

EVENTS 2019

Centre for Latin American
Research and Documentation



12-13 December 2019, ACES-UvA conference in collaboration with CEDLA

The Far Right Today. Mediating Memories of Political Violence and Resistance Across Europe, Latin America and the Wider World, 1989 – 2019

This conference brings together a group of specialists in the humanities and the social sciences on the “history-in-the-present” of current Far Right movements and parties, from populist to (neo)fascist, in several European and Latin American countries. The growth of Far Right Movements, the rise of populism, and the crisis of liberal democracy in contemporary societies all over the world—against the backdrop of the tragic European history of political violence and totalitarianism in the twentieth century—contribute to making the study of collective memories of fascism and public violence urgent as never before. Fascism is in fact repeatedly evoked in the effort of interpreting the current political development in several countries in Europe and far beyond the European borders. In addition, new rights movements refer openly to (neo-)fascist ideology and politics whereas ‘strong’, dictatorial leaders are gaining a broad consensus in countries such as Italy, Spain, Hungary, Turkey, Nicaragua, Venezuela, and Brazil. At the same time this resurgence of an antidemocratic stance/politics is contested by new forms of protests and resistance. This political and social process takes place within the context of the nation state and is shaped by organisations and agents which operate across national and continental borders. The conference will focus on the construction of textual or visual narratives as well as of political and cultural practices in which the historical experience of fascism, public violence, and resistance is reshaped or contested in order to promote a cultural and political engagement in the present. Starting from this broad perspective, the conference seeks to address the following issues: In what way do Far Right Movements reshape the imagery of fascism in Europe, Latin America and beyond? In what way are the memories of fascism, violence and resistance mediated and kept alive in the globalised world? How does a community, a group, a political, social or cultural agent reconstruct them within its contemporary frame of reference? How does the European and American tradition of liberal democracy reinforce or contest the imagery of both contemporary Far Right and anti-right movements as well?

27/11/19 CEDLA, IDFA and VOX-POP event. Film: 1982. World Premiere.

Consisting almost entirely of excerpts from the TV program *60 minutos, 1982* summarizes the media campaign that took place over the 74 days of war, when Argentine troops tried to take the island back from the British. We watch TV anchormen ask viewers to donate money for weapons, inspire them to sing the national anthem at home, and welcome government leaders as heroes as they “spontaneously” show up at the studio to celebrate the importance of the mission for the fatherland.

[IDFA 2019 | Trailer | 1982 from idfa on Vimeo.](#)

Sparking the fire: Making sense of the new Brazilian environmental order
by Dr. Fabiano Toni, Universidade de Brasília

Please find here the recording of this lecture courtesy of [Extinction Rebellion - Brasil](#)

In 2019 Brazil elected a right-wing populist president. Rather than a strong political party, Jair Bolsonaro was backed by a suprapartisan coalition of representatives of a rural elite organized, in a caucus that congregates 38 Senators and 247 federal deputies, belonging to 26 political parties. This support was based on an anti-globalist discourse, with a strong appeal to national sovereignty, especially regarding the free use of the country's land and natural resources. We analyze the changes set in motion after the inauguration of the new government, aimed at dismantling of the country's environmental policy through the use of various tools:

- 1) reducing the budget of the ministry and federal environmental agencies;
- 2) dismissal of senior employees of these agencies;
- 3) campaigns to denigrate the image of NGOs and public agencies;
- 4) public challenge to commitments made by countries in previous governments;
- 5) inflammatory discourses that legitimize environmental crimes.

01/11/19 CEDLA LECTURE

Political Networks and Social Movements in Bolivia since Evo Morales, 2006–2019

Dr. Soledad Valdivia Rivera, Universiteit Leiden

In 2006, Evo Morales became the first indigenous President of Bolivia. His stunning ascent was mirrored by the rising fortunes of his political party, the leftist Movimiento al Socialismo (MAS). Morales and the MAS continue to challenge the status quo in Bolivian politics and implement ambitious social reforms. In her lecture, Soledad Valdivia Rivera shows how social movements have impacted democratization in Bolivia and have transformed the Bolivian political process as we know it. She will reflect on the crucial role of social movements in the light of the recent presidential elections and Morales' heavily contested re-election.

18/10/19 CEDLA LECTURE

Entangled modernities: Latin America's unexpected influence on Germany's "Bauhaus" tradition

Dr. Bert Hoffmann, GIGA (Hamburg)

The history of modernity is commonly told as a uni-directional one: How its concepts were developed in Europe and North America, and from there expanded to the rest of the globe. A classic case is the "Bauhaus" school, founded in Germany's Weimar 100 years ago, and which became a global landmark of modernity in architecture, arts, and beyond. In contrast to the dominant narrative, this presentation looks at the entanglements and counter-currents inherent in the process. It looks at the "Bauhaus" from the opposite direction: Not how it spread from Germany to Latin America, but how Latin American experiences left their imprint on the "Bauhaus tradition" in Germany.

03/10/19 CEDLA-UvA & VU Seminar

Crisis in Venezuela and beyond: Resilience-in-practice from a trans-border perspective

According to the United Nations more than 4,3 million Venezuelans have now fled the country. They primarily escape from severe deprivation and repression. Hundreds of thousands of Venezuelan caminantes (walkers) now wander across the continent or depart in small boats over the Caribbean Sea in search for a better life. At the same time, many Venezuelans stay and develop strategies to cope with scarcity and insecurity.

Regional migration, temporary jobs in borderlands, informal economic activities and family networks are key to the survival of Venezuelan citizens. This seminar investigates these alternative economies, trans-border movements and their historical context in Venezuela, Colombia and the Dutch Antilles to understand how Venezuelans cope with humanitarian crisis and protracted conflict.

PROGRAMME

- Welcome by Prof.dr. Barbara Hogenboom (Director CEDLA-UvA)
- Introductory note by Lizzy Bans Nobre (Ministry Foreign Affairs The Netherlands)
- Resilience-in-practice: Crisis and movement between Venezuela and Colombia
Dr. Eva van Roekel (VU Amsterdam)
- The 'useful islands': Venezuelan crisis and the Dutch Antilles
Gerardo Gonzalez, MA (Center for Public Policies IESA, Caracas)
- Regional crisis and effects in Latin America
Dr. Josette Altmann Borbón (Secretary-General of FLACSO), discussant
- Discussion led by Dr. Marjo de Theije (VU Amsterdam)

ORGANIZATION: CEDLA-UvA & VU

04/10/19 LASP Conference: Latin America in Transition

We are delighted to announce the launch of the Netherlands Research School Latin America Studies, the research school through which the multidisciplinary and interuniversity Latin American Studies Program (LASP) will continue its activities with eight participating Dutch academic institutions. To celebrate this, we are organizing a conference titled "Latin America in Transition" on Friday 4 October 2019 in Amsterdam. The beautiful venue for this event is Pakhuis de Zwijger, located close to Amsterdam Central Station.

We are honored to announce our distinguished keynote speaker and expert in the field for the conference will be dr. Josette Altmann Borbón, Secretary-General of FLACSO (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales). She will share her insight with us in the plenary lecture "Latin America's Transition to a New Political Map: Challenges for Regional Integration." Furthermore we will have two parallel panel sessions, covering varied themes in the Latin American research field:

- Latin America's Right Turn and the Role of Think Tanks and Intellectuals (participants: prof. dr. Patricio Silva, Pablo Ortúzar & Sebastián Rumié)
- Beyond Conflictivity: Socio-territorial Relations in Small-Scale Gold Mining Zones (participants: dr. Marjo de Theije, dr. Luciana Massaro, Yohana Ruffiner, María Eugenia Robles & Jesse Jonkman)
- Security, Violence and Popular Religion: Anthropological Contributions and Thoughts (participants: prof. dr. Wil Pansters, dr. Martijn Oosterbaan, dr. Rafael Sánchez, dr. Francesca Cerbini & Evi Kostner)
- Gender Malleability, Sexuality and Social Media (participants: dr. Laura Harvey, dr. Sander de Ridder, Brenda Rodríguez Cortés & Irene Arends)

20/09/19 CEDLA & NALACS Event

Special edition of the Dialogues with Civil Society series: Amazon on fire! A Dialogue for Possible Solutions

Just when scientists have warned the Amazon is approaching an irreversible tipping point to a desertification process, devastating fires in the Brazilian and Bolivian Amazon are taking us to the worst socio-environmental scenario in the coming years. A discussion on the main drivers of the Amazon's destruction and reflections on possible solutions are urgently needed!

The event will engage scholars, practitioners, activists and society in general to discuss the problem and proposals for action. What led to this devastating event to happen? What role do the European Union and The Netherlands play? What can be done to stop this tragic event?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Fabio de Castro is an environmental scientist at [CEDLA](#) and has over 25 years of research experience on rural communities in different parts of the Amazon.

Ermesinde De Strijcker is a cultural anthropologist working at human rights and environmental organization [Both ENDS](#). She is involved in international projects addressing deforestation of the Amazon.

Celia is a feminist and social justice activist and works at the International Secretariat of [Friends of the Earth International](#). She has worked for over 15 years with feminist, rural and urban social movements in Brazil and internationally.

Videos courtesy of [Extinction Rebellion Brasil](#)

13/09/19 CEDLA LECTURE

Beyond Good and Evil: Societal Responses to Crime-Related Violence in Mexico

Dr. Trevor Stack, University of Aberdeen & RUN

The talk draws on the findings of the large ethnographic team project that Trevor Stack is leading on societal responses to crime-related violence in Mexico. Stack is concerned to avoid presupposing a set of worthy societal actors – often glossed by terms such as “civil society” – that fight a Manichean struggle against the forces of evil, in this context commonly figured as “organised crime”. Mexico’s institutional responses have not been effective, and armed actors use violence to wedge open the institutional margins. Stack focuses his attention on the role of *civic actors* influencing the design and implementation of public policy, ranging from neighborhood leaders to professionals such as lawyers and civil associations. He will show that civic actors have played still more important roles than armed actors in holding open institutional margins of protection for legal and illegal business. By recognizing that civic actors often *enable* those margins, he poses the question of when and to what effect civic actors might instead *impede* them, or at least mitigate their effects such as violence. Stack’s examples include local citizen councils with oversight of police, organisations that attempt to use legal remedies, despite the margins within judicial institutions, and cultural and artistic movements that claim to promote peace.

10/07/19 BOOK LAUNCH: Contemporary History and Public Policies in Latin America

On Wednesday 10 July, 16hrs., [Lipsius 148](#), LAS prof. Patricio Silva and dr. Soledad Valdivia will present their recently published books on probity and corruption in Chile and Social Movements and the State in Bolivia. Both authors will briefly introduce the main tenets of their books, to then discuss them with the audience. Everyone is welcome!

PUBLIC PROBITY AND CORRUPTION IN CHILE. Corruption has become one of the most influential phenomena in present-day Latin American societies. A series of major corruption scandals has seriously affected the political stability and the legitimacy of a large number of democracies in the region. This book focuses on the case of Chile which has historically possessed relatively low levels of corruption in Latin America the region. It provides a long-term historical analysis, showing the roots of Chile’s public probity already in the colonial time and stressing a series of institutional factors which made possible the continuations of high levels of public probity following independence and until today. Moreover, the book also analyses a series of recent cases of corruption which have affected that country and that have activated a vivid response from the public opinion, the political parties and the state.

POLITICAL NETWORKS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS. The book has been published by Berghahn Books at Oxford (UK), as part of the CEDLA Latin America Studies series. After a landslide electoral victory in 2006, Evo Morales became the first indigenous President of Bolivia. Morales's stunning ascent was mirrored by the rising fortunes of his political party, the leftist Movimiento al Socialismo, which today continues to challenge the status quo in Bolivian politics and implement ambitious social reforms. This study examines how the state and social movements have impacted democratization in Bolivia, along with other sectors such as NGOs and the media. Soledad Valdivia's analysis helps us to understand how their relationships have come to transform the Bolivian political process as we know it.

14/06/19 Inaugural lecture of prof.dr. Barbara Hogenboom

Latin America's vast reserves of minerals (metals, oil, coal and gas) have often proven to be a curse instead of a blessing for its development. The region's mineral wealth has generated international dependency relationships, economic instability, elite capture, social inequality and ecological destruction. Have recent economic and political shifts changed these patterns? What is the role of minerals in Latin American imaginary and society? And what can we learn from new bottom-up initiatives to escape the mineral resource curse and protect nature and communities?

Barbara Hogenboom discusses pro's and cons of the rise of China and of the phase of new left dominance in the region. These trends coincided not only with the global commodity boom but also with a region-wide protest boom against environmental injustices of mining and oil drilling, and with a deepened dependency on minerals. In order to better understand contemporary resource dependency, she proposes to look beyond economic and political dimensions, and to study social and cultural attitudes towards mineral wealth in Latin America, such as deeply engrained ideas and collective imaginaries. Through new research and co-creation projects, her aim is to study and support Latin American initiatives for alternative approaches to living with minerals, such as leaving fossil fuels underground and granting more rights to citizens and even to nature.

[Please find here the lecture](#)



29/05/19 WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG RESEARCHERS: Studying water as a transdisciplinary challenge, from environmental governance to knowledge and territorial politics

Delft Institute for Water Education (IHE)

Objective – This workshop is intended to bring a space of dialogue for young researchers (PhD students, Postdoc...) working on issues related to water resources governance, commons, knowledge politics, territoriality, and justice. Indeed, water is often connecting various environmental challenges for example in the case of mining protests, social movements, urban-rural connections, or climate justice. Therefore, thinking about water as a transversal and connecting challenge in grassroots mobilizations, environmental movements and multi-actor partnerships can bring valuable insights to the academic debate.

The objective of this workshop is to connect young researchers from different academic institutions in the Netherlands (CEDLA Amsterdam, Delft IHE, University of Wageningen, Groningen, Utrecht, Rotterdam, VU, Radboud, etc.), and other academic institutions in Europe. The workshop is intended to provide a highly participatory and collective format with several parallel thematic master classes.

Format – There will be four parallel master classes focusing on specific issue, involving five young researchers and one water/commons scholar. This format is intended to give maximum time for discussion, with 5 minutes presentation (one student presents the work of another one) and 40 minutes discussion by the scholar and the other participants. The discussion will be based on a material that can be a thesis chapter, a draft paper, a research proposal, etc. It implies that every participant of the group previously must have read the works of the others. One of the student participants will share the main reflections of each group at the end of the day during a plenary session, which will continue with some drinks and food. The workshop will continue with a lecture where a water/commons keynote speaker will present, followed by debate, and drinks.

1. Water materialities, technicization, knowledge and expertise

Coordinator: Prof. Margreet Zwarteveen (Delft IHE)

2. Grassroots mobilizations, multi-scale strategies and water commoning

Coordinator: Dr. Fabio de Castro (CEDLA)

3. Territorial struggles, water justice and discourses

Coordinator: Prof. Rutgerd Boelens (Wageningen University/CEDLA)

4. Polycentric governance, socio-ecological systems and water-grabbing

Coordinator: Dr. Jampel Dell'Angelo (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

24/05/19 THE CHALLENGES FACED BY LAND DEFENDERS IN LATIN AMERICA: CRIMINALIZATION, PERSECUTION AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN BOLIVIA AND COLOMBIA

On Friday, May 24th, 2019, Nalacs and CEDLA: Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation, in collaboration with IUCN Europe and Milieudefensie, are organising the 9th edition of the 'Dialogues with Civil Society' series. This time we will focus on the challenges faced by land defenders in Latin America together with Juan Pablo Soler (Movimiento Ríos Vivos y del Movimiento Antirepresas de América Latina, Colombia) and Oscar Campanini (Centro de Documentación e Información Bolivia, Bolivia). With a response by Elisabet Rasch (WUR).

According to human rights organizations, Latin America is the most violent region for the defenders of the Earth. In recent years, around 60% of murders of land/nature defenders have occurred in this region. Defenders face not only the violence of organized crime and paramilitary groups, but also the repression, stigmatization and criminalization of governments, the security forces, state entities and companies. This Dialogue will address these issues in Colombia and Bolivia, two Andean countries facing similar challenges in the way violence is expressed on land/nature defenders.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Juan Pablo Soler is the national coordinator of the Movimiento Ríos Vivos y del Movimiento Antirepresas de América Latina, Colombia. Oscar Campanini is the director of the Centro de Documentación e Información Bolivia (CEDIB), Bolivia.

Elisabet Rasch is assistant professor in Anthropology of Development at Wageningen University.

17/05/19 Wall as Weapon: Infrastructure, Injury and Rescue on the US-Mexico Border Ieva Jusionyte, Harvard University

Criminalization of immigration since the 1990s, aggravated by concerns with terrorism in the aftermath of 9/11, led the United States government to designate the border with Mexico as a source of threats and waging there what has been called “a low-intensity warfare.” The wall is a key component of what the Border Patrol calls “tactical infrastructure,” a weapon against those who try to cross into the United States without authorization. Based on ethnographic fieldwork with emergency responders on both sides of the border, where they rescue injured migrants as well as fight fires that know no political jurisdictions, this talk examines the negative effects of deploying both the built environment and the natural topography in the name of national security.

06/05/19 Punitive Democratization: protecting democracy through sanctions By SPUI 25 In cooperation with ARTES

We are currently at a critical juncture. While illiberal political movements and autocratic leadership are on the rise, liberal democracy is under threat in all regions of the world. Regional organizations such as the European Union and the Organization of American States are striving to keep member states complying with regional norms of democracy-protection. Can regional organizations really be guardians of regional democratic norms? Venezuela, Hungary, and Egypt are only among the most recent cases of countries that have faced some form of sanction by regional organizations for breaching liberal democracy in their domestic affairs. In this lecture and round-table discussion we will discuss the ideas behind the adoption of democracy-protection norms, their institutionalization, and how they have been put in practice by regional organizations in the Americas, Africa, and Europe.

About the speakers

Stefano Palestini is Assistant Professor at the Institute of Political Science of the Catholic University of Chile and, currently, a visiting scholar at ARTES in Amsterdam.. He holds a Ph.D. in Political and Social Sciences from the European University Institute and he has been research fellow at the Free University of Berlin and at the American University, in Washington D.C. He was consultant at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP-Chile), and he regularly contributes to political blogs and media on topics related to international politics.

Barbara Hogenboom is Professor of Latin American Studies at the University of Amsterdam (UvA), and director of the Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation (CEDLA-UvA). Barbara Hogenboom’s field of study is the politics and governance of development and environment in Latin America.

Pola Cebulak (moderator) is a Assistant Professor in European Law at the European Studies Department. Previously, she worked as a Postdoctoral Researcher at iCourts – the Centre of Excellence for International Courts at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen (2016-2018), as a Lecturer of EU law (2015/16) at the University of Geneva and as a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Chair of Public International and European Law at the University of Fribourg (CH) (2014/15). She holds a double doctoral degree (2010-2014) from the Université libre de Bruxelles (Institute for European Studies) and the University of Geneva (Global Studies Institute). She benefited from a fellowship of the European Commission awarded within the framework of the GEM PhD School - Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate on Globalization, the EU and Multilateralism (2010-2013). Pola spent the autumn semester 2012 as a visiting scholar at Boston University (Centre for the Study of Europe).

26/04/19 The Rise, Fall and Rise Again of State Ownership in Latin America's Mining and Oil:
Codelco and Petrobras
Jewellord T. Nem Singh, Universiteit Leiden

Why do states decide to keep their state-owned enterprises (SOEs) despite their perceived inefficiency and lack of productivity? The established literature often posits state ownership as a cause of rent-seeking, market inefficiency, and source of extraordinary corruption. Despite neoliberal reforms, SOEs have only been partially privatized or subjected to market competition. States instead implemented corporate governance reforms to resolve some of the problems. By focusing on the natural resource sector, this lecture examines the strengths and limitations of a state-driven industrial strategy. Based on a comparative study of Brazil's Petrobras (oil and gas) and Chile's Codelco (copper mining), the lecture presents comparative and historical evidence regarding the role of SOEs in promoting industrial policy and sectoral innovation. Dr. Nem Singh discusses the SOE-driven growth model as a nuanced framework to conceptualize contemporary political economy in Latin America and analyses the governance challenges in light of the Lava Jato Scandal in Brazil.

17/04/19 O PROCESSO

Organized in collaboration with Nalacs, KRITERION x IDFA and CEDLA

O Processo (The Trial) portrays the impeachment trial of former Brazilian president Dilma Rousseff, focusing on the defense team, who struggles to prove her innocence against a majority vote by a Congress riddled with corruption. A tale of betrayal and corruption, the film presents Rousseff's personal story: herself imprisoned and tortured by the country's former military dictatorship, she now faces impeachment accused of fiscal crimes. Rousseff declares herself innocent and accuses the right-wing opposition of perpetrating a parliamentary coup d'état. The Trial witnesses how the impeachment triggers a profound political crisis in Brazil. It looks at the collapse of the democratic institutions and at the economic and geopolitical interests at the very heart of this crisis. The film offers a behind-the-scenes look at this historical moment. The filmmaker was granted unique access to the defense team, to deputies and senators and to President Rousseff herself. Ramos' technique is wholly observational, without interviews and narrations. The camera captures physical and conversational interactions in private and political spheres while offering viewers a glimpse of the outdoor mass demonstrations. [+INFO](#)



Talk

The screening will be followed by talk with director Maria Ramos, Fábio de Castro (Nalacs/Cedla) and Celia Alldridge (Coletivo Amsterdam pela Democracia). This event is organized in collaboration with Nalacs (Netherlands Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies).

Music

After the screening there will be music by Eddu Grau, a Brazilian singer and composer who takes you on a danceable journey through the most prominent Brazilian musical genres. From samba, carioca funk, Brazilian Popular Music to reggae, with influences from the suburbs of Rio de Janeiro and popular rhythms from the Northeast of Brazil. Born and raised in one of the biggest favelas of Rio de Janeiro, Eddu Grau's songs provoke a reflection on the daily life between the favela and the "formal city" and between love and violence.

18/04/19 Dialogues with Civil Society: FEMICIDE IN MEXICO

On Thursday, April 18th, 2019, Nalacs and CEDLA are organising the 8th edition of the 'Dialogues with Civil Society' series. This time we will focus on the femicide in Mexico together with Mexican Pedro Miguel and Mexican animator/filmmaker Adriana Ronquillo, who will also show his short animation film 'La Llorona' on the topic.

FEMICIDE IN MEXICO

Have you ever heard of femicide? This is the murder of women, because they are women. Femicide is a major social problem in Mexico, along with other forms of violence against women. Last year the Dutch/Mexican band Snowapple decided they had to do something. Since then, they have gathered a group of artists, researchers, teachers, mothers, activists, and journalists from the Netherlands and Mexico to join them on a mission raising support for change. In March, the band released the single 'La Llorona' (the weeping woman), an old Mexican Folk song with new lyrics on femicide written by the Mexican Journalist Pedro Miguel (La Jornada) who is currently working together with the new president of Mexico, Andrés Manuel López Obrador on a strategy against the femicides. On April 18th you have the chance to listen to Pedro Miguel and watch the short animated video of 'La Llorona' by the filmmaker Adriana Ronquillo, followed by a dialogue with them! Snowapple has invited Pedro Miguel to Europe with the hope to increase the urgency on the political agenda of Mexico and to get political support from the European Union.

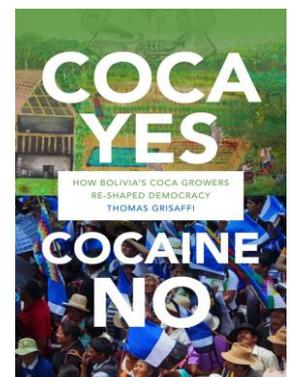
ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Pedro Miguel currently writes for the Mexican newspaper La Jornada. He has published in Unomásuno, El Día, Punto y La Jornada; El País (Madrid), Libération (Paris), Yomiuri Shinbun (Tokyo) and La Opinión (Los Angeles) and is co-author of the book 'Oye, Trump' with the current Mexican president.

Adriana Ronquillo is a Mexican animator/filmmaker who was praised on Festival de Cannes in 2018, for her critical short movie 'Ticho'. Her work received many recognitions, such as the first prize at the Think Forward Film Festival in Venice, Italy; Ojo Latinoamericano award from Bolivia's International Human Rights Festival; and the National University's first prize during the International Animation Day in Mexico. Snowapple is a group of multi-instrumentalists/singers from Amsterdam and Mexico. Playing original songs which they describe themselves as pop/folk/opera/avant-garde-cumbia. The group is currently touring the US, Mexico and Europe and is working on their 4th studio album. Their music has been played multiple times on BBC Radio and they made several appearances on international TV.

12/04/19 Coca Yes, Cocaine No: How Bolivia's Coca Growers Reshaped Democracy Thomas Grisaffi University of Reading

In Coca Yes, Cocaine No Thomas Grisaffi traces the political ascent and transformation of the Movement toward Socialism (MAS) from an agricultural union of coca growers into Bolivia's ruling party. When Evo Morales—leader of the MAS—became Bolivia's president in 2006, coca growers celebrated his election and the possibility of scaling up their form of grassroots democracy to the national level. Drawing on a decade of ethnographic fieldwork with coca union leaders, peasant farmers, drug traffickers, and politicians, Grisaffi outlines the tension that Morales faced between the realities of international politics and his constituents, who, even if their coca is grown for ritual or medicinal purposes, are implicated in the cocaine trade and criminalized under the U.S.-led drug war. Grisaffi shows how Morales's failure to meet his constituents' demands demonstrates that the full realization of alternative democratic models at the local or national level is constrained or enabled by global political and economic circumstances.



22/03/19 Bolsonaro's Brazil: Society and Politics in the Neo-Conservative Turn. Panel Discussion.

In this public seminar five invited experts will tackle thought-provoking issues that crucial to understand Bolsonaro's rise to power. They will also assess the directions of his government's policies and their manifest or potential impact on Brazil and beyond. After the presentations, this panel will engage in a moderated debate with the audience.

Prof. Edmund Amann

Political economy and Brazil's global position

Dr. Fabio de Castro

Extractivism, socioenvironmental conflicts, and territorial struggles

Dr. Patricia Schor

The intersecting race, class and gender struggles

Dr. Andrea Damacena Martins

Religion, morality and the social basis of conservatism

Prof. Kees Koonings

Public security, corruption, and political sustainability

Moderator: Prof. Michiel Baud

14/03/19 The Legal Construction of the Foreigner: Two Centuries of European Immigration in South America

Diego Acosta, Bristol University

Between 1870 and 1930 South America was the second largest recipient of migrants in the world only after the USA. Millions of Europeans emigrated notably to Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. How have countries with 200 years of history regulated the legal figure of the national and the foreigner through their constitutional, nationality and migration law? What lessons can other regions in the world learn from such experience over two centuries?

Lecture organized by CEDLA, ACES migration network and Law & Justice across borders - University of Amsterdam.

8/03/19 Dialogues with Civil Society #7: Angel in the Sugarcane

On Friday, March 8th, 2019, Nalacs and CEDLA: Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation are organising the 7th edition of the 'Dialogues with Civil Society' series.

This time we will screen the documentary 'Angel in the Sugarcane', with a response by Ralph Sprenkels and a Q&A with the film's director Godelieve Eijsink. The session will be moderated by Emiel Martens.

ANGEL IN THE SUGARCANE (2018, 46', El Salvador)

'Angel in the Sugarcane' is a documentary about tackling the challenge of making one of the biggest agricultural production chains in the world more sustainable. But above all, the film demonstrates how difficult the road to change is and how hard it is to break old habits, even if it is for your own good.

In the past few decades, thousands of sugarcane workers in Central America have suffered a painful death from a mysterious kidney disease. Why have they died so young? This is the question which drives doctor Jarquín, himself son of a sugarcane worker with kidney failure, to start his investigation in El Salvador. Does it have to do with the extremely hard circumstances in which they have to work?

In order to do thorough research, he needs the cooperation of the sugarcane industry, which is both powerful and not very open to change in El Salvador. Fortunately, there is one manufacturer who wants to talk to him: the director of the sugarcane factory El Angel. This thus enables Jarquín and his colleagues to set up a project to improve the working conditions of sugarcane farmers. However, not only the manufacturers, but also their foremen have been working according to the same fixed patterns for years. How does one change that?

PROGRAM

15:30 hrs – Opening by Emiel Martens
15:35 hrs – Screening of 'Angel in the Sugarcane'
16:20 hrs – Response by Ralph Sprenkels
16:30 hrs – Q&A with
17.00 hrs – Bites and drinks
18:00 hrs – End

22/02/19 Climate Change yet Business as Usual: Parable of Sustainable Rural Cities in Chiapas, Mexico Aylin Topal, Middle East Technical University, Ankara

This lecture situates rural reconstruction projects, which have been implemented since the late 2000s in Chiapas, in the context of climate change and new rural development perspectives on sustainability. Aylin Topal aims to make the case that the concept of sustainability has in practice increasingly been accommodating the logic of capitalist accumulation and exploitation. In particular, rural reconstruction projects in Chiapas have been dressed as sustainable rural cities with an alleged aim to contain rural poverty, yet these projects aim at integrating local economy into the world market. The lecture will illustrate that the Sustainable Rural Cities (SRC) projects aim to make rural poverty sustainable in converting peasants into rural industrial proletariat, dispossessing them of their land to be used for more productive (i.e. profitable) aims. In the face of climate change, the concept of sustainability has been redefined as business as usual.

15/02/19 NGIZ Pioneers: Fascism and Dictatorship Today

The 2019 edition of the ARTES Away Day will be devoted to fascism and dictatorship in the present and the past. The war in Syria and the recent rise of authoritarian rule in various regions of the world (Russia and Turkey most prominently) have created a new discourse of dissent and a new generation of exiles. At the same time, populism and the new right in Europe offer a powerfully revisionist view of the past, in which fascist rule and dictatorial figures (for instance in Spain and Italy, and in various countries in Latin America) seem no longer a priori discredited. What seemed to be shared memory now appears contested, perhaps irreconcilable history. In the afternoon, a closed session, the new [ARTES research group MeMo](#) - Mediating Memories of Fascism, Dictatorship and War will be launched, as a sample of one of ARTES' transversal themes, connecting memory, politics and culture, across the borders of continents.

This is a co-operation between [ARTES](#) & CEDLA (University of Amsterdam) and [NGIZ Club Clingendael](#)

I: Fascism and Dictatorship Today: Realities and Memories
(Location: CEDLA, Roetersstraat 33, 1018 WB Amsterdam)

13.30 – 13.45 Coffee, Tea

13.45 – 14.00 Welcome and Opening: Christian Noack

14.00-14.10 Introduction to the program – Maria Urban and Guido Snel

14.15-15.15 Key note: John Foot (University of Bristol): *Fascism and violence. Memory, Justice and Forgetting in Italy* (key note + discussion)

15.15-15.30 Snapshots: MeMo – MeMo: Mediating Memories of Fascism, Dictatorship and War (introduction: Arij Ouweneel)

15.30-15.50 Annelou Ypeij: The silence of sexual violence: Forced sterilizations (1996-2000) in Peru

15.50-16.10 Robbert Woltering: Egypt's Nasserist Revival: A Marxian farce

16.10-16.30 Maria Bonaria Urban: Resistance and Fascism in the Italian contemporary novel

16.30-17.00 Round table

Drinks

II: Dictatorship and Exile Today: Imagination and Resistance

Fascism and dictatorship are back in our present – and so is political displacement, the condition called exile. The war in Syria and the recent rise of authoritarian rule in various regions of the world (perhaps Russia and Turkey most prominently) have created a new discourse of dissent and a new generation of exiles. At the same time, populism and the new right in Europe offer a powerfully revisionist view of the past, in which fascist rule and dictatorial figures (for instance in Spain and Italy, and in various countries in Latin America) seem no longer a priori discredited. What seemed to be shared memory now appears contested, perhaps irreconcilable history.

The Amsterdam School for Region, Transnational and European Studies (ARTES) cordially invites you for a meeting with three extraordinary authors: Palestinian poet Ghayath Almadhoun, NIAS writer-in-residence this semester, and Sana Valiulina, novelist who writes both in Dutch and in Russian. A cross-border conversation about the plight of the writer in exile, about estrangement, the continuous need for translation; but also about the uses of adversity, and the crucial role of the literary voice when looking for ways of resistance.

With:

Ghayath Almadhoun is a Palestinian poet born in Damascus in 1979. He has lived in Stockholm since 2008. Almadhoun has published several collections of poetry, and his work has been widely translated. Together with Anne Vegter he published the collection of verse *Ik hier jij daar* (Jurgen Maas, 2018). He is writer in residence at NIAS in the first semester of 2019.

Sana Valiulina is a novelist and an essayist. Born in Tallinn, in Soviet Estonia, she studied Norwegian at Moscow State University before moving to Amsterdam in 1989. She received the Jan Hanlo Essay Price in 2017. Her latest novel, *Not Afraid of Bluebeard* (the Dutch title *Children of Brezjnev*), was published in Russia in 2017. She writes in Dutch and Russian.

Moderators:

Luiza Bialasiewicz, professor of European Governance, University of Amsterdam

Guido Snel, writer, translator, senior lecturer European Studies, University of Amsterdam

30/11/18 - 15/02/19 CEDLA EXPOSITION & OPENING

Na Bolom, Mexico: No hay que Olvidar, el Pasado es un Regalo

In the Mexican state of Chiapas the Maya culture is still very present. There, more than five different groups of Maya continue to live their own culture. These cultures, of course, are changing too. This makes it important for them to safeguard and document their cultures, something that is of interest beyond the indigenous groups too.

The No Hay Que Olvidar exposition shows hand-printed photographs of the Maya in Chiapas between the 1950's and 1970's. They are part of the photographic archive of Asociación Cultural Na Bolom in San Cristóbal de Las Casas. At Na Bolom, photographic material is kept of the Maya culture until the early 2000's, but the Na Bolom archives also contain audiovisual material, recordings, archeological pieces and their documentation, diaries and documentation of expeditions, old hand-drawn maps, and a library. This makes it one of the most important archives of Maya culture in the south-east of Mexico. Na Bolom was originally founded in 1950 as a centre for scientific research by Frans Blom and Gertrude Duby (an archeologist from Denmark and a photographer-journalist from Switzerland), it is currently maintained in this vein by a group of Maya and Mexican collaborators.

Two of these collaborators will be present in the Netherlands for the opening of the exposition. They are Gregorio Vázquez López, a historian and the coordinator of the archives in Na Bolom, and Ramón Folch González, an archeologist who has used the archives for his research. These two experts will give an opening presentation (in Spanish) and guided tour of the exposition on 30 November. During the presentation, they will discuss the importance of the archives for the Maya culture. They will discuss not only the archeological sites, but also how researchers go back to the researched communities to document culture as it unfolds. With Na Bolom being one of the most important sites of historical research in Chiapas and the south-east of Mexico, for scientists but also for the Maya people themselves, we hope you will much enjoy learning about this centre and its extraordinary collection!

01/02/19 Party politics and the legacies of insurgency in El Salvador

Ralph Sprenkels, Centre for Conflict Studies | Utrecht University

Discussant: Abbey Steele, Universiteit van Amsterdam

In 2009 El Salvador's Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN) became Latin America's first non-triumphant guerrilla movement able to take power by the ballot. Once in government, how did the FMLN accommodate its revolutionary aspirations and insurgent legacies? Based on Sprenkels's recent book "[After Insurgency](#)", this talk features an "ethnographic tour" of FMLN internal party politics and of its performance in government. The FMLN's reliance on former insurgent networks to build and expand the political party allowed it to develop an electorally competitive political machine, but also partially undermined the party's capacity to enforce political change in El Salvador.

[After Insurgency. Revolution and Electoral Politics in El Salvador](#) (University of Notre Dame Press, 2018)

[La revolución revisitada. Nuevas perspectivas sobre la guerra y la insurrección en El Salvador](#) (UCA editores, 2017)