Towards a decolonial anthropology of Europe: New common grounds and knowledgescapes (CfP EASA 2022)

Discussion published by Magda Buchczyk on Tuesday, March 15, 2022

Dear all,

We would like to invite you to submit your abstract to an EASA 2022 panel exploring decolonial perspectives on Europe.

Please see the panel information below.

Towards a decolonial anthropology of Europe: New common grounds and knowledgescapes (P009)

Conveners: Magda Buchczyk (HU Berlin), Regina Römhild (HU Berlin), Damani Patridge, Maribel Casas-Cortés (discussant)

Details of the call: https://easaonline.org/conferences/easa2022/programme#11511

The deadline for proposals is 21 March 2022.

We look forward to the contributions.

Kind regards
Magda Buchczyk

Short Abstract:
How could decolonial knowledgescapes help reimagine the anthropology of Europe? What, if any, common ground could such a transformation establish? How could it contribute to a globally entangled reflexive network of anthropologies?

Long Abstract
In the context of the current making and unmaking of Europe, this panel works to reinvigorate anthropology’s critical exploration of Europeanization processes by focusing on their colonial legacies and their hidden colonial persistence. The present business of bordering Europe demonstrates that algorithmic computation, biopolitics, and racist policies and decision-making processes draw new boundaries using old epistemic repertoires of colonialism, patriarchy and racist capitalism within and beyond the boundaries of Europe. Scholars, activists and artists address the European as continuously defined by
dominating institutions perpetuating structural inequalities and asymmetries of East-West or South-North, and the patronising imaginaries of (epistemic) hinterlands. Additionally, the renewed struggles about colonial legacies in cities, museums, public monuments and educational institutions show that public understandings of the difficult European pasts and their ongoing presences are themselves becoming new fields of critically challenging and building Europe ‘from below’, across and outside.

How do we, in response to these everyday processes of Europeanization, create and uncover decolonial knowledgescapes about Europe and the European in research? What horizons for an anthropological commons would such transformation enable? In what ways would it allow us to reimagine an anthropology of Europe in the context of globally entangled reflexive networks? Could the transformed discipline establish any common ground as geographies and imaginaries become contested, transformed and changed? The panel invites critical, research-based and creative papers offering approaches towards a decolonial anthropology of and in Europe as well as approaches to the possibility of a new commons of anthropological knowledge.

Related date:
March 21, 2022