



Futurity Beyond the State: Illegal Markets and Imagined Futures in Latin America

Speakers



Matías Dewey is the interim director of the Centro Latinoamericano-Suizo at University of St.Gallen (CLS-HSG), Switzerland. He is a Privatdozent at the Sociology Department of the SHSS. He studied sociology in Argentina and received his PhD in political science from the University of Rostock. His main fields of research are economic and political sociology, with a particular interest in illegal markets and their relationship with governments and state structures. Previously, he worked at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, where he wrote his habilitation, and at the GIGA Institute for Latin American Studies.

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Kedron Thomas is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Delaware (USA). She is a cultural anthropologist with interests in the globalization of trade and legal frameworks, cultural and ethical dimensions of entrepreneurship and business, and the cultural politics of race, style, and environmental sustainability. She examines these processes and practices in the context of the global fashion industry. Thomas's research on fashion spans traditional textile production in the Guatemalan highlands, the manufacture and circulation of "knockoff" fashions in Central America, and the efforts of fashion industry professionals in the United States and United Kingdom to address pressing problems of environmental degradation and labor exploitation associated with global apparel supply chains. Her current research, funded by the National Science Foundation, is a collaboration with scientists, engineers, designers, and businesses to develop a textile recycling and remanufacturing ecosystem for the mid-Atlantic region of the United States. Thomas is the author of *Regulating Style: Intellectual Property Law and the Business of Fashion in Guatemala* (University of California Press) and co-editor of *Securing the City: Neoliberalism, Space, and Insecurity in Postwar Guatemala* (Duke University Press).

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Liliana Duica Amaya is a lecturer at the Department of Anthropology and the School of Foreign Service-Center of Latin American Studies, at Georgetown University. Her research interests include the intersection of environment, conflict, improvised technologies, and the state. Currently, she evaluates public policies in Latin America and works for the conservation of the Amazon.

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Dennis Rodgers is Research Professor in Anthropology and Sociology at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva (Switzerland), and the PI of the ERC Advanced Grant-funded project “Gangs, Gangsters, and Ganglands: Towards a Global Comparative Ethnography” (GANGS). His research focuses on the dynamics of conflict and violence in cities in Latin America (Nicaragua, Argentina), South Asia (India), and Europe (Switzerland, France), with a particular focus on youth gangs, crime, and drug dealing.

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Martijn Koster is an Associate Professor at the Department of Anthropology and Development Studies, Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands. He has conducted ethnographic research in Latin America and Europe on urban development, informality, politics, and state-citizen relations. From 2015 to 2022 he was PI of the BROKERS project on brokerage in urban governance, with case studies in Rotterdam (The Netherlands), Manchester (UK), Medellín (Colombia) and Recife (Brazil), funded through an ERC Starting Grant. In January 2024, he will move to the Sociology of Development and Change Group at Wageningen University where he will start his new project POPULAR, on housing and the 'politics of the periphery' in Recife, Medellín and Santiago de Cuba, for which he received an ERC Consolidator Grant.

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