



Dear Junior Fellows,

We are sending out love and positive energy to you at this challenging season, we hope you continue to keep yourself safe and healthy. In the face of novel Covid-19, we stand together as a people as we are reminded of our interdependent and interconnected world. We are a community of world's habitant and together we shall come out of this dark tunnel of history.

This edition of Newsletter will take us through contents of the new BIGSAS World Blog and general information that we consider useful with regards to Covid-19. Continue to stay safe!

Alice and Dapo

The New BIGSAS World Blog

The BIGSAS World Blog was formerly published in prints edition by BIGSAS junior fellows, the Biennial journal produced two successful editions between the year 2012 -2015 (you can read and download copies via: <https://epub.uni-bayreuth.de/3224/1/The%20BIGSAS%20World%202012-2013.pdf> (ed.: Ndi Shang, Gilbert ; Šváblová, Alžběta ; Owino, Robert ; Narh, Peter and Ndogo, Samuel (2014). The second print edition of BIGSAS World (<https://epub.uni-bayreuth.de/3225/1/The%20BIGSAS%20World%202014-2015.pdf>) was edited by Debele, Serawit Bekele; Boutché, Jean Pierre; Ngum, Yvette; Oyali, Uchenna and Arthur, Justice Anquandah (2016).

After four years break, the BIGSAS World is now rebranded into a digital format. The new BIGSAS World is now published in a blog format. The Blog is the new platform for junior fellows to share their research projects in less/non-academic language. The readership is anticipated to go beyond the academia. The new format is now accessible to a wider audience with just a click. The BIGSAS World blog continues to focus on interesting themes like family life, food, entrepreneurship and community projects. Kindly read more via this link (<https://bigsas.hypotheses.org/about>)

Recently Published Stories in the New BIGSAS World Blog are (...)

- **Justice for Africans by Africans:**

“to what extent, peoples’ rights, which are provided for between Article 19 and 24 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights[2] have played a role in decision-making at the African Commission and the Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights to ensure wider attainment of social justice in the respective African countries” - Cecilia Ngaiza

➤ Read more: <https://bigsas.hypotheses.org/360>)



- **Togo wählt – Studierende diskutieren:**

“ Im Rahmen des Veranstaltungsformats „Africa Politicum“ (ein Sub-Projekt der Model African Union) trafen sich am Donnerstag den 13. Februar etwa 20 überwiegend afrikanische Studierende und Promovierende der Universität Bayreuth, um über die anstehenden Präsidentschaftswahlen in Togo zu diskutieren. Dabei ging es nicht nur um die Wahlen und die Forderungen der Opposition nach einem Ende der Herrschaft Faure Gnassingbé, sondern auch um grundsätzlichere politische Fragen.

“Heißt das Problem wirklich Faure oder ist die mangelnde Einigkeit der Opposition auch ein wichtiger Teil des Problems?”- Hanza Diman & Lars Springfield

➤ Read more: (<https://bigsas.hypotheses.org/818>)

Language Talent, Social Entrepreneur and BIGSAS Junior Fellow:

“I had the opportunity to go back to my bucket list and get this slavery issue that was always haunting me – it is something we do not really talk about in Francophone Africa, whereas there is a lot to say about this painful past and the significant consequences that the slave trade still has in Africa today.” – culled from an interview with Thierry Boudjekeu

Read more (<https://bigsas.hypotheses.org/948>)

You Can Also Be Part of The BIGSAS World Blog Editorial Team

We are looking for an editorial team (<https://bigsas.hypotheses.org/887>)

The tasks of an editorial team include:

- Production, organisation and coordination of articles, interviews, reports etc.
- Permanent improvement of the content plan
- Photography and design

We would like to point out that this is an honorary position that is not compensated. The working hours are of course flexible and are to be arranged with the other team members. If you are interested, please send an email to dina.falten@uni-bayreuth.de

La Journée internationale de la Francophonie par - Carolin Herzog

➤ Read more? (to be published on March 20th 2020)



Work Group

New guideline concerning the topic “Work Groups” is launched online:

- Formation of a WG:
 1. Minimum of two JFs, other students and doctoral candidates of UBT may participate;
 2. Documents to be submitted: list of current numbers, at least one contact person with a current email address, an abstract of the contents for the BIGSAS website, and a 2-year plan with details
- Organization of a WG
WG may rely on financial and organisational support from BIGSAS;
- Documentation of a WG
The activities of the WG shall be documented in a short annual report;
- WG and possible publication
BIGSASworks! Is an online journal within the working paper series of the Institute of African Studies (IAS)

Details can be found at:

[http://www.bigsas.uni-bayreuth.de/en/download_files/workgroups/Guideline Work-Groups.pdf](http://www.bigsas.uni-bayreuth.de/en/download_files/workgroups/Guideline_Work-Groups.pdf)

The right of explanation rests with BIGSAS administration office.

Covid-19



Basic Protective measures against the Coronavirus:

1. Don't panic
2. Wash your hands
3. When coughing or sneezing, use your elbow or tissue to cover the mouth
4. Social distancing
5. Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

Protect Yourself and Family

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IkdPFCStA38&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR0QxcdiTYtGiiJo4e7ECPXNGQBp7nDPkdgBnvTQyO4tA4f59_9FxnLYDjE

Suspicion of Infection:

- If you have been to the area of high-risk or have been in touch with infected person, please contact your house doctor (Hausarzt) by telephone first. Do not go to the Praxis or hospital on one's own. Further methods will be informed.

Emergency Call:

116 117 (house doctor service)

Life Emergency Call:

112

Other contact information:


Contact Health Office Bayreuth 0921 / 728-228

Hotline Coronavirus Bayern: 09131 / 6808-5101 (for questions in regard to Coronavirus)

Differences between the flu and Coronavirus:

Symptoms of COVID-19, cold, influenza

Symptoms	COVID-19	Influenza (Flu)	Cold
Dry cough	+++	+++	+
Fever	+++	+++	-
Stuffy nose	-	++	+++
Sore throat	++	++	+++
Shortness of breath	++	--	--
Headache	++	+++	-
Body aches	++	+++	+++
Sneezing	--	--	+++
Exhaustion	++	+++	++
Diarrhea	-	++	--
+++ Frequent ++ Sometimes + Occasionally - Rare -- Not observed			

 Source: WHO, CDC

Source:

<https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-symptoms/a-52233885>

Daily data update:

1. Robert Koch Institute, (Germany)

https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Fallzahlen.html?nn=13490888

2. John Hopkins University & medicine: Coronavirus Resource Center, (world)

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

More information:

Daily updates on the coronavirus with questions and answers in regard to the situation in Germany:

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2020/coronavirus.html>



Food Storage for Emergency:

Right now, there is no need to store food in Germany (In German: Hamsterkäufe, meaning to shop like a nervous, bulging-cheeked hamster). All supermarkets are open in their regular time from 7:00 to 20:00. The Bavarian governor has recommended that some supermarkets to be open on Sunday from 12:00 to 18:00 to meet the demand, so some supermarkets might be open on Sunday in Bayreuth but the details wait to be confirmed.



University of Bayreuth:

Most of the university facilities and offices have been closed down, but they can still be reached through emails or telephone. BIGSAS secretary's office will still be available during the official opening hours, but only by email.

Details can be accessed here:

<https://www.uni-bayreuth.de/en/university/press/corona/index.html>

The city of Bayreuth

Currently 12 persons in total in the city and district of Bayreuth have been infected with Coronavirus. (Updated on 18 March 2020 at 12:25)

Visitor forbidden in Klinikum and Hohe Warte (Updated on 19 March 2020 at 16:15)

source: <https://www.bayreuther-tagblatt.de/coronavirus-in-bayreuth-besuchsverbot-fuer-klinikum-und-hohe-warte/>

The foreign office (Auslaendersamt) is also closed but can be reached through telephone and email.

Source: <https://www.bayreuth.de/rathaus-buergerservice/stadtverwaltung/referate-aemter/aemter-a-z/auslaenderamt/>



Online resources

Except the database that UniBayreuth offers, some publishers around the world also decide to offer free access to certain journals and books to support scholars during this challenging time.

The list is not limited to the following:

1. JSTOR Database <https://www.jstor.org>
Open and Free content on JSTOR and Arstor: <https://about.jstor.org/oa-and-free/>
2. Cambridge University Press <https://www.cambridge.org>
 - [Academic publishing](#) has made higher education textbooks free to access online. All [700 textbooks](#) published and currently available in HTML format on Cambridge Core can now be accessed free until the end of May, regardless of whether they were previously purchased.
 - [English Language Teaching](#), in partnership with colleagues at Cambridge Assessment English, are producing free, online content for teachers and learners.
 - [Education publishing](#) are working to support teachers, students and parents around the world. A range of online resources are available in the form of [free 90 days trials](#)
3. British Library <https://www.bl.uk/news/2020/march/coronavirus>

Some books to read and reread to enrich your social distancing:

- A reading list annotated by Ato Quayson

<https://africanstudies.org/news/ato-quaysons-reading-list-books-to-enrich-your-time-social-distancing/>

- Some "Plague Literature" that might not be helpful to deal with coronavirus...
(but welcome to prolong the list)

1. *The Plague* by Camus
2. *Blindness* by Saramago
3. *The Decameron* by Boccaccio
4. *A Journal of the Plague Year* by Daniel Defoe
5. *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel García Márquez
6. *The Hot Zone* by Richard Preston
7. *Discipline and Punish. The Birth of the Prison* by Michel Foucault
8.



Do you have any suggestions, enquiries or you would you like to report about certain activities, kindly send an e-mail to bigsas-reps@uni-bayreuth.de

We are wishing you a sound health and victory over Covid-19

Alice & Dapo