

Authors' Biographies

Abimbola O. Adesoji works as a teacher and researcher in the department of History at the Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria. The Historian did his doctorate at the same University and was a Team Member of the Research on Abisinwin: Interrogating the Trajectory and Treatment of Post-Partum Disorder Syndrome among the Yoruba of Southwestern Nigeria in Colonial and Postcolonial Period at Bowen University, Iwo, Nigeria in 2022. From 2009 to 2010, and subsequently in 2013, 2017 and 2021, he was Georg Forster Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at the Institute of Ethnology, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt. His research focuses on Traditional and Contemporary Yoruba History and Socio-political History of Nigeria. – aadesoji2@yahoo.com

Heike Becker is a social and cultural anthropologist, who obtained a PhD from the University of Bremen in Germany. Since 2001 she has been teaching at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa. Since coming to UWC, she has been committed to developing new perspectives in the substance and pedagogies of anthropologies from the South. Becker has written on Southern African anthropologies, including, “Fieldwork in shared spaces: positionality, power and ethics of citizen anthropologists in southern Africa” (2005, with Emile Boonzaier and Joy Owen), “De-provincialising South African anthropology: on relevance, public culture & the citizen anthropologist” (2007), “The Past(s) and Future(s) of South African Anthropology” (2022), “Decolonise”: The fall of a colonial statue, student protests and trajectories of anthropology in South Africa” (2024); as well as an entry on South African anthropology in the Wiley encyclopaedia of Anthropology (2018; with Andrew D. Spiegel). Becker has also published widely on culture and postcolonial politics, memory politics, popular culture, gender, and social and decolonial movements, with a focus

on Namibia and South Africa, and more recently also on Germany. Becker currently coordinates an international collaborative project *Decolonising the Public Space in Germany and its Former African Colonies: Memory, Civil Society and the Arts.* – hbecker@uwc.ac.za

Michael Bollig works as a professor of social and cultural anthropology at the University of Cologne. He did his doctorate at the University of Tübingen on violence and conflict management in northern Kenya. He started at the University of Cologne in 2000 and established a focus on environmental challenges and socio-cultural dynamics in rural Africa. He has been speaker (and co-speaker) of the collaborative research centre (CRC) Arid Climate, Adaptation and Cultural Innovation in Africa (2000–2007) and the CRC Future Rural Africa (2018–ongoing). Between 2011 and 2015 he was vice rector for international affairs at the University of Cologne. – michael.bollig@uni-koeln.de

Daniele Cantini is a social anthropologist with years of research experience in different Arab countries, currently fellow at the Global Development Network, and affiliated researcher at the Leibniz Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin. He earned his PhD in social anthropology at the University of Modena (Italy) in 2006, with a thesis on the Jordanian university system and its students. In 2017 he obtained the Italian national habilitation to become associate professor in Social and Cultural Anthropology, and in 2019 the same qualification for Middle East Studies. He has held research positions, as affiliated, stipend-holder or institute member, in Cairo (Egypt), Modena, Halle (Germany), Beirut (Lebanon), and Zurich (Switzerland), and has taught courses on the anthropology of the Middle East, social and political anthropology, history and cultures of the Middle East, among others, at the University of Modena, Milano-Bicocca and Halle, at the BA and MA level. – daniele.cantini@gmail.com

Souleymane Diallo is a lecturer in Social and Cultural at the University of Münster, Germany. His publications include the monograph *“The Truth about the Desert”: Exile, Memory, and the Making of Communities among Malian Tuareg Refugees in Niger* (Modern Academic Publishing (MAP), 2018), “The Truth is that we are not Tuareg: Exile, Memory, and the Making of Bellah-Iklan Community in Niger”, dans B.S. Lecocq et A. Niang (dir); *Identités sahéliennes en temps de crise, Histoires, enjeux et perspectives*, (Münster, Lit Verlag 2019), Das „Festival du Desert“ als kulturelle Praktik der Politischen Mediation in Mali,” In: *Zivilgesellschaft in Afrika*, edited by Annette Zimmer, Markus Rohde, und

Ansgar Klein, *Forschungsjournal Soziale Bewegungen*, 37(2):196-208(2024), and several articles on changing social identities among Tuareg refugees in Niger.
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Hans Peter Hahn, Professor of Anthropology at the Goethe University Frankfurt/Main, works on material culture, museums, consumption, migration and mobility with a regional focus on West Africa (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo). His current research addresses the concept of “value in things” and consequences of the digitisation of collections. In the 2022/23 academic year, he was a visiting scholar at the University of Ghana in Accra (Legon) and worked with his Ghanaian partner on “What is Restitution?”. – hans.hahn@em.uni-frankfurt.de

Remadji Hoinathy joined the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in 2019 as a senior researcher (based in N'Djaména, Chad) in the Lake Chad Basin Programme and then as a senior Researcher for Central Africa and the Great Lakes from January 2023. Previously, he headed the Centre de Recherches en Anthropologie et Sciences Humaines (CRASH) in N'Djaména, Chad. A former fellow of the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Halle-Saale, Germany), Hoinathy holds a PhD in anthropology from the Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenber (Germany). He was an associate lecturer in the Department of Anthropology and maintained close collaboration with the international academic community, particularly in Germany. Hoinathy's research initially focused on natural resources and their governance. He then researched various socio-political dynamics in Chad, including migration and conflict, religious diversity and radicalisation processes, religious-based violent extremism, and security governance. His priorities are the Lake Chad region and Central Africa. – hoinathy@googlemail.com

Jonathan Ngeh is a Post-doctoral Researcher and Principal Investigator at the Global South Studies Center (GSSC) of the University of Cologne, where he also serves as the speaker for the Co-producing Knowledge thematic group. He earned his PhD in sociology from the University of Umeå, Sweden, and specialises in transnational migration, focusing on the experiences of Africans in Northern Europe and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states. Ngeh has conducted extensive fieldwork in Cameroon, Sweden, and the United Arab Emirates. His research explores social inequalities, including labour exploitation, unequal power relations, and social exclusions. Before joining the GSSC

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Paul Nchoji Nkwi is professor of African anthropology at the University of Yaounde I, Cameroon. He studied anthropology and education at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. In Cameroon, he taught anthropology at the University of Yaoundé, at the Catholic University of Central Africa, Yaoundé, and at the St. Thomas Aquinas Major Seminary Bambui, Bamenda. He was visiting professor at Harvard Medical School, Department of Social Medicine, University of South Carolina, Columbia as a Fulbright Scholar, at the University of Frankfurt, Frobenius Institut as a Alexander von Humboldt Fellow, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, Visiting Fellow at the University of Leiden (1982), and Research Fellow at the University of Bergen, Centre for Social Policy, (Bergen, Norway). He is one of the founding members of the Pan African Association of Anthropologists (PAAA). – nkwi70@yahoo.com

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Michaela Pelican works as a professor of social and cultural anthropology at the University of Cologne Cologne. She is the rector's representative for international affairs and the speaker of the Global South Studies Center Cologne (GSSC). She did her doctorate at the Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and was a junior researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle/Saale. Before coming to Cologne in 2012, she was a senior lecturer and researcher at the University of Zurich and a visiting fellow at the University of Kyoto. Her research focuses on migration, inequality, conflict, indigeneity and research methodology with a regional focus on West Africa, the Gulf States and China. – mpelican@uni-koeln.de

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Karim Zafer works as a project manager and is responsible for the coordination of academic collaboration with the MENA-Region at the Division for International Affairs at the University of Cologne. He is also a lecturer at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Cologne, from which he received his PhD in 2024 and Master's degree in 2016. Before migrating to Germany in 2013, he studied and worked in the fields of tourism and Egyptology in Egypt. His research interests include (forced)

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