

## THE LECTURERS

**ROWLAND ATKINSON** is Research Chair in Inclusive Societies at the University of Sheffield. He is an urban sociologist whose work crosses the boundaries of urban and housing studies, sociology, geography, and criminology. The central focus of his research is on how social divisions find spatial expression in urban contexts. His most recent book, *Alpha City* (2020), looks at how the super-rich have co-opted the political and property machine of London.

**SIMONE DERIX** holds the chair in Modern and Contemporary History at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg. She is a historian of nineteenth- and twentieth-century German, European and transnational history, with a particular interest in the history of capitalism and wealth. Her book *Die Thyssens: Familie und Vermögen* (2nd edition, 2021), which was awarded the Carl Erdmann Prize of the German Historical Association, examines the financial activities of a super-rich steel magnate family in the twentieth century. She is also a co-editor of *Historische Anthropologie* and *Studien zur internationalen Geschichte*.

**SIMONE DIETRICH** is Associate Professor in Political Science and International Relations at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. She is the author of *States, Markets, and Foreign Aid* (Cambridge University Press, 2021). Her articles have appeared in leading political science and international relations journals. Her research explores how donor governments make decisions about foreign aid, how aid promotes development and democratic change in recipient countries, and how international organizations shape the creation and development of international development practices.

**MATTHIAS MATTHIJS** is Associate Professor of International Political Economy at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). His research focuses on the political economy of European integration, the politics of economic crises, and the role of economic ideas in economic policy-making. He is the author of *Ideas and Economic Crises in Britain from Attlee to Blair* (Routledge, 2011) and co-editor of *The Future of the Euro* (Oxford University Press, 2015).

**FABIAN MUNIESA** is Professor at the École des Mines de Paris (Université PSL) and researcher at the Centre de sociologie de l'innovation. He is the author of *The Provoked Economy: Economic Reality and the Performative Turn* (Routledge, 2014). His cultural approach to economic reality includes recent research on financial valuation and business education. He is currently working on finance and paranoia.

**KATHRIN ZIPPEL** is Einstein Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. Zippel was previously Professor of Sociology at Northeastern University, co-chair of the Social Exclusion and Inclusion Seminar at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University, and a residential fellow at the Women and Public Policy Program at the Harvard Kennedy School. She served as co-PI and research director of Northeastern's National Science Foundation ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant.

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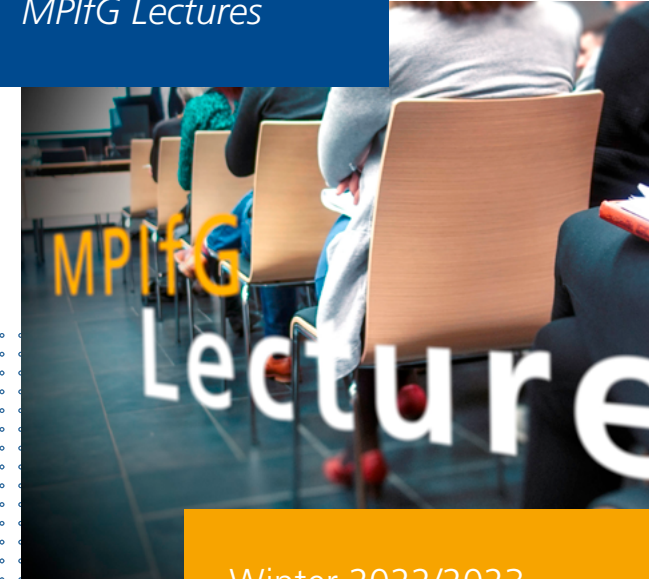
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Öffentliche Vorträge  
MPIfG Lectures



Winter 2022/2023  
Oct 26 | Nov 16 | Dec 12  
Jan 18 | Jan 25 | Feb 1

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**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2022 | 17:00 CEST**  
**New Gilded Age in a Broken World?**  
**The Super-Rich, Urban Life, and City Politics**  
ROWLAND ATKINSON

The extent of social inequalities was well known before the pandemic arrived. Poverty and staggering wealth had already reappeared at levels not seen since the gilded age of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This wealth, and those who wielded it, brought power to craft city settings according to the needs of the rich. Political actors, seeking capital investment and sometimes personal enrichment, declared the rich a mark of the city's success. Today, as the pandemic eases, we might ask what a social politics of inequality will look like in an apparently "new" urban context that, in reality, contains the same public "bads" that existed before. While a "capture" of the city by the rich will continue, it may be that systemic constraints and public anger propel the taming of wealth. Will an egalitarian enlightenment grow, as some have suggested, or will pro-market orientations prevent a commitment to tackle excessive wealth and increase social investment?

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**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022 | 17:00 CEST**  
**Forging Consensus in Crisis: Exit, Voice and Loyalty in European Integration**  
MATTHIAS MATTHIJS

During the 2010s, the European project suffered a series of crises that underlined both a shift in geopolitics as well as the decline of the previous consensus around the single market and the single currency. The decade showed the different attitudes of national elites towards the reigning consensus and the limits of the EU's macroeconomic regime that was no longer compatible with certain national growth models. The four biggest EU member states – all G7 members – had radically different responses to the crisis. The UK voted to

leave the EU ("exit"). France wanted more EU sovereignty, while Italy wanted to regain some of its national sovereignty, though both wanted more EU solidarity ("voice"). Germany, for its part, long doubled down on the status quo and insisted on further strengthening the existing rules ("loyalty"). The response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine was qualitatively different from previous crises in the 2010s, in that it started to give shape to EU "strategic autonomy." The decisions the EU has made in the past few years show the emergence of a new EU paradigm, which has the potential to give the European project a new lease on life.

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**MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022 | 17:00 CEST**  
**Paranoid Finance**  
FABIAN MUNIESA

Do your own research! Type "NESARA GESARA" and see what you learn. Or try "OPPT UCC" instead. You will access ideals of sovereignty, emancipation, life, money, and wealth; tutorials on the codes and procedures that are needed in order to subvert the dominant order and lead to financial salvation; and lessons on the spiritual menaces and economic enmities that justify this newly found path. Mixtures of millennialism, esotericism, conspiratorialism, populism, antisemitism, libertarianism, and nationalism can indeed be observed in a number of contemporary movements of economic redemption. These can sometimes find expression in troubling ways: in a cult, perhaps, or in violence, as in the case of "sovereign citizen" extremism. Other times, they translate into innocuous pastimes, mundane skepticism, or dodgy investment schemes. Documenting these practices furthers understanding of the financial element that is at work in the culture of contemporary conspiratorial, millennialist discourse. But it also opens up a promising lead for the anthropology of finance, as it exposes the delirious potentials of ordinary concepts of money, finance, wealth, and value. The case of "OPPT" (One People's Public Trust) provides a testbed for a critical inquiry into the demons inherent in financial imagination.

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**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023 | 17:00 CEST**  
**States, Markets, and Foreign Aid**  
SIMONE DIETRICH

Why do some donor governments pursue international development through recipient governments, while others bypass such local authorities? Weaving together scholarship in political economy, public administration, and historical institutionalism, Simone Dietrich will argue in her talk that the bureaucratic institutions of donor countries shape donor-recipient interactions differently despite similar international and recipient country conditions. Donor nations employ institutional constraints that authorize, enable, and justify particular aid delivery tactics while precluding others. Offering quantitative and qualitative analyses of donor decision-making, her talk will illuminate how donors with neoliberally organized public sectors bypass recipient governments, while donors with more traditional public sector-oriented institutions cooperate and engage recipient authorities on aid delivery. She will demonstrate how internal beliefs and practices surrounding states and markets inform how donors see and set their objectives for foreign aid and international development itself. Her findings contribute to the debates on aid effectiveness and donor coordination and have implications for the study of foreign policy more broadly.

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**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023 | 17:00 CEST**  
**Fitting Diversity into Gender Equality Plans in German Universities as a Strategy for Internationalization**  
KATHRIN ZIPPEL

Tensions between promotion of gender equity and diversity in higher education have created conflicts, particularly in institutions where gender equity measures were first institutionalized. To explore some of the ways in which universities include the promotion of diversity in gender equity strategies, we conducted a qualitative discourse analysis of funding proposals developed in the German Women Professors Programme. We find that the goal of internationalization functions as a strategy to bring gender and diversity strategies together within

gender equality plans. While the proposals merely add diversity to gender equity, define diversity in vague terms, and intersectionality remains largely unaddressed or tangential, the link between diversity and internationalization reflect a larger aim to integrate and harmonize institutional ambitions, to ultimately succeed in the national competition for funding and excellence and the global competition for talent. While creating a symbolic image of diversity and inclusion, these efforts ignore underlying and intersecting inequalities.

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**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2023 | 17:00 CEST**  
**Men Moving Money? Staying Rich in the Twentieth Century**  
SIMONE DERIX

From Occupy Wall Street and the Panama Papers to the Russian oligarchs, their yachts and real estate – in recent years, the rich and super-rich as well as the finance industry and the services they offer to the rich have become the subject of much public and academic debate. In this light, the role the rich and super-rich play in perpetuating and exacerbating social inequalities has been brought sharply into focus. Many of the practices, institutions, and assets involved have a long history to look back on, which has only recently received more attention. However, historical research plays an essential role in explaining the perseverance of wealth by asking the following questions: Who were the rich? What did the rich do with their assets? How exactly did wealth shape their relations – and how did their relations shape their wealth? And, not least: How did the rich manage to stay rich – despite the challenges of the age of extremes, including severe economic crises and two world wars?