

**Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies
BIGSAS Colloquium - Knowledge Lab of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence**

Thursday, 09 November 2023, 16:00 – 18:00 / presented in S58 (RWI) & online via Zoom.

15:55	Opening of the virtual conference room
16:00 – 16:05	Opening address by the Deputy Dean of BIGSAS, Prof. Dr Alexander Stroh-Steckelberg
16:05 – 16:40	<p>Tibelius Amutuhaire <i>" Internationalization and Student Mobility: Exploring the Mobility of Higher Education Students in East Africa"</i></p> <p>Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Iris Clemens Mentors: Prof. Dr Yamina El Kirat El Allame; Associate Prof. Dr Emnet Tadesse Woldegiorgis</p> <p>Introduced by: Associate Prof. Dr Emnet Tadesse Woldegiorgis Discussant: Usman Ahmad, BIGSAS Junior Fellow</p>
16:40 – 17:15	<p>Khadija Benthami <i>"Les récits d'enfance dans la littérature judéo-maghrébine"</i> <i>(French session)</i></p> <p>Supervisors: Prof. Dr Ute Fendler / Prof. Dr Ijjou Cheikh Moussa and Prof. Dr Yatribi Karima (Morocco) Mentor: Prof. Dr Mechthild Gilzmer</p> <p>Introduced by: Prof. Dr Ute Fendler Discussant: Prof. Dr Mechthild Gilzmer, Universität des Saarlandes, Saarbrücken</p>
17:15 – 17:50	<p>Diana Byarugaba Kisakye <i>"Judicial Institutions for Regional Integration?"</i></p> <p>Supervisor: Prof. Dr Alexander Stroh-Steckelberg Mentors: Prof. Dr Rachel Ellett; Dr. Peter Brett</p> <p>Introduced by: Prof. Dr Alexander Stroh-Steckelberg Discussants: Dr Jebby Gonza (UBT alumna) / Carsten Möller (BIGSAS JF)</p>

Participation in Person:

The Colloquium will take place in the Seminar Room S58 (RW I Building) on the campus.

Participation via Zoom:

<https://uni-bayreuth.zoom.us/j/66815848399?pwd=bFAyQ0Uyb1RNOFdvT09oRVc3MXoyUT09>

Meeting ID: 668 1584 8399 Passcode: 897688

Tibelius Amutuhaire - " Internationalization and Student Mobility: Exploring the Mobility of Higher Education Students in East Africa"

Internationalization of higher education, notably through student mobility, has a long history and has been extensively researched. Despite this reality, more is needed about intra-African student mobility. The phenomenon has generally been interpreted using evidence from the global North, which does not correspond to the African context, particularly its colonial history and socioeconomic challenges. The present study explored some rationales for international student mobility in East Africa using a mixed methods approach that relied on quantitative and qualitative data. Quantitative data were collected from 195 international students in Ugandan universities using a self-administered questionnaire. Qualitative data were collected through 16 interviews with international students, staff from international student offices, staff from the country's higher education regulatory agencies, and an immigration officer. Data analysis revealed that intra-African student mobility occurs for reasons that complicate and sometimes challenge widely ignored questions about student mobility: 1) the direction of student flows is influenced by colonial legacies and past histories of hosting international students by some countries, as well as economic imperatives 2) while international student mobility tends to reproduce social class, it is also used by lower social class students to resist social class positioning 3) while international students are desirable, they are subjected to restrictive immigration policies. The study contributes to understanding why Africans invest in international student mobility. It is part of a growing body of research on critical internationalization and paves the way for future research on the same topic in other parts of the global South.

Khadija Benthami - "Les récits d'enfance dans la littérature judéo-maghrébine"
(French session)

I am interested in Judeo-Maghrebian literature (Morocco-Algeria-Tunisia) particularly "female" production. my motivations to carry out this research are due to the scarcity of studies focusing on Judeo-Maghrebian female production in Morocco: the identity issue has always been studied in the light of the writings of Judeo-Maghrebian "male" authors who provide narration and description of what is happening outside and within the home. This is why our intention is to examine this identity construction from a corpus of "women" authors belonging to the countries of the "petit" Maghreb. We are far from comparing "feminine" and "masculine" writing or granting our work a feminist or gender dimension. But we would like to know how this Judeo-Maghreb identity is conceived by women.

Diana Byarugaba Kisakye - “Judicial Institutions for Regional Integration?”

It is widely acknowledged that effective regional integration can only occur if a solid legal foundation for economic and political integration has been firmly initiated. Indeed, the experience of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) has shown that regional courts have a critical role to play in fostering integration processes. While previous scholarship has usually used the CJEU as a benchmark for evaluating the functioning and legitimacy of other regional integration judicial organs, this project argues that African Regional Economic Community (REC) courts have carved out their path and transcended the adoption of the CJEU’s institutional framework, localising the institution to suit their regional settings. Being relatively new international legal regimes operating between complex, often opposing, and delicate national sovereignty and regional integration politics, Africa’s REC courts are vulnerable to pressures, just like their counterparts in national courts, but without enjoying the legitimacy and institutional cushions of the latter. Moreover, with the increasing judicialisation of politics worldwide, REC courts are frequently invited to decide on issues of high political salience, ensuing in critical media attention, threats to judicial independence and the ultimate fear of being “SADC-ed”. The latter refers to the dissolution of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Tribunal, a bitter reminder that African REC courts tread on very shaky political ground. While the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) survived immense backlash following the famous Anyang’ Nyong’o ruling, which saw the creation of an Appellate Division and explicit threats of disbanding the Court, concerns as to whether it would get SADC-ed if it is perceived as activist linger.

Against this background, my dissertation interrogates the construction of judicial power – judicial resourcefulness and creativity – on and off-bench through intentional practices and strategies of empowerment. The thesis finds that through strategic dialogue, mobilisation of allies, and socialising actors into the Court’s legal norms and procedures, EACJ judges behave as judicial diplomats who carefully balance their judicial role with the existing realities of their political surroundings to resist political interference and grow their constituencies. On-bench, judges delicately consider the orders they issue – treading the thin line between activism and avoidance – especially as the Court dives further into overtly politicised jurisprudence. Likewise, they carefully weigh their options concerning enforcement and compliance with decisions and are even willing to go beyond the rigidity of court procedures to limit potential backlash, among other things. This chapter links the judicial empowerment strategies to wider regional integration processes, pondering the question: to what extent does the judicial construction of power mirror the perception of regional integration in the EAC and, broadly, the role of courts in governance in Africa? In other words, what systematic knowledge can we glean about the performance of African integration through an analysis of its judicial organs?