

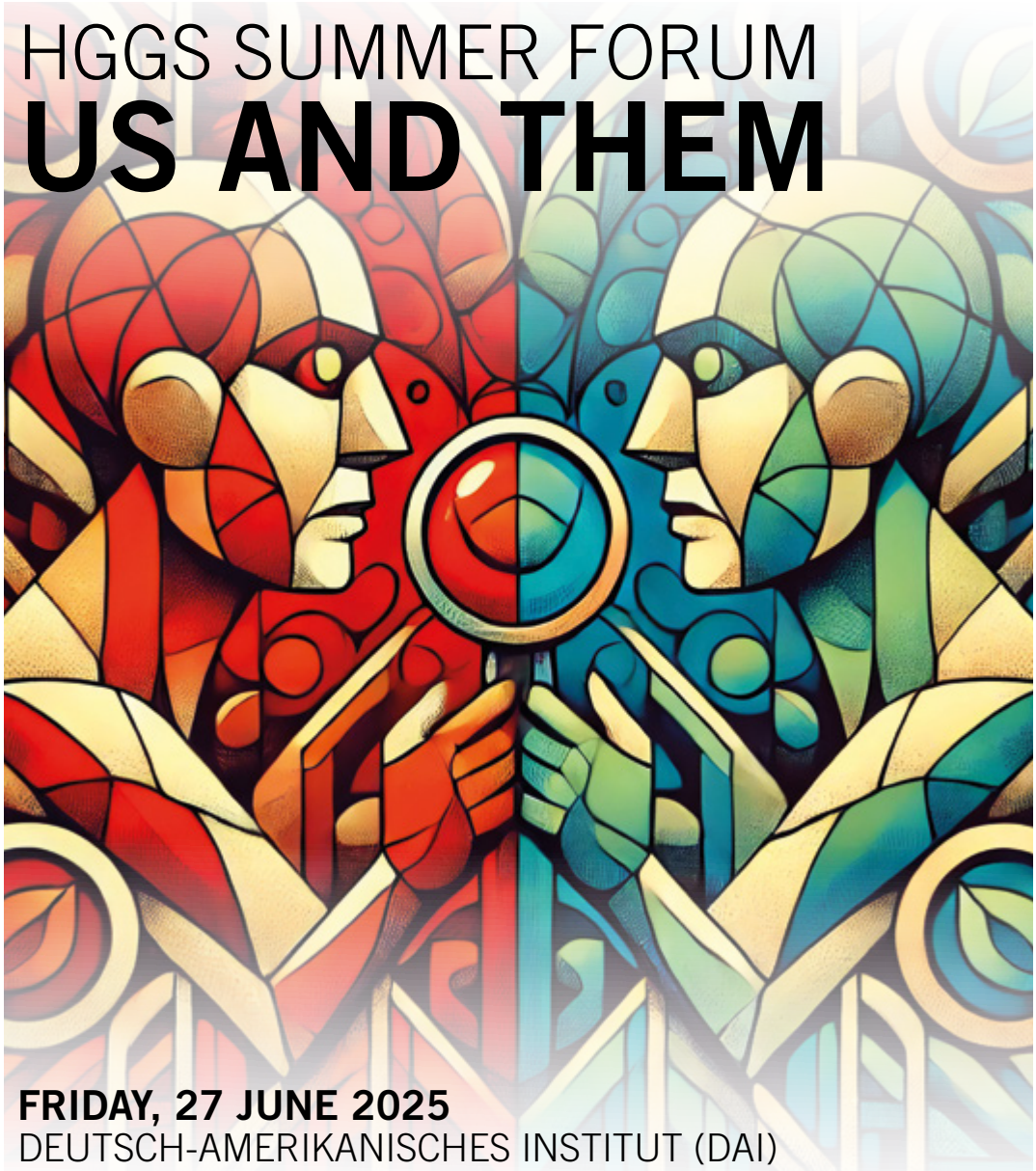
HGGS

HEIDELBERG
GRADUATE SCHOOL
FOR THE HUMANITIES
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

HGGS SUMMER FORUM US AND THEM



FRIDAY, 27 JUNE 2025

DEUTSCH-AMERIKANISCHES INSTITUT (DAI)

Responsible for content

Heidelberg Graduate School
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Organization Team

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US AND THEM

The concepts of “Us” and “Them” are deeply embedded in human thought, shaping our perceptions of identity, belonging, and alterity throughout human history. These terms allow us to construct social, cultural, and political boundaries, bringing a sense of order to a chaotic reality. In today’s world, fake news, polarization and the rise of identity politics present pressing global challenges that demand urgent attention. From geopolitical tensions to cultural misunderstandings, the dynamics of “Us and Them” resonate across different disciplines, offering a platform to examine the logic of this dichotomy.

The HGGG Summer Forum 2025 aims to encourage discussion about various approaches such as integration, tolerance, mutual understanding, or agonistic pluralism emphasizing the value of conflict. Our Forum invites PhD candidates, researchers, and academics from diverse disciplines to turn toward the formation of borders and whether these borders need to be crossed.



PROGRAMME
27 JUNE 2025

09:00 – 09:30	<i>Registration & Morning Coffee in the DAI Lecture Hall</i>			
09:30 – 09:40	Welcome Address Laura Herges			
	<i>DAI Lecture Hall</i> IDENTITIES Panel Chair: Vilma Vaskelaitė	<i>DAI Library</i> VISUALITY Panel Chair: Alfredo Tosques		
09:45 – 10:00	Us and Them in East and West: Jewish Identity Constructions in the Habsburg Monarchy Maximilian Kathan	Us? Them!: Constructing Identities and Subverting Otherness in a Drag Show in Kyoto Marco Del Din		
10:00 – 10:15	Desires of Belonging and Rhetorics of Remaining an “Us” in the Petitions from Trans* People to the Health Ministry of the GDR (1970–1976) Jonah Reimann	“Them” (Other Peoples, the Others) in Ancient and Medieval Visual Arts of Western Europe Dr. Tatiana Tereshchenko		
10:15 – 10:30	Identity and Recognition: Understanding the Latin American “Labyrinth of Loneliness” Dr. Monika Raič	Visual Templates and the Construction of “Us and Them”: The Instrumentalization of Historical Images in the Digital Age Vanessa Prattes		
10:30 – 10:45	Migration and Citizenship. Exclusive Rights? Nathalie Miret González	The Role of War Posters in the Russo-Ukrainian War: Constructing ‘Us’ and ‘Them’ Dr. Liudmyla Pidkuimukha		
10:45 – 11:15	Q&A	Q&A		
11:15 – 11:45	<i>Break</i>			
			<i>DAI Lecture Hall</i> OTHERING Panel Chair: Sigit S. Nugroho	<i>DAI Library</i> INTERACTION Panel Chair: Alicia Mariné
			11:45 – 12:00	The Images and Representations of Colonial Women in Singapore, Penang, and Malacca in the Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth Centuries Gizem Mahmuriye Çiftçi
			12:00 – 12:15	“Us” and “Them”: Wildmen and Devils in the Chinese Perception of Foreigners Giovanni Ruscica
			12:15 – 12:30	Rethinking ‘Islamic Art’ Beyond Its Otherness Bahar Akgün-Ergeçen
			12:30 – 12:45	‘America’s Enemies’ – An Analysis of the Socio-cognitive Framing of National Identity and Exclusion in the Mainstream Media Isabella Gomez-O’Keefe
			12:45 – 13:15	Q&A
			13:15 – 13:25	Presentation of the Fanzine Nadja Samira Fraenkel
			13:25 – 14:00	<i>Break</i>
				Humorous and Childlike Response to be an Other in Emine Sevgi Özdamar’s <i>Das Leben ist eine Karawanserei</i> Gamze Altınyaprak
				Where Are the Feet? Narratives of Belonging and Otherness: The Shoe as a Semiotic Object; Absence of Feet: The Uninhabited Space; “Walking in Someone Else’s Shoes” – The Architect and the Community Vanessa A. Márquez Vargas, Debby Avendaño & Adrián Navia Segovia
				Me/Us/Them: Differentiation Processes in the Relationality of the Self to Resources Dr. Çiçek Tanlı Autschbach
				Ethnicity, Citizenship, and the Politics of ‘Us’ and ‘Them’ in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria Atefeh Ramsari

LIST OF PRESENTERS

DAI Lecture Hall

PROSPECTS

Panel Chair:

Sinan Barış Yaşar

14:00 – 14:15 **Crisis and Pluralism in Social Theory: Ideas for Bridging the Gap Between Hegemonic Social Sciences and Cultural Studies from the Global South**
Carlos Fabris

14:15 – 14:30 **Dialectics of Identity and Alterity in Hegelian Right: A Dialectic and Legal Logic Analysis**
Ştefan Capmare

14:30 – 14:45 **Magical Urbanism: Thresholds, Hybridity, and the Transformative Power of 'Us and Them' in Woolf, Lispector, and Lahiri**
Tetyana Kasima

14:45 – 15:00 **AI Literacy: Bridging the Gap Between 'Us and Them' in the Digital Age**
Alberto Antonio Carballo Soca

15:00 – 15:30 **Q&A**

15:30 – 16:00 *Break*

16:00 – 17:30 **KEYNOTE**
Saving Strangers: The 'False Promise' of Responsibility to Protect
Professor Richard Caplan, University of Oxford

17:30 – 17:40 **Closing remarks**
Forum Team

18:30 *Conference dinner at Urban Kitchen*

DAI Library

CHALLENGES

Panel Chair:

Jiacheng Mo

Antigypsyism and Minority Subjectivity in German Popular Culture: Football, Hip-Hop, Carnival
Dr. Pavel Brunssen

New Right Movement and the Question of Restoration of Fascism
Hassan Maarfi Poor

Otherness in the System: Dynamics of Expectations and Cultural Difference in a Child Protection Service
Florence Wieder-Kinne

Why Difference Matters: Examining 'Us' and 'Them' in the Discourse Surrounding the Berlin Memorial to the Sinti and Roma
Özge Uslu

Q&A

Bahar Akgün-Ergeçen, Heidelberg University, Germany

Gamze Altınyaprak, Heidelberg University, Germany

Debby Avendaño, University of the Andes, Mérida, Venezuela

Dr. Pavel Brunssen, Heidelberg University, Germany

Ştefan Capmare, University of Bucharest, Romania

Alberto Antonio Carballo, University of Havana, Cuba

Gizem Mahmuriye Çiftçi, Middle East Technical University Ankara, Turkey

Marco Del Din, Heidelberg University and Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy

Carlos Fabris, Heidelberg University, Germany

Isabella Gomez-O'Keefe, University of Cambridge, England

Tetyana Kasima, University of Tartu, Estonia

Maximilian Kathan, Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies, Germany

Hassan Maarfi Poor, Heidelberg University, Germany

Vanessa A. Márquez Vargas, University of the Andes, Mérida, Venezuela

Natalie Miret González, University of Havana, Cuba

Adrián Navia Segovia, University of the Andes, Mérida, Venezuela

Dr. Liudmyla Pidkuimukha, Justus Liebig University Gießen, Germany

Vanessa Prattes, University of Marburg, Germany

Dr. Monika Raič, Humboldt-Universität Berlin, Germany

Atefeh Ramsari, Bielefeld University, Germany

Jonah Reimann, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Giovanni Ruscica, University of Milan, Italy

Dr. Çiçek Tanlı Autschbach, Bochum, Germany

Dr. Tatiana Tereshchenko, Moscow, Russia

Özge Uslu, Heidelberg University, Germany

Florence Wieder-Kinne, Heidelberg University, Germany

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VENUE

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www.hggs.uni-heidelberg.de

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