

# THE VALUE OF COMPARISON

## CONFERENCE

organized by RAN HIRSCHL (University of Toronto) & PETER VAN DER VEER (MPI-MMG)

April 8-9, 2016 | Library Hall at MPI-MMG, Göttingen

### PROGRAM

#### Thursday, April 7

Arrival

19:30 Dinner

**Dagmar SCHÄFER** (Director, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin): **“Concepts, Values, Machines or Groups: The Language and Matter of Comparison in the Fissiparous Discipline of the History of Science”**

#### Friday, April 8

9:30-10:30 Opening remarks and thematic introduction:  
**Ran HIRSCHL & Peter VAN DER VEER**

Coffee break

10:45-12:30 **PANEL 1**

**Michael HERZFELD** (Ernest E. Monrad Professor of the Social Sciences, Harvard University): **“Comparing Values: Ethics, Audit Culture, and the Menace of Reductionism”**

**Richard A. SHWEDER** (Harold Higgins Swift Distinguished Service Professor of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago): **“Moral Maps and the Art of Invidious Comparison”**

Lunch

13:30-15:15 **PANEL 2**

**Lydia LIU** (W.T. Tam Professor in the Humanities, Professor of Chinese and Comparative Literature, Columbia University): **“Translation as a Figure of Thought”**

**Souleymane Bachir DIAGNE** (Professor of French and Philosophy, Columbia University): **“Translation as Comparison”**

Coffee break

15:30-17:15 **PANEL 3**

**Gauri VISWANATHAN** (Class of 1933 Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University): **“Translation, Mediation and Comparison”**

19:30 Dinner

#### Saturday, April 9

9:00-10:45 **PANEL 4**

**Sali A. TAGLIAMONTE** (Professor of Linguistics, University of Toronto): **“Comparative Sociolinguistics: Insights from Change and Dynamics in Language Variation”**

**Rogers BRUBAKER** (Professor of Sociology, UCLA Foundation Chair, University of California, Los Angeles): **“Cross-Domain Comparisons and the Politics of Difference”**

Coffee break

11:00-12:45 **PANEL 5**

**Alfred STEPAN** (Wallace Sayre Professor of Government, Columbia University): **“Different Political Questions, Different Comparative Approaches”**

**Jürgen BASEDOW** (Director, Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, Hamburg): **“The Value of Comparison in Law”**

13:00-13:30 Working lunch

13:30-14:00 Concluding remarks, publication plans, farewell



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