er ist „Interlocutore Referente“ der Päpstlichen Akademie der Theologie und gehört den wissenschaftlichen Beiräten der Fondazione Luigi Stefanini sowie mehrerer Fachzeitschriften und Jahrbücher. Er ist Mitglied der Christlichen Unternehmervereinigung (UCID) in der Lombardei sowie Gründungsmitglied derselben Vereinigung im Tessin (UCIT). Weiterhin gehört er der Gruppe zur Unterstützung von Opfern religiöser Gewalt (GAVA), dem Vorstand des Osservatore Democratico in Massagno (Lugano), dem wissenschaftlichen Beirat der Stiftung der italienischen Schweiz für Hilfe, Unterstützung und Kinderschutz (ASPI), der Akademie für lutherische Studien in Italien (ASLI) sowie dem Bocconi Lab in European Studies (BLEST) an. In seiner Forschung befasst er sich mit dem Denken von Antonio Rosmini, der Metaphysik der Moderne, Fragen der politischen Philosophie und der Menschenrechte, den ethischen Herausforderungen der Wirtschaft, Europa sowie zuletzt mit den Herausforderungen der künstlichen Intelligenz, des Transhumanismus und Posthumanismus.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Silvia Pellegrini

Cultural Science

Dr. Tim Schütz
University of California, Irvine

I am a social scientist with a PhD from the Department of Anthropology at University of California, Irvine, and currently an independent researcher affiliated with UC Irvine's EcoGovLab. Starting in Fall 2026, I will be a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the IT University Copenhagen. My academic research and teaching focus on the mobilization of data across scientific fields, its role as evidence in legal contexts, and its significance as a shared reference point in social movements. I study how data

practices evolve, the underlying infrastructures and ideologies that shape them, and the contextual factors shaping the analytical and political power of data.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Lina Franken

Music Education

Pedro Carneiro
Escola Superior de Música de Lisboa

Pedro Carneiro is acclaimed internationally as a solo classical percussionist, conductor and composer. Pedro's virtuosity, passion, explosive energy, inquiring mind and emotional spontaneity have inspired several of today's leading composers to write works specially for him. He performs and records with many prestigious orchestras around the globe, such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, English Chamber Orchestra, Budapest Festival Orchestra and many others. He founded the Portuguese Chamber Orchestra (OCP) in 2007. In 2010, he founded the Portuguese Youth Orchestra (JOP), a member of the European Federation of National Youth Orchestras. Both orchestras have toured nationally and internationally to critical acclaim. He is also the founder of various social projects (with disabled musicians and with socially disadvantaged children) in the greater Lisbon area and beyond. Pedro is a sought after teacher as well as a passionate inventor: he has created many new mallets, sticks, a marimba damper pedal and accessories – some of which are now entering the repertoire and being used by percussionists around the world. Having written concert music, Pedro's main focus in recent years has been the interaction with other forms: theatre, dance and film – for which he has produced a considerable body of work. Carneiro's extensive discography includes solo, concerti, chamber music and improvisation.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Oliver Schöndube

Developmental Psychology

Silvia Guerrero Moreno
Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Silvia Guerrero is Associate Professor of Developmental and Educational Psychology at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Her research focuses on socio-cognitive development during childhood and on how social and educational contexts shape children's cognitive, social, and emotional trajectories. She began her research career studying the early development of ethnic-racial awareness, stereotypes, and prejudice in childhood, examining how children reason about social categories, intergroup attitudes, and exclusion in different contexts. Building on this line, her research later addressed how children construct knowledge through testimony, with a focus on epistemic trust, social consensus, and how children evaluate and learn from different sources of information. In this area, she led a nationally funded project on learning from teachers and the Internet, analysing credibility judgments and the role of prior beliefs in knowledge revision.

In recent years, her research has increasingly focused on schools as developmental environments. She currently directs the nationally funded project "The Role of Educational Context in Enhancing Child Development", a longitudinal study examining how different educational approaches relate to executive functions, self-regulation, creativity, and children's quality of life. This line of research explores whether child-centered educational practices are associated with distinct developmental patterns compared to more teacher-centered approaches. Her aim is to connect developmental research with educational practice, contributing empirical evidence to discussions about how schooling can better align with children's developmental needs. She has extensive teaching experience in Developmental and Educational Psychology and regularly supervises research projects on educational contexts and child development.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Christopher Osterhaus

Mariela Elsa Capaldo
Universidad Católica de Salta

Mariela Capaldo is Dean of the Faculty of Education at Universidad Católica de Salta (UCASAL), Argentina. She holds a Master's degree in Educational Technology from the IUP (Instituto Universitario de Posgrado, integrated by Universidad de Alicante, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, and Universidad Carlos III de Madrid), and a degree in Educational Sciences from Universidad Nacional de Salta, Argentina. She serves as a researcher at the Research Council of UCASAL. Her research focuses on educational trajectories in higher education, the development of research skills, and the teaching of research methodology. She is Adjunct Professor of Research Methodology II in the Bachelor's Degree Program in Educational Management at UCASAL. She is author and co-author of scientific publications related to her research and teaching field. She is also a member of the Advisory Committee of the Centro de Estudios y Desarrollo en Inteligencia Artificial (CEDIA) at UCASAL and a member of the Editorial Committee of the journal Cuadernos Universitarios, published by Editorial EUCASA of Universidad Católica de Salta.

*Invited by Prof. Dr. Christopher Osterhaus
(funded by the Ministry for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony)*

Prof. Dr. Daniel Sánchez
Universidad Católica de Salta

Daniel Sánchez Fernández holds a degree in Economics from the Catholic University of Salta and a Master's degree in Economics from the University of San Andrés. He is currently the Academic Vice-Rector of the Catholic University of Salta. With over 20 years of experience as a university professor, he has conducted research on labor markets, poverty and income distribution, and the development of economic and social indicators. He has served as Director of Statistics, Secretary of Planning and Secretary of International Financing in the government of Salta, and Director of Innovation and Vice-Rector of Research and Development at the Catholic University of Salta. He has completed postgraduate courses in Financial and Project Management, Econometrics and Statistics, Public Policy, Impact Evaluation of Social Programs, Results-Based Management in Development, Development Project Management, Innovation Management, Foresight Methods, and Use of AI in Higher Education.

*Invited by Prof. Dr. Christopher Osterhaus
(funded by the Ministry for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony)*

Philosophy

Prof. Dr. Oliver Sensen
Tulane University of Louisiana

Oliver Sensen is Professor of Philosophy at Tulane University. He studied in Munich, as well as at Oxford, Harvard, and Cambridge Universities. He was a Visiting Professor at MIT, the University of Chicago, and the University of Bremen. His main research is on dignity, autonomy, respect, the self, and Kant. He is the author of Kant on Human Dignity (de Gruyter), Human Dignity (Cambridge University Press), and he is working on a commentary on Kant's Groundwork (Oxford University Press). He is the editor or co-editor of five volumes, including Kant on Moral Autonomy (Cambridge), and Respect (Oxford). He has written over 75 articles on Kant's practical philosophy.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Jean-Christophe Merle

Prof. Dr. Paula Pico Estrada
Universidad del Salvador

Paula Pico Estrada is a doctor of Philosophy (Universidad de Buenos Aires, 2016), professor of Theory of Knowledge at the Universidad del Salvador, and Professor of History of Medieval Philosophy at the Universidad Nacional de San Martín, both in Argentina. She serves as director of the undergraduate programme in Philosophy at the latter university. Pico Estrada has published several articles and book chapters on the anthropology of Nicholas of Cusa (1401-1464) and is co-author of *Lenguaje, lógica y ontología en cinco pensadores medievales* (Buenos Aires: Baudino Ediciones, 2011). Her latest book is *Nicholas of Cusa on the Trinitarian Structure of the Innate Criterion of Truth* (Leiden-Boston: Brill, 2022), where she investigates the scope and limits of epistemological and ethical apriorism in the philosophical anthropology of Nicholas of Cusa. Her general research topic is the forms of Christian ethics in the Middle Ages. Within this context, she focuses on the specific form often referred to as “metaphysical ethics”, an expression that seeks to include all theories and practices whose goal is the comprehensive psychic transformation of the individual. She currently studies a mystical tradition called “affective dionysianism”.

Invited by Prof. Dr. Christopher Osterhaus and Prof. Dr. Jean-Christophe Merle (funded by the Ministry for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony)

Prof. Dr. Daniel Busgydan
Universidad Nacional de Quilmes

Daniel Busdygan holds a PhD in Philosophy from the University of La Plata (Argentina) and an MA in Social Sciences and Humanities from the University of Quilmes (Argentina). He serves as Vice-Director (Vice-Dean) of the Department of Social Sciences at University of Quilmes Quilmes and is Principal Investigator of the Project (2020) “Democracy and Public Dialogue.” He is a member of the Executive Board of the Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios de Filosofía at the Instituto de Investigaciones en Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales (CIEFI–IdIHCS–UNLP), and a Research Member of the Observatory of Public Practices of History and Philosophy (Department of Social Sciences, UNQ). He also works as a technical specialist in the drafting and updating of curricular frameworks for the Directorate-General for Culture and Education of the Province of Buenos Aires. Regarding his teaching career, he is a Professor of 'Philosophy of Law' at the Faculty of Humanities and Educational Sciences (FaHCE–UNLP). At the National University of Quilmes (UNQ), he serves as a Professor of 'Philosophy' and 'Political Philosophy' and is a member of the faculty of the PhD program in Social Sciences, where he teaches the 'Contemporary Political Philosophy' seminar. His main publications include *On the Decriminalization of Abortion* (EduLP, 2013) and *Democracy and Public Reason* (UNQ-CLACSO, 2022), as well as edited and co-authored volumes such as *Knowledge, Art, and Valuation: Contemporary Philosophical Perspectives* (PGD, 2016), *Ideas and Philosophical Perspectives* (UNQ, 2017), *Abortion: Normative, Legal, and Discursive Dimensions* (Biblos, 2018), *Faces of Egalitarianism* (TeseoPress, 2020), and *For All x: Philosophical, Legal, and Educational Itineraries of Logic* (TeseoPress, 2025).

Invited by Prof. Dr. Christopher Osterhaus and Prof. Dr. Jean-Christophe Merle (funded by the Ministry for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony)

Prof. Dr. Yong-Min Kim
Konkuk University

PhD in Political Science, University of Exeter, Vice-President, Korean Association for European Studies, Former Chair of External Cooperation, Korean Political Science Association, Primary Research Areas: Regional Politics in Europe and Japan.

Invited by Dr. Seul A Lee

Prof. Dr. Yavuz Cilliler
Istanbul Gelisim University

Science and International Relations at Istanbul Gelisim University/Türkiye.

His field of academic specialization is Turkish Political Life and Comparative Politics. He published articles and book chapters in the subfields of Civil-Military Relations, Nationalism and Ethnic Questions, Political Regimes and Democratization, and Turkish Foreign Policy. In addition to his academic career, he served as a political advisor at the headquarters of NATO and EUFOR for a definite period of time.

Invited by Dr. Jörg Baudner

Social Sciences

Dr. Henrique Zeferino de Menezes
Universidade Federal da Paraíba

Henrique Menezes is a professor in the Graduate Program in Political Science and International Relations at the Federal University of Paraíba, Brazil. He is a historian with a PhD in Political Science.

Invited by Dr. Stephan Sandkötter

Prof. Dr. Guillermo Santos
Universidad Nacional de Quilmes

Guillermo Santos is PhD in Social and Human Sciences from the National University of Luján (Argentina). He has a Master's degree in Social Sciences with a specialisation in Social History; he is Sociologist from the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina) and professor of social history in the National University of Quilmes (Buenos Aires - Argentina). He works as researcher at the Institute of Studies on Science and Technology (IESCT) of the National University of Quilmes. His areas of research and teaching include social history and sociology of technology and socio-technical change. He specialises in research on socio-technical systems for social inclusion in energy, health and education. He is the director of the Bachelor & Master Degree in History at the National University of Quilmes. He is currently Adjunct Professor in the Department of Social Sciences at the National University of Quilmes (Buenos Aires – Argentina). He has published studies on social history and sociology of technology in several national and international journals and is co-author of several books on technology and innovation. Among them are "Innovar en Argentina" and "Tecnologías para incluir". He is professional developer of games and graphic contents in the field of social sciences for several public and private institutions in Argentina.

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