

polylog

ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR INTERKULTURELLES PHILOSOPHIEREN

Gerechtigkeit und oder Versöhnung

Mit Beiträgen von FRANZISKA DÜBGEN, JAMES OGUDE, UNIFIER DYER,
JOSÉFINA ECHAVARRÍA ÁLVAREZ, NAKO KUMAGAI, URSULA BAATZ,
JAMES GARRISON und anderen



ANKE GRANESS

Reconciliation and / or Justice?

Introduction to the online-edition

This is the launch of the first online-edition of our journal *polylog*. The edition is the result of the 5th Intercultural Interdisciplinary Colloquium of the Forum for Intercultural Philosophy e.V. (www.polylog.org) under the title „Reconciliation and Justice“ at the Institute for Science and Art (IWK) in cooperation with Viennese Society for Intercultural Philosophy (WiGiP), Institute of Philosophy at the University of Vienna, and Forum Scientiarum at the University of Tübingen in May 2015. The first part of the proceedings of the colloquium was published in our print issue of *polylog* No. 34 in December 2015 under the title »Reconciliation and /or Justice«. In addition to the printed issue, the online edition publishes now those excellent papers of the Vienna colloquium which have not been included in the printed issue due to the limitation of space.

New in this context is not only free access to all articles, but that the articles are not published exclusively in German (like in our print issue) but in different languages, this time in German or in English. While the printed issue of *polylog* will continue to be published in

German only, the online edition will publish articles in different languages, and in this, our *polylog* will become in the coming years also more polyphonic.

Our first online edition includes contributions from the following scholars: Francesco Ferrari (University of Jena), Sergej Seitz (Vienna University), Thaddeus Metz (University of Johannesburg), Jonathan Chimakonam (University of Calabar), Christine Schliesser (University of Zurich), and Gail Presbey (University of Detroit Mercy).

The contributions of Ferrari und Seitz refer to two great European thinkers of the concept of reconciliation, namely Paul Ricœur and Emmanuel Levinas. While Ferrari explores in a very detailed way Ricœur's concept of reconciliation and the question if forgiveness is a constitutive dimension of reconciliation; Seitz turns to the currently topical issue of Europe's attitude towards refugees and asylum seekers. Seitz argues that the prevailing separation between humanitarian and political issues turns out to be problematic, for a focus on the own com-

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POLYLOG 34, print edition:

Franziska DÜBGEN:

Grenzen der Vergebung?

James OGUDE & Unifier DYER

*Auf der Suche nach Gerechtigkeit
und Versöhnung angesichts
der Gewalt im Nachfeld der
kenianischen Wahlen 2007*

Josefina ECHAVARRÍA ÁLVAREZ

*Die Kunst des Social Healing in
Kolumbien*

Naoko KUMAGAI

*Die Verbindung von Schuld
und Verantwortung im Fall der
Trostfrauen («comfort women»)
Für eine wirkliche Versöhnung
zwischen Japan und Korea*

Ursula BAATZ

*Die hungrigen Geister nähren
Vom Samurai-Zen zu einem Zen
der Versöhnung*

James GARRISON

*Die Ästhetik der Macht
Ein Überblick*

et al.

munity excludes the ethical demands of refugees as secondary. With Levinas he argues that the humanitarian and the political cannot be conceived as separated, but rather as constitutively interwoven.

The following contributions focus on issues of the relationship between reconciliation and justice in the African context of today. Thaddeus Metz undertakes the attempt to conceptualise on the basis of traditional African ideas of community a new ethics of national reconciliation. Moreover, he applies the new theory to burning issues in South Africa, such as truth-telling, forgiveness or amnesty. Jonathan Chimakonam takes a critical approach to African as well as Western conceptions of reconciliation and justice and suggests as an alternative theoretical approach a theory which he calls »sequence theory«. He argues, that in a post-conflict situation, issues of justice and reconciliation have to be considered in an equal way. A similarly critical approach takes the analysis of processes of reconciliation in

post-genocide Rwanda by Christine Schliesser. Schliesser pronounces that to favour reconciliation over issues of justice, and to neglect a confrontation with persisting stereotypes and animosities, cannot lead to a sustainable peace. Gail Presbey analyses in a comparative way concepts of punishment and retribution of the Kenyan philosopher Henry Odera Oruka, who favours African forms of compensation to forms of European criminal justice, with the concept of conflict resolution and reconciliation of Mohandas Gandhi. In doing so, Presbey opens a new field of intercultural comparative work which promises to be a fertile field for future research.

All articles contribute to a critical questioning and conceptualization of concepts of reconciliation and justice - a process which will hopefully be continued in the future.

Our thanks go to the authors who have enriched by their contributions the debate, and to Lara Hofner who was responsible for much of the editorial work.