

This autumn the Center »History of Knowledge« deals in its Lecture Series with the relation of knowledge and law. One of this semester's academic guests is the Australian cultural scientist **Jessica Whyte**, who has widely published on topics such as sovereignty, biopolitics, revolutions and critical legal theory. The workshop with Jessica Whyte is offering an introduction into the politico-legal thought of one of the theorists she has devoted much attention to: Giorgio Agamben. The wider objective is to ask how knowledge about law, rights or the juridical, can be traced within specific historical constellations, and in what way Giorgio Agamben's thought might be instructive for such undertakings.

On the basis of selected texts we are first going to explore Agamben's understanding of law and politics, and its applicability for the research of legal phenomena. This will be further discussed using the example of Jessica Whyte's current research on the Historiography of Human Rights. In the second part of the workshop, two ongoing projects dealing with the history of law and human rights are going to outline prospects and challenges for historical research on »juridical knowledge«.

The Politico-Legal Thought of Giorgio Agamben Insights for the History of Law and Human Rights?

Workshop with Jessica Whyte
31. October 2014, Zurich

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



Universität
Zürich ^{UZH}

ZENTRUM
GESCHICHTE DES WISSENS

Friday 31. October

9:30 Welcome Address and Introduction

Giorgio Agamben's Politico-Legal Thought and the Research of Legal Phenomena

9:40 Agamben's Politico-Legal Thought in *The State of Exemption*

11.00 Coffee break

11.15 Agamben and the Historiography of Human Rights

Dr. Jessica Whyte

University of Western Sydney, Cultural Studies

12.30 Lunch break

How to Research Juridical Knowledge in Historical Perspective?

13.00 Human Rights Fact Finding in the Cold War Era

Jonathan Pärli, PhD candidate

University of Zurich, History & Doctoral Program of the Center »History of Knowledge«, ETHZ & UZH

14.15 The Politics of Juridical Knowledge

Lucia Herrmann, PhD candidate

University of Zurich, History & Doctoral Program of the Center »History of Knowledge«, ETHZ & UZH

15.15 Final Discussion

Agamben's Politico-Legal Thought: Insights for research on the History of Law and Human Rights?

Organization

Lucia Herrmann (UZH)

Jonathan Pärli (UZH),

both members of the doctoral program of the ZGW

Venue

University of Zurich

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Registration

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Jessica Whyte was invited to the ZGW by Svenja Goltermann and Monica Dommann (both UZH / ZGW)

You will receive the text reader after the registration (until Oct 16).

