

Curriculum Vitae

TATJANA THELEN

August 2020

CURRENT POSITION

Since 2012 Full Professor at the University of Vienna (Austria).

RESEARCH GROUP AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020-21 Fellow at IAS in Paris (FRA)
<https://www.paris-iea.fr/en/fellows/tatjana-thelen-2>

2016/17 Research Fellow and Head of Research Group: *Kinship and Politics: rethinking a conceptual split and its epistemic implications in the social sciences*. Center for interdisciplinary Research at Bielefeld (GER).
<https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/%28de%29/ZiF/FG/2016Kinship/index.html>

2016 Visiting Research Scholar at Rutgers University, Camden (US).
Visiting Research Scholar at Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale (GER).

THEMATIC FOCI

Kinship, law and state, care and social security, property and social change, post-socialist societies, relational theory.

SCIENTIFIC EDITING

Vienna Working Papers in Ethnography, since 2014.

<https://ksa.univie.ac.at/en/research/publications/vienna-working-papers-in-ethnography/>

Annuaire Roumain d'Anthropologie, member of the scientific advisory board since 2008.

SCIENTIFIC CAREER

- 2012** Habilitation at Martin-Luther University Halle/Wittenberg (GER).
- 2011** Professorship Social Anthropology at the University of Bayreuth (GER).
- 2010** Guest professorship at the University Vienna, Institute for Social- and Cultural Anthropology (AT).
- 2008–2011** Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology at the University of Zurich, (CH) and
Head of Research project: *“Local state and social security in rural Hungary, Romania and Serbia”*, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation (GER).
- 2007–2008** Lecturer at the Department of Anthropology at the Martin-Luther-University, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2007** Senior research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Project group on Legal Pluralism), Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2006–2007** Joint research position (50%) at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Project group on Legal Pluralism) and
(50%) at the Humboldt Universität zu Berlin (Junior research group on “Post-socialist land relations”, (GER).
- 2005–2006** Post-doc research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Project Group on Legal Pluralism), continuation project: *“Changing social security relations in eastern Germany”*, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2005** Lead researcher for the social-anthropological research in Germany within KASS (interdisciplinary comparative research project on kinship and social security in Europe) (GER)
- 2002–2005** Post-doc stipend fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Project Group on Legal Pluralism), individual project: *“Changing social security relations in eastern Germany”*. (GER)
- 1998–2001** PhD-scholarship in the interdisciplinary graduate school financed by the German Research Society (DFG): *“Gesellschaftsvergleich in historischer, soziologischer und ethnologischer Perspektive”* (Comparison of societies in historical, sociological and anthropological perspective), Berlin, Germany.
- 1993–1998** Studies at the University of Cologne (GER), Social Anthropology (major), Pedagogy (minor) and at the Rheinischen-Friedrich-Wilhelm-Universität, Bonn (GER) Comparative Sciences of Religion (minor). Master’s degree. Title of thesis: *“Ethnic identity and social networks. A case study of Hungarian Germans in Pécs”*, (in German).
- 1991–1993** Studies at the Rheinischen-Friedrich-Wilhelm-Universität, Bonn (GER), Social Anthropology (major), Comparative Sciences of Religion and Islamic studies (minors).

ORGANISATION OF ETHNOGRAPHY LABORATORIES, SUMMERSCHOOL

- 2020** *“Mobilities and Care. Transformations of belonging and inequalities.”* 5th
Vienna Ethnography Laboratory, Guests: Angela Garcia and Laura Merla.
- 2018** *“Infrastructures. Imagination, Materiality, Process”*
4th Vienna Ethnography Laboratory, Guests: Jörg Niewöhner and Antina von
Schnitzler, Vienna (AT).
- 2017** *“Kinship and Politics. Undoing the Boundaries”*
Summer School of the Research Group at ZiF, financed by the Volkswagen
Foundation, Bielefeld (GER).
- 2016** *“Practices of Bureaucracy and State Practice. Power, Interaction, Exclusion”*
3rd Vienna Ethnography Laboratory, Guests: Klaus Schlichte and Julia Eckert,
Vienna (AT).
- 2015** *“Practices of Care. Inequalities, Empowerment, Contradictions”*
2nd Vienna Ethnography Laboratory, Guests: Joan Tronto and Michael Fine,
Vienna (AT).
- 2014** *“Practices of materiality”*
1st Vienna Ethnography Laboratory, Guests: John Law and Richard
Rottenburg, Vienna (AT).

ORGANISATION OF CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS UND PANELS (since 2008)

- 2019** *“Measuring kinship: The end of negotiating relatedness?”*
Panel together with Christof Lammer and Staffan Müller-Wille, Conference of
the German Anthropological Association (GAA), Konstanz (GER).
- 2018** *“Care encounters: Creating knowledge and boundaries”*
Panel together with Akiko Mori, 18th International Union of Anthropological and
Ethnological Sciences (IUAES) World Congress, University of Santa Catarina,
Florianópolis (BR).
- 2018** *“The Politics of Making Kinship. Historical and Anthropological Perspectives”*
Final conference of the interdisciplinary research group *Kinship and Politics*.
Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZiF), Bielefeld (GER).
- 2017** *“State and kinship entwined: Creating political belonging through children”*
Panel together with Cati Coe and Erdmute Alber, Annual Meeting of the
American Anthropological Association (AAA), Washington (US).
- 2017** *“Political Belonging through kinship”*
Panel together with Erdmute Alber, Conference of the German
Anthropological Association (GAA), Berlin (GER).

- 2016** *“Kinship and the Epistemology of Politics in the West and the Rest”*
Opening conference of the interdisciplinary research group *Kinship and Politics*. Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZIF), Bielefeld (GER).
- 2016** *“Migration, diversity, care: does culture play a role?”*
Panel together with Christoph Reinprecht, 4th Annual Meeting of the Commission on Migration and Integration Research (ÖAW), Vienna (AT).
- 2015** *“Imaginarities of Migration: Identity and belonging”*
Panel together with Tine Damsholt, Conference of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF), Zagreb (HR).
- 2015** *“Bringing Culture to Care? Caring for the elderly in Vienna and London”*
Panel together with Rosie Read, Vienna (AT).
- 2014** *“Kinship in, of, and against state institutions: Conflictive intersections and boundary work”*
Panel together with Daniel Smith and Erdmute Alber, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), Washington (US).
- 2014** *“Kinning the state – state kinning: Reconnecting the anthropology of kinship and political anthropology”*
Panel together with Erdmute Alber, Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), Tallin (EE).
- 2014** *“Doing politics – making kinship. Back Towards a Future Anthropology of Social Organisation and Belonging”*
Panel together with Erdmute Alber, Humboldt University Berlin, IGK Work and Human Life Cycle in Global History (re:work), Berlin (GER).
- 2013** *“Borders and border crossings”*
Panel together with Stéphane Voell and Jutta Lauth Bacas, Conference of the German Anthropological Association (GAA), Mainz (GER).
- 2011** *“Wild Europe: How exotic the Anthropology of Europe has to be?”*
Panel together with Stéphane Voell, Conference of the German Anthropological Association (GAA), Vienna (AT).
- 2011** *“Local state and Social security”*
International final conference on the project, Max Planck Institute for Ethnological Research, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2011** *“Raus aus der Defensive! Kritische Standortbestimmung und Zukunft der Beziehung Ethnologie – Europäische Ethnologie”*
Panel together with Stéphane Voell, Conference of the German Anthropological Association (GAA), Phillips University Marburg (GER).
- 2010** *“Local state and Social security in rural Hungary, Romania and Serbia”*
2nd Workshop on the research project, Belgrad (SRB).
- 2010** *“Local state and Social security in rural Hungary, Romania and Serbia”*
1st Workshop on the research project, Budapest (HU).

- 2009** *“Local state and access to productive resources”*
Panel together with Peter Finke, 15th International Conference of the Commission on Legal Pluralism: *Legal Pluralist Perspectives on Development and Cultural Diversity*, Zürich (CH).
- 2009** *“Local state and Social security in rural Hungary, Romania and Serbia”*
Kick-off workshop for the research project at the Max Planck Institute for Ethnological Research, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2008** *“Care, welfare and social security: new perspectives on obligation, mutuality and difference”*
Panel together with Rosie Read, Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), Ljubljana (SI).

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES (since 2008)

- 2020** *Care: reproducing inequalities and shaping political transformation.”*
Keynote: Workshop Care and Volunteering in Transformation, Hannah-Arendt-Institut für Totalitarismus-Forschung, Dresden (GER).
- 2019** Keynote: State and Kinship. *Kinship, State and Care. An Anthropological Perspective*. Baltic Anthropology Graduate School (BAGS) Riga Stradiņš University, Riga (LVA).
- 2019** *“Stategraphy as epistemological tool: Approaching the public/private boundary through care”*
Keynote: International Ethnography Conference, Martin Luther University, Halle/Wittenberg (GER).
- 2019** *“Care: State, Family and the Construction of Difference”* (in German)
Keynote: Conference Social Pedagogy and Early Childhood Pedagogy of the German Society for Educational Science, Lüneburg (GER).
- 2018** *“Gift, Inheritance, care: The Politics of family belonging”* (in German)
Lecture series: State and Family: Law, Practice and Ideals in Comparison, University of Lucerne (CH).
- 2017** *“Care: Towards an integrated approach”*
Social Anthropological Colloquium, Freie Universität Berlin (GER)
- 2017** *“More than Kinship: Political Belonging through Care”*
Summerschool: *Kinship and Politics. Undoing the Boundaries*, ZiF, Bielefeld (GER).
- 2017** *“Kinship and Politics: Rethinking a conceptual split and its epistemic implications in the social sciences”*
Department of History, University of Bielefeld (GER).

- 2017** *"Thinking about care as social organization"*
National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka (JP).
- 2016** *"More than kinship: Political belonging through parenting and elder care"*
Keynote at the Conference of International Association for Southeast European Anthropology (InASEA), Sofia (BG).
- 2016** *"Becoming and Staying a Roma Mother: Constructing and Reproducing Difference Through Care"*
Max Planck Institute for Ethnological Research, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2016** *"Law and Mutual Assistance in Families: A Comparison of Socialist Legacies in Hungary and Eastern Germany"*
Rutgers University, Camden (US).
- 2015** *"State Kinning- Kinning the State: boundary Work in Serbia"*
Department of Social Anthropology, University of Edinburgh (GB).
- 2014** "Becoming and staying a Roma mother: Diversity and inequality over the life-course"
The Research Center for Eastern and Southeastern Europe (WiOS), Regensburg (GER).
- 2012** *"Kinning the State. Practices and Imaginations of State and Family in Serbia"*
(in German), Department of Anthropology, University of Bayreuth (GER).
- 2011** *"Significant bonds. The embeddedness of Care in life course and networks"*
(in German), Department for Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna (AT).
- 2010** *"Significant Bonds – Life Course, Networks and Care"* (in German)
Department of Anthropology, University of Bayreuth (GER).
- 2010** *"Nothing but patronage and instrumentalism? On the analysis of social Relations in and after Socialism"* (in German)
Department for Social Anthropology, University of Bern (CH).
- 2010** *"Care for the Ageing in a globalised World. Changing family relations and Transnational networks of Care"*
Department for Sociology, Zurich (CH).
- 2009** *"Can post-socialist states become "modern"? - A scientific-historical analysis of research on Eastern Europe in the 1990s"* (in German)
Department of History, University of Berne (CH).
- 2008** *"State, Market and Family: Reconfigurations of Social Security after Socialism"*
(in German), Department for Sociology, Zurich (CH).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (since 2008)

- 2017** *“Ethnic Belonging through state welfare: Becoming and staying a Roma mother in rural Hungary”*
Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), Washington (US).
- 2017** *“Political Affiliation through Kinship: An Introduction”*
Together with Erdmute Alber, Conference of the German Anthropological Association (GAA), Berlin (GER).
- 2016** *“Cultural Care | Cultures of Care: Institutional Offers for Senior Citizens in Vienna and Berlin”* (in German)
Together with Astrid Baerwolf, Annual Conference on Migration and Integration Research in Austria, Vienna (AT).
- 2016** *“(Post) Socialism: Historical paths, socialism after socialism and future anthropology”*
Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), Milan (IT).
- 2015** *“Care of the Elderly, Migration, Community: Explorations from Rural Romania”*
Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), Washington (US).
- 2015** *“Care migration and community: (re)imagining the East-West divide in rural Romania”*
Panel International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF), Zagreb (HR).
- 2014** *“Kinning the State – escaping kin politics: Elder Care in Serbia”*
Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), Washington (US).
- 2014** *“You become kin with these people: State Kinning and Kinning the State in Serbian Elder Care Programs”*
Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), Tallin (EE).
- 2014** *“Reconceptualising Care”*
Conference: *Beyond the Global Care Chain: Boundaries, Institutions and Ethics of Care*, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2014** *“Research Ethics in Anthropology: Problems of informed consent”*
Conference: *Research Ethics and Integrity*, University of Vienna (AT).
- 2014** *“Performances of Redistribution: Work Ethics, Citizenship Rights and Exclusion (Hungary, Romania)”*
Conference: *Autocracy and Market Economy. The transformation in Eastern Europe and east Asia in Comparison*, University of Vienna (AT).

- 2012** *“Care migration and reframing the “other”: explorations from rural Romania. Conference: Rethinking Care: Anthropological Perspectives on Life Courses” Kin-Work and their trans-local Entanglements, IGK Work and Curriculum Vitae from a Global Historical Perspective (re:work), Humboldt University of Berlin (GER).*
- 2011** *Welcome note” und “Performances of Redistribution and Local State Formation in Rural Hungary and Romania”*
Conference: *Local state and Social security*, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2011** *“Postsocialism and the search for security: Volunteering in an eastern German Protestant charity”*
Annual ASN World Convention, Columbia University, New York (US).
- 2010** *Care: On the construction of social responsibility” (in German)*
Conference, International Association for Legal and Social Philosophy, the Graduate School "Society and Culture in Motion" (Halle) and the Max Planck Fellow Group "Law, Organization, Science & Technology", Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2010** *Local state and social security”*
Conference: *Unity in diversity?* German Historical Institute Warsaw, University of Warsaw and Volkswagen Foundation, Warsaw (PL).
- 2010** *“The search for ontological security and decreasing importance of the Protestant church in eastern Germany”*
Meeting: *Religious Hegemony and Religious Diversity in Eastern Europe: Postsocialism vis-à-vis the Longue Durée*, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2010** *“Commensality and identity: Meanings of food practices at the workplace in eastern Germany”*
Symposium: *Food: History and Culture in the West*, University of California, Berkeley (US).
- 2009** *“Post-socialist reforms as neo-liberal dispossession?”*
Conference of the German Society for Ethnology, Frankfurt/a.M. (GER).
- 2009** *“Local state and access to productive resources. An introduction”*
15th International Conference of the Commission on Legal Pluralism: *Legal Pluralist Perspectives on Development and Cultural Diversity*, Zürich (CH).
- 2008** *“Re-thinking social security, welfare and the privatization of care”*
Konferenz: *Who cares ... and how? An anthropological inquiry into support*, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale (GER).
- 2008** *“Imagined futures: time, marginality and the state”*
Dep. of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Central European University (Hearing for an Open Rank Professorship), Budapest (HUN).

- 2008** *“Veteran care”: Shifting provision, needs, and meanings of enterprise-centered pensioner care in eastern Germany,*
Conference: The British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES), Cambridge (GB).
- 2008** *“... something with computers“ – Eastern German Disadvantaged Youth Negotiating their Future Plans in an Institutional Setting,*
Workshop: *Youth on the margins? Globalisation and youth culture in border areas to Western Europe,* University of Bergen, Bergen (NO).

SCIENCE TRANSFER AND ROUNDTABLES (since 2008)

- 2019** *“Post-Socialism, Post-Communist Transition, Global East? – Conceptualizing Legacies of Change since 1989”*
Roundtable at conference: *30 Years after 1989: Legacies of Post-Socialism,* Centre for East European and International Studies, Berlin (GER).
- 2017** *“Nach der Wahl. Reflektionen über Rassismus, Männlichkeit und Demokratie”*
Roundtable at the Department of Political Science, University of Vienna (AT).
- 2017** *“Exploring Kinship and Politics from an Interdisciplinary Perspective: Problems and Prospects”*
Roundtable at conference: *Navigating the Boundaries of Kinship and Politics,* ZiF, Bielefeld (GER).
- 2015** *“Kinship and Gender. Perspectives, Themes, Problems of Social and Cultural Anthropological Research”*
Public Lecture VHS Science, Wiener Urania, Vienna (AT).
- 2013** *“How revolutionary were the changes since the 1980s? The transformation of eastern Europe in historical perspective”*
Roundtable at 45th Annual Convention der Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, Boston (US).
- 2013** *“Generations in Crisis? Resources, Reciprocity and Exchange”*
Roundtable at the 20th International Conference of Europeanists, Amsterdam (NL).
- 2011** *“La comparaison en anthropologie / Comparison in Anthropology”*
Public Talk with Andre Gingrich at the International Colloquium for the 40th anniversary of the Journal *Ethnologie Francaise*, Paris (FR).
- 2010** *“On the Function and Effectiveness of Scientific Cooperations”*
Plenary Discussion at the Conference: *Unity in Diversity? Fundamentals and Prerequisites of an Enlarged Europe,* Warsaw (PL).

REVIEWING ACTIVITIES/ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Journals: *Acta Ethnographica Hungarica, Acta Sociologica, American Ethnologist, Annuaire Roumain d'Anthropologie, Anthropological Theory, Biosocieties, Cultural Anthropology, Ethnos, Europe-Asia-Studies, Journal of Family Issues,*

Journal of Rural Studies, Medische Anthropologie, PoLAR (Political and Legal Anthropology Review), Sociologus, The Australian Journal of Anthropology, JANA (Journal for the Anthropology of North America).

Books: Anthem Press, Berghahn Books, Palgrave/MacMillan, Pluto Press.

Research projects: European Research Council (ERC), Estonian Research Council, Academy of Finland, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia FCT (Portuguese Ministry for Science and Technology), German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), German Research Foundation (DFG), SNSF (Swiss National Science Foundation) and EU/ERC, Thyssen Foundation.

PhD-Programs: Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia FCT (Portuguese Ministry for Science and Technology).

MEMBERSHIPS

GAA German Anthropological Association.
EASA European Association of Social Anthropologists.
dgv German Association for Folklore.
GSA German Sociological Association.
CaSt Care and State: <https://www.cast.univie.ac.at>
LOST Research Network: <https://lost-research-group.org>
Visegrád Anthropologists' Network