International Max Planck Research School on Retaliation, Mediation and Punishment 2008

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The International Max Planck Research School on Retaliation, Mediation and Punishment (IMPRS REMEP) was founded in 2008. It is a research and teaching network between the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (Heidelberg), the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History (Frankfurt), the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law (Freiburg) and the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Halle) as well as the Albert Ludwigs University of Freiburg and the Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg. The IMPRS REMEP is one out of currently 51 International Max Planck Research Schools under the umbrella of and funded by the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science.

The IMPRS REMEP is unique in its set-up, as it builds on the capacities of four institutes and two universities creating synergies necessary to conduct first class interdisciplinary research on the multi-faceted and cross-cultural area of study on retaliation, mediation and punishment.

The new and exciting study of retaliation, mediation and punishment requires a multidisciplinary approach drawing from the research areas of legal history, sociology, social and legal anthropology, criminology and jurisprudence. The IMPRS REMEP provides exactly this framework. Contemporary and historical comparative research combines research and theoretical analysis at the interface of micro- and macro levels of social organization.

Such a disciplinary constellation allows for an exceptionally broad inquiry into the connections and discontinuities between social and legal developments.

I am sure that bringing together so many disciplines and different cultural backgrounds in a research and training network will promote interaction and assessment not only of the current state of knowledge about retaliation, mediation and punishment for the role of social order and peace in society but that it will also provide a stimulus for further applied research and innovation in exploring new directions for policy formulations regarding conflict management strategies in the 21st century.

The purpose of this small booklet is to give you an insight into the research projects on retaliation, mediation and punishment that are conducted by our highly motivated and excellent young researchers who currently form the IMPRS REMEP’s international student body. You will also get an idea of the teaching and training program and will get to know the internationally renowned faculty and PhD supervisors.

I hope that you enjoy exploring the IMPRS REMEP and invite you to engage with us in further discussions on retaliation, mediation and punishment.

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Hans-Jörg Albrecht
Freiburg, 16 September 2008
I. Short Outline of the IMPRS REMEP
I. Short Outline of the IMPRS REMEP

The research agenda of the IMPRS REMEP focuses on the role of punishment, mediation and retaliation for social order and peace in society, which constitutes a fundamental question common to the fields of sociology, social anthropology, history, jurisprudence and political science.

In line with this, the social sciences involved in the IMPRS REMEP study social integration and conflict as well as the social causes and consequences of crime, criminal behavior, and in lieu thereof, the development and impact of laws. Alongside the social sciences, the fields of jurisprudence participating in the IMPRS REMEP concentrate on the purpose, structure, and application of criminal law, constitutional law and public international law in addition to the history of social communication about law. Both, social sciences and jurisprudence are incorporated in the IMPRS REMEP to explain the significance of retaliation, mediation and punishment for social order in today’s world.

In contemporary society, despite the dominance of the nation state in establishing and maintaining social order, other social actors are also effectively forming and upholding social order. At the same time, in the course of globalization with its worldwide dynamics of interacting, normative projections have to be coordinated within a global background. Moreover, the social agents that participate in the local process of social ordering are no longer acting on the local field alone but interacting with a multitude of others on the global level, and thus being exposed to new problems of governance and legitimacy.

Researchers of the various disciplines involved analyze from their theoretical standpoint and with their methodological canon how the different social agents such as international organizations, the State, the church, non-governmental organizations, local communities, families and neighborhoods make strategic use of retaliation, mediation and punishment.

Corresponding to this approach, research of the participating disciplines depicts specific functions of retaliation, mediation and punishment in the varying forms of interactions to establish and maintain social order, in terms of intensity and scope, time and space. This will provide a fertile basis for comparative analysis about the relative significance of retaliation, mediation and punishment in establishing and maintaining social order today. All doctoral research projects address these core questions by engaging in theoretical and empirical research.

The IMPRS REMEP provides excellent integrated and innovative training and research opportunities for up to twenty highly qualified German and foreign university graduates who wish to work towards a doctoral degree in the fields of criminology, criminal and international law, legal history, sociology and social anthropology. The IMPRS REMEP sponsors doctoral students for a maximum period of three years, during which students benefit from the outstanding research facilities of the various partner institutes and universities. Embedded in the scientific and social life of his or her partner institute, the doctoral student carries out his or her research project under the supervision of two professors, and is coached by a so-called day-to-day supervisor, who are themselves senior researchers. Each student has a Thesis Advisory Committee, which monitors the progress of the student on a regular basis.

The training offered by the IMPRS REMEP is broad and interdisciplinary. Mandatory scientific workshops are conducted at the various partner institutes several times during the academic year. Internationally renowned researchers and practitioners are invited as guest lectures and keynote speakers. The aim is to provide insights into the distinct disciplines involved and to promote an interdisciplinary approach to the overall research agenda; i.e. doctoral students will acquaint themselves with the empirical methods and theoretical backgrounds not only of their own discipline but also of the other fields of research involved. Soft skills training modules are an integral part of the training concept.
II. Doctoral Students 2008
Currently, thirteen doctoral students are enrolled with the IMPRS REMEP. The students come from various countries including Austria, Germany, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Peru, Spain, Sudan and Taiwan. Six of them are located in Freiburg, one in Frankfurt and Heidelberg respectively, and another five in Halle. In fall 2008, the IMPRS REMEP will admit further doctoral students from Costa Rica, France and Uganda to the program.

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All personal homepages start with: http://remep.mpg.de/remep/en/pub/people___projects/student_body/
Global Salafi Jihadism and Counter-Terrorism – The Criminology of Jihadi Conflicts

For the realization of its goals Salafi jihadism resorts – inter alia – to terrorist strategies. These strategies are not only directed against apostate Muslim regimes (the ‘near enemy’) but also against Western Democracies (the far enemy) whose hegemony is perceived as a hostile intrusion into the Islamic collective (ummah). The phenomenon of jihadism against the far enemy poses new scientific challenges for criminology because here proven categories don’t apply anymore: Jihadism comprises more than deviant behavior (terrorism). Likewise terms such as ‘war’ (use of force between national military) or ‘guerilla warfare’ (the use of force between sub-state actors and national military) don’t grasp the action of jihadists meaningfully. The novelty of the phenomenon becomes obvious when one considers the abundance of measures used to regulate and control the conflict (usually referred to as counter-terrorism, anti-terrorism and terrorism prevention). In addition some of these measures are expanded in a way that they violate principles of democracy and the rule of law (‘extraordinary renditions’, torture and the ‘preventive turn’ in some domestic criminal laws) in order to increase their effectiveness to fight the problem. A phenomenon which appears to be so robust against its control and which provokes nearly utilitarian reactions must catch criminological curiosity.

A key for the understanding of this contemporary conflict-phenomenon is the fundamentalist movement of Salafism. It is characterized by a high cultural and territorial adaptability “because it accepts without nostalgia the loss of its original culture” (Roy, Olivier 2006). Thus the identity of its members can be established nearly autonomously of any cultural, national or territorial context. Therefore, despite its anti-modern agenda, this form of Islamic fundamentalism fits well into the age of globalization. Since the mid 1990s the jihadi ideology in combination with the strategic reasoning of its elites (e.g. Aiman az-Zawahiri or Abu Mus’ab al-Suri) is the common basis for the mujahedin in the struggle against the far enemy.

Within the scope of the project the global jihadi conflict is examined. The meaning of ‘jihadism’ on the one hand and counter-terrorism on the other shall be clarified. Which goals, strategies, motives and actors can be identified? What is the relationship between different dimensions (goals, strategies, motives, actors) of these two constructs? What issues antagonize them? The objective of the project is to identify and describe such conflict-dimensions of jihadism and counter-terrorism (on the basis of qualitative-empirical material such as strategy and position papers, resolutions, speeches, fatwas). Which dimensions (if at all) of jihadism and counter-terrorism refer to each other? Can the two constructs be compared at all? Finally hypotheses shall be generated which allow for careful predictions and propositions about the dynamic of the conflict to be made.

Andreas Armborst (*1980) studied Sociology at the University of Trier and the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, USA (2000-2006). In Lincoln he participated in the Survey Research and Methodology Program of the GALLUP Organization and completed a 4-month internship at the Crime Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. From 2004 through to 2006 Mr. Armborst was a research assistant for two institutes at the University of Trier (ASW and ZENTRAS). In 2006 he graduated in sociology with his thesis “Criminal Behavior in Different Urban Settings.” Thereafter he completed a Master’s degree in International Criminology at the University of Hamburg.

In 2008 Mr. Armborst worked as an intern for the Research Center on Terrorism and Extremism at the BKA in Wiesbaden. There he was admitted as a member of the European Expert Network on Terrorism Issues (EENeT). Since April 2008 he has been a doctoral student at the IMPRS REMEP at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law.
Moving between Laws and Identities

The project deals with conflicts between nomadic Fulani and settled populations in three different areas. In the Extreme North of Cameroon many nomadic Fulani practice a relatively constant form of transhumance since approximately 60 years. Though conflicts are frequent and recurrent every year, they are often small in scale, between individuals. Nowadays, farmer-pastoralist conflicts are daily reported upon in the news and often framed in terms of religion and ethnicity, turning local tensions into national conflicts. Many policymakers and scientists believe that at the base of these conflicts is environmental scarcity caused by a combination of breakdown of traditional symbiotic institutions, increasing competition and decreasing rain. However, it seems justified to doubt about the linear causal chain between population growth, degradation, and conflicts. The following aspects will therefore be important in my research to analyze conflicts. In some cases, degradation has been uncovered as a policy discourse for settling down mobile pastoralists. The conceptualisation of “conflict”; It is a container term covering a wide range of interactions between pastoralists, from conflict of interest, to competition, to violent conflict on a local to regional scale. There are few studies using adequate definitions and time series data to confirm “the conventional wisdom” that increasing competition leads to more violence (Hussein 1999). Sharing common land can induce a permanent occurrence of low-level conflicts to negotiate social integration and a common definition of the landscape like in the case of the Extreme North of Cameroon. In controlled and contained conditions conflict might even be a means of integration into the wider socio-political environment of a new area (Dafinger 2002). A critical historical perspective is needed for an adequate definition of conflict parties. Since many traditions have been rather “constructed” and ethnic cultures “reified” during (post-)colonialism, ethnic and cultural boundaries should be critically considered and analysed with a historical approach. There will also be in depth local analyses of the present day social relations. In the Extreme North of Cameroon, relationships are often multi-stranded and an understanding is necessary to explain the presence or absence of informal institutions of mediation and resolutions. Finally, in contrast to processes of sedentarization, migration of pastoralists has been neglected in (conflict-) research. Following the New Rangeland Paradigm (Scoones 1994), mobility is nowadays considered as a functional long-term effective way of managing unpredictable resources but it is also a factor in conflicts over access to land between farmers and nomadic pastoralists. Having to recur to forced migration as an avoidance strategy depends for a large part on the degree of success in defining an identity as part of a “strong local group”. Inclusion and exclusion processes play an important role in this, allowing for wider or narrower identities within an aspect, like religion (Schlee 2004). Next to the juggling with identities, nomadic Fulbé encounter many (overlapping) legal and normative systems next to their own internal normative one. Like the struggle over inclusion and exclusion, pastoralists and farmers each have their own discourses to justify their acts and interests and their success depends on the selection of the proper forum to back their discourse (Houtzager 2001). Furthermore, countless plural legal versions exist in a single location and nomads have to exploit these on the way.

Ab Drent

Ab Drent was born in 1977 in Groningen, the Netherlands. After high school he undertook one voluntary year as a social worker for people with a mental handicap in France, followed by 2 years education.

In 1998 he did his undergraduate degree in Development Studies at Wageningen University. He continued to study Anthropology and the Ecology of Natural Resource Management doing different practical courses abroad.

For his masters he followed nomadic Fulbe in Cameroon during ten months to study their mobility. The resulting thesis was awarded with the Wageningen University Thesis Prize in 2005.

After graduating from university he worked as a consultant for an ‘Art Science’ project in Cameroon and Nigeria, organizing fieldwork and filming.

Since April 2008 he has been a PhD candidate at the IMPRS REMEP at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology.
The most important recent development in South Kordofan was the Civil War (1983-2005), which was part of the ongoing Sudanese national state crisis. After the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of 2005, new sorts of conflicts developed. It is reported that more than 100 different areas are shaped by conflict or tension all over South Kordofan. Applying customary mechanisms of conflict resolutions is recommended by Civil Society Organisations and international actors like NGOs as part of the crisis management in the disturbed region.

This study focuses on dispute and dispute settlement in post-war South Kordofan. Besides dispute resolutions at local courts, where different legal repertoires come together, also other institutions, networks, and narratives relevant to conflict and conflict management will be examined. The customary laws that will be examined have been objects of negation, manipulation, and accommodation during various historical periods, political regimes, and ideological orientations on the local, the national, and the international level.

The last civil war led to the emergence of opposed political units defined by ethnic criteria. The sense of ethnic unity and distinctiveness among the Nuba became much more pronounced during the difficult war years. The political struggle against Arab domination and political Islam reached a decisive moment when some of the Nuba leaders, many of them Muslims, decided to join the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) in its war against the Islamic government of Sudan in 1984. Afterwards, most of the Nuba became supporters to this secular movement led by south- erners fighting to establish the “New Sudan” as a modern, democratic, secular, and federal state. While this war was taken to the north of Bahr-El-Arab, the government distributed automatic weapons to the Baggara Arabs, presented itself as their protector, and staged all this as its „Islamic Project“. In this context the ethnic category „Hawazma“ slowly emerged as a political unit engaged in a struggle for power sharing.

While it is hard to establish the exact beginning of state failure in the Sudan, this process became obvious after 1989. Nowadays, the state fails to mobilise the legitimate use of power within its borders. The police and other state institutions are either weak or more or less completely absent, as in South Kordofan. Accordingly, other political units and mechanisms emerge and constitute semi-autonomous social fields of non-state actors. It is in this context that conflict management and dispute resolution are the persisting questions in South Kordofan today. Part of the problem is that the political units constitute themselves as ethnic units founded on autochthony.

This study aspires to contribute to the current debate on the functions and interrelations of retaliation, mediation, punishment, and reconciliation in a post-war situation, where people – not able to rely on a functioning state – want to and have to find ways of overcoming the wounds they have inflicted upon each other through enormous atrocities. In this context, questions of collective responsibilities are raised and these, in turn, are often defined ethnically. Thereby, tragically, former acts of hostility are after the event attributed to local actors, tribes, and ethnic groups, when in fact they were caused by political parties, religious networks, and the government.

Some of the concrete questions of this study are the following: What exactly are the traditional conflict management mechanisms and how were they developed through-out different historical periods? What is the impact these mechanisms have on inter-group relations? How does legal pluralism affect these traditional mechanisms? How are these mechanisms relating to the state, identity politics, and competition over scarce resources?
Kiyomi von Frankenberg
Consensual Resolution of Conflicts in Traditional and Differentiated Legal Systems

Topic and goal

A main question of my project is, which importance consent may have for resolving conflicts in modern German legal system and in societies without central power. At this, I want to concentrate on the importance of informal procedural rules for the development of penal order and for the problem, to what extent the finding of justice is influenced by non-legal criteria. My work is supposed to reveal structural principles and the normative frames of reference of consensual resolution of conflicts.

Hypotheses

Routine in criminal justice -especially in plea bargaining procedure- supplements the body of legal norms with informal rules. I want to research structural principles of the finding of justice in situations where legal codes of practice seem to take a back seat.

Consensual resolution of conflicts comes up, when there is no possibility to enforce an authoritative decision. Due to the informal style of negotiating in plea bargaining situations, non-legal criteria might become decisive to the finding of justice, although these criteria shall be excluded from the criminal procedure. Instead of dealing but with the penal problem itself, the interests of the participants gain in importance. Then the contentious issue probably is no longer the conflict between legal norms and criminal offence, but between legal system and political or economic power factors.

Plea bargaining negotiations as well as traditional consensual negotiations are decluched from the regular codes of practice. Therefore, the negotiations take place in a modified normative frame of reference. Here, trust among the participants and mutual respect for the demands of the legal system and the interests of the participants are crucial for bargaining consent.

Method

A main aspect of my work is an empirical analysis of plea bargaining in criminal procedure. By means of case-related interviews with participants of plea bargaining negotiations in German business criminal procedures I want to reveal structural principles and the normative frames of consensual resolution of conflicts.

An ethnological secondary data analysis shall point out the importance of consent for dispute settlement, when there is no possibility to make authoritative decisions.

A comparison of the processes of the finding of consent in traditional and differentiated legal systems serves to show how the enforceability of legal norms is related to the importance of collective affiliations.
Minorities are the part of a population that suffers most from conflict and who are most likely to fall victim to crimes under international law. This is acknowledged by one of the fundamental objectives of minority rights law, namely its contribution to peace and stability. Furthermore, the major international legal instruments governing the rights of minorities relate to this objective, by setting out obligations regarding the physical existence of minorities. Additionally, the fact that the crimes as set out in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court do, for a large part, have a minority aspect inherent in them, shows that minorities could be the primary beneficiaries from international justice in the future.

My thesis will examine whether international criminal law can generally contribute to the protection of minorities and if international criminal justice as it currently stands lives up to these expectations. It will look at whether or not the crimes enshrined in the Rome Statute are sufficient tools in order to punish crimes that minorities usually face. Furthermore, I aim to scrutinize the standard of minority protection in the work of ad hoc tribunals, in particular the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda as compared to possible developments with the establishment of the International Criminal Court. I aim to compare the use of minority rights law in international criminal courts and tribunals to the use of other areas of international human rights law by those institutions. Additionally, my thesis will examine if and how the impact of international criminal law on minority protection could be increased by making use of the concept of international minority rights law as a way of broadening the understanding of the roots, causes and prevention of the crimes committed. Finally, I want to look at obstacles and skepticism that hinder the application of minority rights law in international criminal law and what can be done in order to promote its use.

Julia Gebhard

The Use of Minority Rights Law in the Prevention of Crimes under International Law

Julia Gebhard is a research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg, Germany. She entered the IMPRS REMEP in August 2008. She studied German Law, Anglo-American Law, European Law and Public International Law at the University of Trier (Germany) and the University of Uppsala (Sweden). Additionally, she holds a LL.M. in International Human Rights Law from the University of Lund/Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (Sweden). In 2004 she worked as a legal intern at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha (Tanzania). Her research concentrates on the areas of International Criminal Law and Minority Rights Law.
The main characteristics of the present Mongolian criminal law and sanction system were developed during the 1920s. From that time onwards some important developments of the legal practice in Mongolia have been made by way of recreation, changes and reforms.

The new starting-point for questions of criminal law and of criminology respectively and also the resulting need for research were generated in the last two decades in connection with a radical change in society, politics and the economy. Such changes include, for example, the political turn of events after the collapse of the Soviet Union as well as the transition to a multi-party-system and parliamentary democracy at the beginning of the 1990s. Mention must also be given to questions surrounding the economic transformation from planned economy to free market economy, the new kinds of criminality that have emerged, the rising problems posed by alcohol and drugs, as well as the growth in poverty and the perilous situation of street children.

The first democratic Constitution of 1992 provided the basis for Mongolia to become a modern state, which was “democratic, in accordance with the rule of law and respecting human rights.” Since that time the political discussion about law in Mongolia has referred to a modern criminal law, which is looking forward and orientated to the values of a constitutional state.

Criminal law sanctions had to be developed in accordance with the rule of law, which means to be up to the standards of humanity and of a constitutional state. The principles of proportionality and of humanity were observed. During the phase of transformation the Criminal Code of 1990–1992 brought substantial amendments, which do not yet meet or cannot reach the standards of modern international law. There is an urgent need for a new criminal code, which would bring about a revolutionary reform of criminal law.

The Mongolian criminal law and sanction system have been fundamentally changed by the legislative reform of the criminal law of 01.02.2002. Twelve years were needed to create a new “non-socialist” criminal code.

The goals of this study are, first of all, to describe and to analyse the development of the Mongolian criminal sanction system. Afterwards perspectives will be pointed out concerning suggestions for regulation and attempts of reform. The study also takes a comprehensive look at the historical development of the sanction system. The conception of the Mongolian criminal policy is taken as a basis to discuss and analyse in a normative and empirical way those elements of the sanction system which must be criticised, where changes are possible or if changes have already happened. Also the implementation in practice will be examined. Simultaneously empirical research will be conducted using publicly available statistics and court files. A method of secondary analysis will be applied to the existing material and dates that refer to this theme. A survey about the sorts of punishment, the types of sentences, the abolition of death penalty etc. will also take place.
Severin Lenart
Reconsidering Law and Society
A Comparative Study among the Swazi of South Africa and Swaziland

The PhD project analyzes and compares plural legal settings, their implications of power, and normative ordering in two 'traditional' Swazi communities in South Africa and Swaziland, respectively. Since 1994, South Africa has been a society undergoing a fundamental socio-political transformation from apartheid to a liberal democracy. On the contrary, Swaziland has politically remained Africa’s last absolute monarchy with a king holding supreme executive, legislative, and judicial powers. But in socio-economic aspects the country has also changed dramatically. Particular focus is laid on potential legal interactions over national borders. The aim of the project is to address the fundamental questions of the Research School concerning how culturally related local communities in varying socio-political contexts refer to retaliation, either in practice or on a discursive level, mediation in so called formal and informal dispute-settling institutions as well as various forms of punishment to negotiate, construct and maintain peace and social order.

Severin Lenart

Severin Lenart is a PhD candidate of the IMPRS REMEP at the MPI for Social Anthropology in Halle/Saale since April 2008. He graduated in Social & Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna in 2007. Apart from that he attended courses in African as well as Conflict Studies at the Universities of Vienna and Utrecht. Mr Lenart was an intern at the Society for Threatened Peoples in Göttingen and the Social Anthropology Research Unit at the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna where he was the editorial director of the final brochure of the Wittgenstein Research Project 2001-2007. Furthermore, four months of fieldwork in different parts of South Africa in 2005 and 2007 resulted in several scientific and popular publications mainly on issues of social transformation and land rights.

Severin Lenart speaks German, English and Slovakian fluently and is a beginner in siSwati and isiZulu.

severin_lenart.htm
[Complete URL see p. 10]
In Germany, the implementation and legislation of Victim-Offender Mediation (VOM) for adults followed the pattern of juvenile justice. Two significant regulations in the Criminal Procedural Code are sections 153 and 153a, which entrust the public prosecutors with discretionary power to dismiss a case or postpone indictments with or without conditions. Furthermore, in 1999, sections 155a and 155b were introduced to promote the application of VOM in criminal procedures. Today VOM has undoubtedly become an essential part of the German criminal justice system.

In the meantime, much empirical research has been conducted in order to evaluate the implementation of VOM. All of the research findings reveal that most VOM cases in Germany are referred by public prosecutors during the preliminary proceedings (about 80%). It is obvious that the public prosecutor plays a very important role in the implementation of VOM. However, after comparing the estimated total number of VOM cases in Germany (about 25,000 per year) and the public charges brought by the prosecutors (approximately 550,000 cases), researchers agree that VOM is not carried out exhaustively in Germany, and it still only plays a marginal role in the daily work of public prosecutors.

Unlike in Germany where mediation is a relatively new concept, in the Chinese culture mediation is the traditional means for dealing with interpersonal conflicts. Therefore, Taiwan and China, in spite of different ideologies, have developed similar systems of mediation within administrative units at lower levels. The “Mediation Committee” (Tiaojie weiyuanhui) in Taiwan and the “People’s Mediation Committee” (Renmin tiaojie weiyuanhui) in China have settled many civil cases out of court successfully for several decades. That said, mediation in criminal matters was relatively neglected. A decisive reason for this are the severe restrictions placed on VOM. In Taiwan, according to the “Act of Mediation in the villages, towns and cities”, the Mediation Committee can only mediate a criminal offence which may only be prosecuted upon complaint. In China, as of 1989 the People’s Mediation Committee can merely mediate civil disputes. In recent years VOM drew much attention both in Taiwan and China, because it corresponds with the similar criminal policy of both governments: it is mild on minor offenders and severe on serious offenders (Principle of “Kuanya xiangji”). The point is that public prosecutors have to spend more time and energy when dealing with serious crimes. For the minor offenses, VOM can be used to settle a case out of court. In contrast to the German prosecutors, the Taiwanese and Chinese prosecutors have made a great contribution to the revival of VOM in their countries. As the main promoters they have not only demanded the loosening of legal constraints surrounding VOM, but have also displayed great interest in applying it.

What factors lead to the complete contrary attitudes of the public prosecutors towards VOM in these three countries? In other words, why are the German public prosecutors thought to be too cautious about referring cases to VOM agencies, while the Taiwanese and Chinese public prosecutors display great interest in its application? This sharp contrast motivates the present comparative research project.

In light of the fact that public prosecutors in these three countries play a decisive role in the application of VOM, the key to increasing the frequency of VOM must lie in offering the necessary conditions to facilitate the application of VOM by the public prosecutor. Of the considerable number of studies of VOM already conducted over the past few decades, it is surprising that only a few have sought to address the problems and needs from the viewpoint of the public prosecutor. This research, therefore, intends to examine the required preconditions for the extensive application of VOM from the viewpoint of the public prosecutor.
Despite the country’s much heralded political transition, interpersonal violence, criminality and lawlessness have together remained a constitutive element of South African society. Beyond the immediately apparent pain and trauma which violent and lawless actions inflict on victims, continually high violent crime rates are widely regarded as an ongoing threat to South Africa’s general social peace, reconciliation and socio-economic development. One of the most threatening consequences of these persistently high crime rates is the disillusionment of South African citizens with the new state’s ability to act effectively as a sovereign. As a result, many citizens rely on self-help safety measures, and/or seek assistance outside of state institutions.

The South African Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DOJCD) has, in 2004, embarked on a ‘community justice program’ and introduced various projects, one of which is the establishment of Hatfield-Type Community Courts, to address the substantive and procedural challenges facing the criminal justice system. The eighteen Hatfield-type community courts, although normal district criminal courts with normal jurisdiction, are set apart by being located in areas of Post-Apartheid South Africa and have specific objectives.

Research Question
This PhD project explores how the Hatfield-type model of a community court functions in reality and what elements play an important role when the model gets translated into practice. Three fields of inquiry emerge as material:

1. Restorative justice and criminal justice: competing or reconcilable?
This PhD project explores the ways in which these two approaches are implemented in practice at the Hatfield-Type community courts of Cape Town. Do these concepts compete or are they reconcilable in practice? Is there a contradiction, and if so how do people in practice in the Hatfield-Type Community Courts address this? Are there different offences where one or the other paradigm is applied, and if so why? Do competing ideas paralyse court action? Why and how do fashionable ideas like restorative justice and zero tolerance get institutionalised? Why do these models get institutionalised and not others? Why do legal system managers or other employees come upon certain ideas/models/approaches at a given time?

2. The globalisation of democratic crime control and criminal justice
The second field of inquiry looks at the relationship between these globally circulating models of conflict settlement procedures and locally constructed notions of what order, disorder and justice are.

This project explores whether or not transnational models of crime control and criminal justice, have any purchase in the jurisdiction areas of the Hatfield-Type community courts, and if so, how and why? How do the Hatfield-type community courts cast in the transnational mould relate to local residents’ everyday moralities and normative understandings of justice, order and disorder in crime and violence ridden, previously neglected, areas of Post-Apartheid South Africa?

3. The limits of legal tolerance versus the democratisation of law
A third field of inquiry looks at what actually happens in practice when the construction of order and disorder in the Hatfield-Type community courts differs from local conceptualisations of order, disorder and appropriate conflict settlement procedures. Many forms of non-state ordering in the townships are governed by values and practices other than human rights and due process, function in opposition to the formal criminal justice system and challenge the sovereignty of the state, its constitution and the rule of law.

This PhD project explores what people actually do when these non-state ordering practices reach the limits of legal tolerance? How do people in and outside the Hatfield-Type community courts address the contradiction in practice.
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In 2008, Juan presented a research project by principle investigators Professor Masferrer Domingo and Professor Sáinz Guerra about the history of terrorism in Spain. The presentation was part of the “Kolloquium zur Polizeigeschichte” at the MPI.

Since 2007, he has worked as a Sporting Steward at international and national automobile championships and was appointed Permanent Officer at the Royal Spanish Automobile Federation. Juan was elected Managing Director of a university magazine in 2004.

The Protection of the Honor and Dignity of the Convicted through European Constitutionalism

A comparative historical approach to the penal content of European constitutionalism (France, Spain and Germany)

Although not all the countries that ratified the European Convention on Human Rights decided to introduce, like Spain in its article 15, this regulation in their constitutions, it is true however that all of these countries prohibit inhuman or degrading penalties. Germany is an example of this, because it precisely demonstrates this option without at all damaging the protection of the basic rights of the people to honor and dignity. In fact, no Spanish Constitution prior to today’s Constitution of 1978 regulated this issue, even though this doesn’t mean that up until 1978 Spanish constitutionalism didn’t protect this basic human right.

The aim of this contribution is not focused so much on the “crimes”, but rather on the inhuman or degrading “penalties”. Therefore the “crimes” are placed out of this paper, because although it is true that the commitment of crimes are degrading or inhuman for the honor and dignity of the affected person, it is certain that commitment of any offence is always degrading or inhuman for these people. Thus, despite the interest of carrying out an European comparative legal research about the crimes considered the most degrading and inhuman for the affected people, in this case we will focus specifically on the honor and dignity of the people that have been found guilty of perpetrating an offence, as they belong to a category of people whose honor and dignity can be easily violated due to their guilt concerning the perpetration of a crime, taking into account that everybody -even those people found guilty- is protected by the existence of fundamental and human rights, among which honor and dignity are included. Hence, once a person has been found guilty, the only legal mechanism through which his honor and dignity can be damaged is the applied penalty to this person according to the norms.

The collapse of the Ancient Regime and the outcome of the Liberal Constitutional Regime produced some transformations which juridical consequences showed to be essential in the penal field, especially in the evolution of our punitive system. However, the reformation of the penal typology carried out during the constitutional period was slower and more gradual than what would seem at first. The expression “inhuman and degrading penalties” leads us to some offensive punishments the applicability of which either fell into disuse at the beginning of the compilation movement or remained in some cases up until recently or which still remain nowadays in the Spanish penal system, according to some penologists’ opinion influenced by certain opinions and scientific thesis defended by the German doctrine.

Leaving aside the guarantees of penal procedural character, our research project will deal with the penal content gathered in the different legal regulations of European constitutionalism, focusing particularly on the protection of honor and dignity of the convicted and its real influence on some European criminal law traditions from the 18th Century to the First World War in the case of France, Spain and Germany. Due to the interdisciplinary content of the program we belong to, first we will focus on the research of a legal and anthropological conception of honor and dignity in all these countries by writing a kind of explanation of their main content, and afterwards we will investigate and compare the national regulation of the penalties that were considered harmful or shameful for the convicted people according to the explanation given about the content of honor and dignity.
Shakira Bedoya Sánchez

The Politics of Order
– An Analysis of Punishment in International Law

The sudden ‘boom’ of global criminal justice and the subsequent extension of principles and procedures of criminal law into the international realm is part of a broad historical era in which international law has turned to ethics. As such, punishment, as a legal discourse, is built upon a universal and anti-formalist moral vocabulary, which currently functions on the premises of overwhelmingly Western ideas of criminal justice and international politics.

Arguments in support of international criminal justice often refer to its role in “deterrence”, “national reconciliation” or recovering the “dignity of the victims”. These justifications remain ambiguous, as they are rarely articulated with sufficient concreteness so as to measure their implementation in practice. First of all, it is not always clear that the pursuit of criminal trials is the most efficient means to bring about peace and national reconciliation. As many diplomats have argued, the prospect of trials may aggravate conflicts and make settlement more difficult. In national societies, criminal law is usually justified by reference to the deterrent effect criminal punishment is expected to have. It is very unclear if any such deterrent effect may be assumed at the international level – especially if the trial is held by foreign judges at a geographically distant location. Studies on the attitudes of populations in the former Yugoslavian territory do not give much support to the view that an international trial might have a significant positive effect for the political reconciliation in that territory.

This research project sets out to describe and provide an understanding of the current process of criminalization of international law itself, and will present an assessment of the underlying conditions and rationalities in which punishment generates, performs and reproduces a particular form of political international order. Under this framework, punishment is taken as a discursive institution; as a set of narratives constructed upon legal and quasi-legal argumentations about what, whom and how to punish. In this view, it operates as a collection of “active” categories and procedures with capacity to “speak of” the social world and deliver authoritative classifications.

The objective of this research is to contribute with a reasoned account of how the mechanics of punishment (or rather what it says about punishment) are employed by international actors in the frame of a highly political international community, and furthermore, to examine what the effects are of this criminalization in the construction of social political order.

This investigation is first and foremost interdisciplinary and aims to approach the topic of punishment in international law by looking beyond classical legal standpoints. As such, drawing from postmodern theory, this research seeks to incorporate and combine angles from criminology, deconstruction theory, philosophy of law and philosophy of culture.
The Afghan population is faced with the necessity to re-negotiate the most basic features of governance, law, and social organisation. As ideologies of social control formed a central aspect of the conflicts of the last decades, the struggle about the ‘appropriate’ type and style of social control is at the core of this general debate and reflects competing visions of social order.

The most prominent legal systems in this discourse are traditional legal regimes such as the Pashtunwali, various Islamic ‘schools’ of law with highly varying and competing agendas, and most recently an emerging human rights discourse, which is linked to the international community’s agenda of the enforcement of rule of law schemes and provides them with an individual rights-focused, liberal mandate.

The research will analyse the debate over mandates for and forms of retaliation, mediation and punishment with a focus on the aims of social control presented by them and the visions of social order these entail.

The existing literature can tell us, that the pursuit of societal and ideological goals by social control is highly different in the different systems of law at stake. And we know that the dispute about precepts of social control is found on the level of political debate among respective interest groups, the analysis of which will serve as a macro-level context to the research. But what we do not know is, how those systems of reference interact in legal practice, and to which extent and how those claims are dealt with by the concerned population.

The project thus wants to provide a bottom-up perspective on claims to and realisations of modes of social control, such as retaliation, mediation and punishment.

By taking the general debate into account, it will also

- gain understanding of the realisation of theoretical claims, and of the processes by which new legal ideologies such as human rights law and various Islamist policies are adopted and adapted in existing legal orders.
- develop an anthropological contribution to the analysis of norm-production.
- add understanding to the question of how people interact with political and ideological claims, and shape the legal structure and debate.
- shed light on the people’s role in the negotiation of social control – here in the setting of the ‘reconstruction’ of the legal system.

And finally it will contribute knowledge about the Afghan legal order, legal discourse and development.
Re-Establishing Social Order in Post-Conflict Societies.

A Comparative and Retrospective Study of Mechanisms of REMEP applied in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia

The international community assisted Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia during post-conflict reconstruction; assistance which included the establishment of various justice mechanisms. This PhD project studies the role of criminal law in reconstructing social order in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia. The three levels of war crime prosecution – at the ICTY, the War Crimes Chambers, and the lower level domestic courts – will be the subject of various examinations. Compliance of domestic courts with international criminal law standards as set out by the ICTY jurisprudence will be one aspect of the project; the examination of domestic trials with regard to newly introduced common law aspects will be another. Additionally, the new mediation laws and their implementation in the respective countries will be reviewed with regard to criminal procedures. The overall aim is to analyze the three levels at which war crime trials are taking place with regard to their differences and similarities.

Lejla Vujinović was born on July 26, 1981 in St. Gallen/Switzerland. After finishing her Abitur in Bielefeld she studied law from 2002-2007 at the University of Amsterdam, University of Geneva and the Humboldt-University in Berlin, concluding with an LL.M. in International and European Public Law in Amsterdam. Since 2007 she has been working as a research assistant for Prof. Dr. h. c. mult. Albin Eser, M.C.J., Director Emeritus of the Max-Planck-Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg. After having worked in 2007/2008 as a research assistant at the University of St. Gallen/Switzerland at the Chairs of Prof. Dr. Kerstin Odendahl and Prof. Dr. Anne van Aaken, she transferred to the University of Berne to the Chair of Prof. Dr. Günter Heine, Director of the Institute for Criminal Law and Criminology (Chair for Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and International Criminal Law).

Ms Vujinović was admitted to the International Max Planck Research School on Retaliation, Mediation and Punishment in September 2008.
III. Organization of the IMPRS REMEP
III. Organization of the IMPRS REMEP

Professor Dr. Dr. h. c. Hans-Jörg Albrecht, Director at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg, is speaker and dean of the IMPRS REMEP. He represents the Research School and chairs its Executive Committee. Deputy is Professor Dr. Günther Schlee, Director at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale).

The main tasks of the Executive Committee of IMPRS REMEP are to supervise all activities, including the academic and the administrative activities, to take all major policy decisions as well as sign responsible for the admission of doctoral students to the program, the overall organization of the training activities as well as the evaluation of the students and their research projects.

Apart from the speaker and his deputy, the Executive Committee is made up of members of each of the six institutions participating in the IMPRS REMEP:

- Prof. Dr. Franz v. Benda-Beckmann, Head of Project Group “Legal Pluralism” at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology;
- Prof. Dr. Keebet v. Benda-Beckmann, Head of Project Group “Legal Pluralism” at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology;
- Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Frisch, director of the Institute for Criminal Law and Legal Theory at the Faculty of Law, University of Freiburg;
- Prof. Dr. Walter Perron, Chair for Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and Comparative Criminal Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Freiburg;
- Prof. Dr. Richard Rottenburg, Director of the Institute of Social Anthropology at the Faculty of Philosophy, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg;
- Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Ulrich Sieber, Director at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law, Freiburg;
- Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Michael Stolleis, Director at the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, Frankfurt;
- Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Rüdiger Wolfrum, Director at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg.

Dr. Carolin F. Hillemanns is in charge of the coordination of the IMPRS REMEP; the Research School Office is located at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg. Dr. Hillemanns assists the Executive Committee in its work and the IMPRS REMEP students in overall curricular and administrative issues. At all member institutes, scientific coordinators are in charge of the implementation of the REMEP training program.

Local Scientific Coordinators / Teaching Faculty:

- Prof. Dr. Karl Härter, Senior Research Scientist, and PD Dr. Miloš Vec, Senior Research Scientist at the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, Frankfurt;
- Dr. Carolin Hillemanns, IMPRS REMEP Coordinator and Dr. Michael Kilchling, Senior Research Scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law, Freiburg;
- Anja Seibert-Fohr, LL.M. S.J.D. (GWU), Head of the Minerva Research Group at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg;
- Dr. Bertram Turner, Senior Research Scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale).
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Wolfgang Frisch was born in Wernsdorf, Karlsbad in 1943. From 1962-1966, he studied law at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg. There he wrote his doctoral thesis in 1970 and his Habilitationsschrift in 1974. In 1974, he became professor for criminal law and criminal procedural law at the University of Bonn. From 1976-1991, Professor Frisch held a chair at the University of Mannheim. Since 1992, he has been professor at the Albert-Ludwigs University Freiburg and Director of the Institute for Criminal Law and Legal Theory. Since 2005, Professor Frisch has been an external scientific member of the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law. Since 2006, he is a full member of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. His research focuses on general criminal law theory, on legal theory, on legal philosophy, on criminal procedural law, on the criminal sanction system and on international criminal law.

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His main areas of research deal with the changing face of crime, criminal law, and legal policy in today’s "global risk society". Major project areas concern comparative criminal law and European criminal law, esp. with respect to organized crime, terrorism, economic crime and cybercrime.

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http://remep.mpg.de/remep/en/pub/people___projects/who_we_are/coordinator.htm

Dr. Michael Kilchling

Michael Kilchling completed his university studies in law and criminology. In 1995, he awarded the degree of a doctor juris at the University of Freiburg with his doctoral thesis on ‘interests of the victim and public prosecution’. Since 1996 he is working at the Department of Criminology at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law, since 1999 in the position of a senior research scientist. His main research interests include organized crime, money laundering and the financing of terrorism, confiscation and asset recovery, penal sanctions and sanctioning systems, victim/offender mediation and other forms of restorative justice, victimology, and juvenile justice. Besides his research activities he is giving lectures in different disciplines within the focus on criminal law, criminology and penology of the Faculty of Law at the University of Freiburg, and guest lectures abroad. Amongst his most recent publications connected to REMEP are: Victim-Offender Mediation with Juvenile Offenders in Germany, in: A. Mestitz & S. Ghetti (eds.), Victim-Offender Mediation with Youth Offenders in Europe, Dordrecht 2005, pp. 229-258; Restorative Justice Developments in Germany, in: D. Miers & I. Aertsen (eds.): Regulating Restorative Justice. A comparative study of legislative provisions in European Countries, Frankfurt 2008 (forthcoming).

Further information:
http://www.mpicc.de/ww/en/pub/home/kilchling.htm
Anja Seibert-Fohr, LL.M. S.J.D. (GWU)
Anja Seibert-Fohr, LL.M., S.J.D. is scientific coordinator of the IMPRS REMEP at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg. She heads the Minerva Project Group on Judicial Independence and is currently writing her Habilitation with the Ruprecht Karls University in Heidelberg. Ms Seibert-Fohr received her Doctor of Juridical Science in the United States with a dissertation on “Human Rights and Punishment: What are the Options for Amnesties under International Law” under the supervision of Thomas Buergenthal. She has published widely in international law and comparative constitutional law. Since 2004 she has been teaching international criminal law at the University of Mannheim.

Further information:
http://www.mpil.de/ww/en/pub/organization/scientific_staff/aseibert.cfm

Dr. Bertram Turner
Bertram Turner studied social anthropology, physical anthropology and ancient history at the University of Munich and took his M.A. there in 1986. He received his PhD in social anthropology in Munich in 1996. He was academic assistant at the Institute of Social Anthropology and African Studies in Munich between 1993 and 2001 and taught anthropology with special reference to legal anthropology. He held university teaching positions in Munich and Leipzig. He is doing fieldwork in Morocco since 1996. Since 2001 senior researcher at the MPI Halle. Bertram Turner studies the management of natural resources in a plural legal constellation in South West Morocco. Recent book publications are on asylum and conflict: Asyl und Konflikt, Berlin 2005 (Reimer) and Vergeltung. Eine interdisziplinäre Betrachtung der Rechtfertigung und Regulation von Gewalt', Frankfurt/New York 2008 (Campus, co-edited with Günther Schlee).

Further information:
http://www.eth.mpg.de/people/turner/index.html
IV. Additional Information
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Application requirements

1. For the IMPRS REMEP at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in cooperation with the Albert-Ludwigs-University, Freiburg, for research within the areas of criminology, criminal law and sociology for the the conferral of a doctorate degree in law (Dr. jur.) and sociology (Dr. phil.):

   1a. Completion of a law degree at a German university or completion at an equivalent university abroad. First or Second German State Law Exam with a minimum overall grade of “vollbefriedigend” (according to the examination regulations "JAPrO" of the State of Baden-Württemberg), or an equivalent degree with an equivalent grade (“with distinction”) from abroad.

   1b. Alternatively, completion of a regular university studies in social sciences with an overall duration of at least 4 years at a German or equivalent university from abroad. Master degree in sociology as major subject, or equivalent degree from Germany or abroad.

2. For the IMPRS REMEP at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg, for research within the area of international law for the conferral of a doctorate degree in law (Dr. jur.):

   2a. Completion of a law degree at a German university or completion at an equivalent university abroad. First or Second German State Law Exam with a minimum overall grade of “vollbefriedigend” (according to the examination regulations "JAPrO" of the State of Baden-Württemberg), or an equivalent degree with an equivalent grade (“with distinction”) from abroad.

3. For the IMPRS REMEP at the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History in co-operation with the Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt/Main, for research within the areas of Legal History and Early Modern/Modern History for the conferral of a doctorate degree in law (Dr. jur.) or sociology (Dr. phil.):

   3a. Completion of a law degree at a German university or completion at an equivalent university abroad. First or Second German State Law Exam with a minimum overall grade of “vollbefriedigend” (according to the examination regulations "JAPrO" of the State of Baden-Württemberg), or an equivalent degree with an equivalent grade (“with distinction”) from abroad.

   3b. Alternatively, completion of a regular university studies in social sciences with sociology as major subject (and dissertation subject), a second major subject, and two additional minor subjects, with an overall duration of at least 4 years at a German university, or completion of an equivalent programme at an equivalent university abroad. Master degree or State Exam for second school level teachers ("Lehreramt an Gymnasien"), or equivalent degree from abroad.

4. For the IMPRS REMEP at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in co-operation with the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg for research within the areas of Anthropology of Law and Conflict Studies for the conferral of a doctorate degree in Social Anthropology (Dr. phil.):

   4a. Completion of a university degree in social anthropology at a German university or completion at an equivalent university abroad.

   4b. Alternatively to (4a.), completion of regular university studies in a social sciences’ discipline as major subject, a second major subject, or two additional minor subjects, with an overall duration of at least 4 years at a German university, or completion of an equivalent programme at an equivalent university abroad. Master degree or equivalent degree from abroad. In exceptional cases with a background in sociology of law and interest in social anthropology empirical research, completion of a law degree at a German university or completion at an equivalent university abroad. First or Second German State Law Exam with a minimum overall grade of “vollbefriedigend” (according to the examination regulations "JAPrO" of the State of Baden-Württemberg), or an equivalent degree with an equivalent grade (“with distinction”) from abroad.

5. Submission of a substantive proposal for a dissertation topic linked to the research agenda of the IMPRS REMEP.

6. Solid proficiency in the English language. In addition, students should have at least some basic knowledge of German language and demonstrate willingness to improve it.

The IMPRS REMEP seeks to reach a composition of at least 50 percent foreign doctoral students. Thus, foreign candidates with a foreign degree are explicitly encouraged to apply. Recognition of equivalence of foreign degrees is to be determined by the doctoral committee of the respective Faculty or by the respective examination committee, in accordance with the criteria laid out by the Central Office for Foreign Education at the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs ("Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen im Sekretariat der Ständigen Konferenz der Kultusminister der Länder").

Application documents

1. Cover sheet addressed to the International Max Planck Research School on Retaliation, Media, Punishment at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg i.Br.

2. European style curriculum vitae (http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/) in German or English. It should include information on all previous research activities.

3. Copy of Secondary Education certificate with a list of subject areas. The documents must be
officially translated into German (preferably) or English and a copy of the original supplied.

4. Copy of certificates relating to the First and, where applicable, Second German State Law Exam(s) from lawyers or certificates relating to the University or State Exam from social scientists. From foreign graduates, copy of all university certificates with a list of all grades, including the overall grade, the average grade and the university certificate of graduation. The documents must be officially translated into German (preferably) or English and a copy of the original supplied.

5. Substantive/meaningful proposal for a research topic (5 pages), preferably in English, structured into a) relevance of the proposed topic in the context of the overall research agenda of the IMPRS REMEP, b) state of preparation, c) aim of the project, d) probable links to other disciplines, e) methodology, f) proposed timeline, g) intended time of completion of the dissertation. It is intended that doctoral students, when participating in the research program in a regular manner, will be able to complete the program within a two year period.

6. Two letters of recommendation from two senior scientists (to be written in English or German). These letters should include information as to previous research experience, and vouch for the ability of the applicant to undertake doctoral studies at the Research School.

7. Applicants who do not speak English as their native language and who are unable of demonstrating good proficiency in English language in any other way must prove their skills through language examination certificates. In particular, the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with at least 6.0 bands or TOEFL (at least 560 points, computer: 220 points) are recognized.

8. Applicants who do not speak German as their native language should be capable to demonstrate basic knowledge of German, e.g., through a certificate German language ("Zertiﬁkat Deutsch", ZD). Proficiency in German language is not a formal precondition for application. However, subject to university regulations, German is mandatory at some universities for the ﬁnal oral doctoral exam in sociology, social anthropology and law. If necessary, access to external language courses can be arranged.

Presentation of officially authenticated copies of the original certificates etc., with regards to Nos. 3 and 4 above, is only necessary once a decision has been made to admission.

Application documents must be submitted electronically to the following email address: imprs-remep@mpicc.de (maximum 5 MB per E-Mail). Please refrain from sending postal applications. Applicants will be invited to telephone or personal interviews or videoconferences in Freiburg upon prior notification. The applicants will be informed of the selection results in writing. During the selection procedure we ask applicants to refrain from contacting the Institute with regards to the results of the procedure. An absolute right to ﬁnancial support does not exist. The Max Planck Society and the Albert Ludwigs University of Freiburg endeavor, wherever possible, to employ disabled persons and applications from such persons are expressly called for. The Max Planck Society and the Albert Ludwigs University of Freiburg also desire to increase the proportion of women in areas where they are underrepresented. Women are therefore expressly encouraged to apply.

Financial support
Financial support is granted in accordance with the guidelines of the Max Planck Society in the form of a doctoral contract or bursary. The financial support regarding the doctoral contract corresponds with public service organizations (up to 50 per cent of the payment group 13 degree 1 of the General Framework Agreement on Public Services, “Tarifvertrag Öffentlicher Dienst”, TVöD). Financial support will be granted for a period of two years, with a possibility of two subsequent extensions, each for a duration of six months.

Inquiries
Further information on the research program of the IMPRS REMEP can be found at http://remep.mpg.de. For additional inquiries, please write to imprs-remep@mpicc.de.

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For further information regarding the International Max Planck Research Schools visit http://www.mpg.de/english/institutesProjectsFacilities/schoolChoice/index.html.