

Carolina Rehrmann, PhD

Executive Manager and Post-Doc Fellow at Friedrich-Schiller-University of Jena



Executive Manager of the
Jena Center for
Reconciliation Studies (JCRS)
Leutragraben 1
07743 Jena/ Germany
phone: +49 3641 941141
www.jcrs.uni-jena.de

Post-Doc Fellow at the
Institute for Political Science
Chair of International Relations
Carl-Zeiss-Str. 3
07743 Jena/ Germany
phone: +49 3641 945410
www.powi.uni-jena.de

Academic Education

- 10/2011 – 09/2014 ○ PhD Scholar of German Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation
- 10/2001 - 07/2009 ○ Germany: *Magister Artium* (equivalent to Bachelor and Master of Arts): European, English, Italian, and German Studies: Politics, History, Literature and Language at University of Kassel, Germany (grade: 1,1)
- 01/2006 – 05/2006 ○ USA: Internship and research on cultural memory at the Goethe Institute New York
- 10/2003 – 03/2004 ○ Italy: Academic exchange at the *Università degli studi di Verona*, Italy
- 09/2003 ○ Italy: Research scholar at the *Università degli studi di Perugia*, Italy

Academic Career

- Since 04/2016 ○ Managing director of German-English Springer Edition “Innovation in Conflict Research”
- Since 01/2016 ○ Post-doctoral researcher and teacher affiliated to Prof. Rafael Biermann (Chair of International Relations) at the Institute of Political Science at Friedrich-Schiller-University of Jena
- Managing director of the *Jena Center for Reconciliation Studies (JCRS)* under the auspices of Prof. Martin Leiner
 - My academic work comprises teaching master and bachelor seminars, organizing conferences, conceptualizing new masters programmes in peace and conflict studies, the autonomous drafting of grand applications for external funding (such as applications within the European HORIZON 2020 programme) and the organization of summer schools on conflict and reconciliation.

Teaching Experience

- The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel:
 - BA: *The Cyprus Conflict in socio-psychological perspective* (ST 2018)
- Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena, Germany:
 - BA: *Good scientific practice, research design and methods for final theses in political science* (recurrent seminar taking place each semester since ST 2016)
 - BA: *Intractable Conflicts and Divided Cities: Jerusalem, Nicosia, Berlin* (WT 2018/19)
 - BA: *Faith, Memory and Belonging: The Making of Modern Nations and the Orthodox Church* (WT 2018/19)
 - BA: *Introduction to social psychology from IR-perspective* (ST 2019, ST 2018, WT 2017/18 and WT 2016/2017)
 - MA: *Missing persons in post-conflict societies* (WT 2017/18)
 - MA: *Needs, emotions, ideas: Understanding the post-truth era* (ST 2017)
 - MA: *War-peace! Man-woman? Gender in peace and conflict studies* (ST 2016)
 - BA: *United in diversity or clash of civilizations? Populist discourses and reconciliation with and within Europe* (ST 2016)
 - BA: *26 Years after the fall of the Berlin Wall: Inner-German relations* (ST 2015)
 - MA: *Ideas, emotions, identities: Theory of reconciliation applied to Cyprus and Israel/Palestine* (WT 2014/15)
 - BA: *Resolving Cyprus: Challenges and chances* (ST 2014)
 - BA: *Financial crisis and German-Greek relations in the media* (ST 2013)
- Private University of Witten/Herdecke, Germany:
 - MA: *Ideas, emotions, identities: Theory of reconciliation applied to Cyprus and Israel/Palestine* (WT 2014/15)
 - BA: *Resolving Cyprus: Challenges and chances* (SS 2014)
 - BA: *Financial crisis and German-Greek relations in the Media* (ST 2012)
- Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation:
 - June 2014: Organization and leading of a conference-workshop with graduate and Phd-students on inner-German political and collective memory discourses on German-Democratic-Republic-heritage with prominent representatives, such as the head of the GDR-museum, and the founders of the *Dritte Generation Ost* association
- Europe's Union Association:
 - April 2013: Organizer and lead a one-week study trip for German delegates and students of *Europe's Union Association* to both parts of Cyprus incl. talks and round table discussions with politicians and peace activists of both sides of the divide

Research Topics

- Theory: Constructivism in IR, critical and discourse theory, reconciliation theory, conflict mediation, media and communication theory, social and behavioral psychology and gender studies with a conceptual focus on ideas, emotions, identities and memory
- Related concepts: political cultures and media discourses, peace negotiations, conflict resolution and reconciliation, ethno-nationalism, intractability, gender roles, institutional and social memory, (peace) education, transitional (retributive, restorative and distributive) justice, and trauma healing
- Regional focus: USA, Germany, Italy, South Africa and South Eastern Europe with Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus,

Publications

Monography:

- Rehrmann, Carolina (forthcoming in spring 2019): *Zypern: Eine sozialpsychologische Diskursanalyse zur Unteilbarkeit eines Konfliktes* [Cyprus: A socio-psychological discourse analysis], Springer, Berlin.

Edition:

- Rehrmann, Carolina, Rafael Biermann, Phillip Tolliday (eds.) (forthcoming in spring 2019), *Societies in Transition. The Caucasus and the Balkans between Conflict and Reconciliation*, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen.

Papers:

- Rehrmann, Carolina (forthcoming in spring 2019), “Refugee Discourses in Germany and Greece: Between Humanitarian Action, European Disputes and National Populism”, in: Leiner, M., Dajani, A., Barakat, Z. & Tacchini, D. (Ed.), *Reconciliation in the Middle East and North Africa*, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen.
- Rehrmann, Carolina (2018), „Reconciliation: Challenges, Prospects and inherent Contradictions“, in: Biermann, R & Rehrmann, C (eds.), *Societies in Transition. The Caucasus and the Balkans between Conflict and Reconciliation*, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen.
- Rehrmann, Carolina (2018), With cool head? Emotions in intractable conflicts, in: DIGITHUM. The humanities in the digital age (peer reviewed).
- Rehrmann, Carolina and Tim Bausch (2018), „Gewalt, Geschlecht und Militär. Die Bundeswehr auf feministischen Terrain?“ [Violence, sex, and the military. The German Bundeswehr on feminist terrain?] in: W&S Wissenschaft und Frieden [Journal of Science and Peace] 3 (peer reviewed)
- Rehrmann Carolina (intended for spring 2019), „Deferral of hope, projection of evil: Missing persons as a root metaphor of

intractability“, in Corinna Dahlgrün and Volker Stümke (ed.), *Overcoming evil with good*, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen.

- Rehrmann, Carolina (2017), „Made for goodness? Women, conflict and reconciliation“, in Leiner, M/Schließer C. (Hg.), *Alternative Approaches to Conflict Resolution*, Palgrave Macmillan.

**Conferences
and academic
exchanges:
Active
participation &
active
participation/
organization**

Academic exchange:

- June/July 2018: Research and training exchange with Prof. Shifra Sagy and Dr. Michael Sternberg at Ben-Gurion-University of the Negev (Bersheva, Israel) from the Department of Education on socio-psychological concepts related to peace education and reconciliation in intractable conflicts. Furthermore, academic and training agreement with the Faculty of Social Sciences of Haifa University within a masters programme on peace and conflict management.

Conference-Organization:

- May 2018: Organizer and host of the conference titled „*Two years after the peace agreement. Quo vadis, Colombia?*“ with leading scientists in the field of Colombian post-conflict transformation a.o. with Dr. Josefina Echevarria (Innsbruck University), Dr. Leonel Alvarez (Fundación para la Reconciliación Colombia) and Dr. Vladimir Montoya (University of Antiochia) at the JCRS, Jena, Germany
- November 2017: Organizer, facilitator and host of the constituting conference of the European Network of Reconciliation Studies with presentations on transitional justice, peace processes and negotiations in Columbia, South Africa, Rwanda a.o. with Prof. Christine Schließer from Zurich University and Dr. Gerd Hankel from the Social Sciences Institute Hamburg at the JCRS Jena, Germany
- August 2017: Organizer, facilitator and host of the HORIZON2020 3-day conference titled „*Digging the past in search of a European future*“ dealing with today’s impact of World War I and II heritages and colliding memories throughout Europe and their reflexion in (reconciliation) politics, institutional memory and peace education (as related to German-Greek relations, Franco-German relations, Inner-German relations, Western versus Eastern Europe, Graeco-Turkish relations, Cyprus, Sweden, Great Britain and European colonial heritage) with participants a.o. from Sorbonne University (Prof. Corine Defrance), Prague University (Prof. Vladimir Handl), Complutense University (Dr. Rafael Heiber) and NGOs such as the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in South East Europe (CDRSEE) at the JCRS Jena, Germany

- July 2017: Organizer and host of the round table discussion with Prof. Sultan Barakat, founding director of the post-war reconstruction and development unit (PRDU) at the University of York, on the topic „*The Isolation of Qatar and Future Prospects*“ at the JCRS, Jena, Germany
- February 2017: Organizer and host of round table discussion with Cesare Zucconi, general secretary of the community of Sant'Egidio Rome, speaking about the „*Road to Peace. Religions and Culture in Dialogue*“ at the JCRS, Jena, Germany
- October 2015: Organizer, and facilitator of the summer school „*The Caucasus and the Balkans between conflict and reconciliation*“ in cooperation with Stellenbosch University South Africa (Prof. Christo Thesnaar), Johns Hopkins University Washington (Prof. Lily Gardner Feldman), and George Mason University Washington (Prof. Karyna Korostelina), in Jena and Berlin, Germany

Conference-Participation:

- December 2018: Speaker at the interdisciplinary workshop „histories and rhythms of urban violence: Global-local encounters in the nexus of space and time“ with the topic „Nicosia – Lefkoşa – Λευκωσία: A miniature of the Cyprus Conflict“, University of Erfurt, Germany.
- April 2018: Round table discussant at the conference „*Overcome evil with good*“ organized by Jena University in cooperation with the Young Leader’s Academy of the German Bundeswehr in Hamburg and the University of Leeds (Great Britain) in Jena, Germany.
- November 2017: Round table discussant at Common Action Forum (2017) titled *The limits of inequality: Seeking a sustainable society* together with a.o. Antonio Escobedo (Spanish popular intellectual), Arlene Clemesha (Director of the Arab Center for Studies at São Paulo University), Ayo Obe (Co-Vice Chair of the International Crisis Group), Bob Black (US social philosopher), Celso Amorim (former Brazilian foreign minister), Cheryl Carolus (South Africa’s high commissioner in London), Eduardo Suplicy (Brazilian professor, economist and politician), in Madrid, Spain, see <http://commonactionforum.net/caf2017/>
- August 2016: *With cool head? Emotions in intercommunal conflicts – The Case of Cyprus*, paper presented at the 7th Midterm Conference of the ESA RN on the Sociology of Emotions, Stockholm University, Sweden
- May 2016: Panel lead on transitional justice and media discourses on the impact of German World-War-II-occupation and atrocities committed by the Wehrmacht in Greece with German MoP Norman Paech at the Greek-German Forum *Memory and Education* in Lechovo, Greece
- December 2015: Round table discussant at *Common Action Forum 2015* titled *Steps of Conflict in Times of Crises* together with a.o. Javier

Solana (EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy), Juan Louis Cebrián (Editor in chief of *El País*), Sami Zeidan (Senior presenter with Al Jazeera English), Baltazar Garcón (Spanish jurist and head of Julien Assange's legal team) and Eduardo Barcesat (Argentinian jurist and UNESCO expert on human rights) in Madrid, Spain, see <http://commonactionforum.net/caf2015/>

- March 2013: *Über die Beharrlichkeit konstruierter Grenzen*, paper presented at the 45. colloquium of the German working group of peace and conflict science (AFK) at the academy of political education in Tutzing, Germany

PhD Outline

The Cyprus Conflict – a socio-psychological discourse analysis

Cyprus has been divided for more than 4 decades. Since all diplomatic attempts for rapprochement and, ultimately, reunification have failed, the island remains in a state of frozen conflict and is a curiosity under international law. Turkish Cypriots inhabit a de facto-state in the northern part, the so-called “Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus“ under Turkish military presence. The Greek Cypriots are confined to the internationally recognized Republic of Cyprus, which covers de-facto only the southern part of the island. Issues of violence and expulsion, of hundreds of thousands internally displaced persons, of the killed, the injured and the missing resulting from the intercommunal fighting during the 1960ies and the Turkish invasion of 1974 remain for the most part unsolved.

A deeper look into the two Cypriot communities within and beyond the official negotiating level illuminates how both have established a self-white-washing and other-maligning structure that shapes monolithic memories and social practices that is deeply influenced by the respective national narratives of the motherlands Greece and Turkey and their troubled pasts.

The colliding conflict narratives and the unresolved status quo have left their imprint on gender identities, intergenerational relations and political culture, and – last but not least – have motivated impunity in both communities. Countering discourses and memories of intra-communal cleavages, as well as deviating, minority and reconciliatory narratives remain silent to a large extend.

The PhD's thesis is as follows: The Cyprus conflict will not be resolved, if the fundamental needs of both sides are not satisfied. These needs, in turn, are shaped by the persistent conflict ethos (Bar-Tal) and by silenced emotions of pain, guilt and grief. As long as that psychological infrastructure remains in shape, it will give strong impetus to a zero-sum-perspective that favours maximalist positions and consensus guarding actors, strategies of mutual blaming and avoidance, and strong opposition to (self-) critical voices.

With this in mind, the fundamental concern of the PhD was to shed light on the cognitions and emotions of the Cypriot communities that constitute

their identities, reflect their basic needs and shape their understanding of the conflict.

This comprised a profound political statements' analysis, a critical media discourse analysis, an analysis of history textbook, oral history interviews and peace activism. Thus, the PhD offers a profound socio-psychological analysis of elements and actors that build up the official national narratives, for their motivations and techniques, as well as the unofficial, the repressed and contested sphere of Cypriot narratives, including civil society actors and personal memories.

Drawing on theories of intractability, nationalism, institutional memory and reconciliation, while employing a wide range of social-psychological concepts the PhD first, provides "first hand-accounts" of the psychological impact nationalist sentiment, selective memory, simmering party political rivalries and unprocessed traumata have on Cypriot's perspectives on the conflict. Second, it illustrates how the socio-psychological structure that results from these states of mind is being used for power political interests with both sides' political circles instrumentalizing resentments, pain and a mutual alienation to perpetuate the conflict structures and avoid a settlement that would entail a power sharing system.

Drawing on the results of its analysis, the PhD concludes that for a least common denominator – a "win-win"-perception as UN General Secretary Kofi Annan put it, while in charge of a settlement – to be acknowledged by both communities, a constructive shift of this psychological state needs to take place. That presupposes a self-reflective, critical and open debate on the past, a promotion of intra- and inter-communal dialogue, a deconstruction of the monolithic and selective national narratives and transitional justice measures to meet the victim's needs, answer fundamental security concerns, and shape a common vision for the future.

Selected
outlines
of courses
taught

Course I

Needs, Emotions, Identities: Understanding the Cyprus Conflict

The course shall be dealing with peace negotiations, political discourses and the facets of daily life Cypriot intractability. It will be concerned with history and present day challenges of the Cyprus conflict as reflected in its negotiation history, media discourses, collective memory and (peace) education.

Negotiations to resolve Cyprus have been going on since 1975, one year after its division. In 2004 under the auspices of the United Nations a plan for reuniting the island was put to referenda to the Greek and Turkish Cypriots. However, it failed due to the Greek Cypriots declining. Up to the present the positions of the two communities seem irreconcilable: The Greek Cypriots want to return to the status quo ante of an island united in a federation with the Turkish Cypriots having minority rights. The Turkish Cypriots, in turn, see themselves as an equal people and want Cyprus to be reunited in a confederal system. Under the surface of these divergent

positions lie the competing narratives of the conflict course. While Greek Cypriots commemorate the Turkish invasion of 1974 ever since one third of the island is under Turkish occupation and a de facto state, the Turkish Cypriots remember discrimination, segregation and political marginalization right after Cyprus independence in 1960. As international scholars hold, for the two sides to find common ground it needs a profound paradigm shift based on the acknowledgement of the other sides narratives and pain.

The course will therefore will be twofold: It will provide theoretical knowledge on the concept of collective memory, discourse theory and reconciliation. It will then delve into the perspectives and needs of both Cypriot communities in order to make the students familiar with the conflict history and the daily live realities of either community.

In this course, students discuss monographies, papers, and documentaries in group-work and are working on diverse primary sources providing diverse first hand perspectives on the conflict's memory, as depicted in political statements, media discourses, memorials, museum exhibitions, history textbook excerpts, commemoration practices and peace activities. Here, students shall critically discuss both the reasons for intractability of the Cyprus conflict, as well as chances and pathways for its resolution.

Course II

It's the psychology, stupid! Explaining peace and conflict through social psychology

„It's the psychology, stupid!“ one could paraphrase James Carville much cited remark. That's because constructivism and social psychology hold that the inner workings of minds and hearts heavily impact human relations, daily realities and actions.

On that note, drawing on findings of psychoanalysis, evolutionary, cognitive, behavioural and neuropsychology social psychology illuminates the complex, sometimes evident, sometimes hidden mechanisms of individual and group experience.

It's findings are both originated in and have in turn shaped such diverse theorists as Sigmund Freud, Theodor W. Adorno, Kurt Lewin, Erwin Goffmann, Paul Watzlawick, Aaron Beck and Daniel Bar-Tal that illuminate different aspects of the complex, sometimes hidden, sometimes evident mechanisms of individual and group relations that impact societies as a whole, political cultures and international relations.

To begin with: On an individual level, emotions, for instance, may function as prism for ideas, identities and belonging, they colour human ties and can prompt people to commit brave or destructive actions. Also beliefs and selective knowledge (as components of stereotypes) may heavily influence our perception of the world by motivating distortion, selection and bias. Moreover, such mechanisms appear enhanced on a group and intergroup level: Experimental psychology proves that simply belonging to a certain

group motivates positive emotions and a positive bias in interpreting in-groups actions, while there is a negative bias towards outgroups and outgroup members. Here, collective identities, norms and role models appear as pivotal for the mutual acknowledgement within the group members and the cohesion of the group as a whole.

Eventually, both levels help to illuminate what we can perceive on a social level: Ranging from small peer-groups, families, and political networks, to cultural communities and states, one can see how actors are guided by powerful norms and role models that lay the foundations for prestige, acknowledgement and mutual understanding: Taking the ideal images of the rational, clear-sighted man, the emotional and passive woman, the combative, belligerent party leader, the analytically-cryptic social scientist, or the investigative journalist that is only one step before uncovering the next scandal, we can see how prototypical models of how someone should be and behave shape our evaluation of self and others. This is mostly a completely unconscious process. Thus, only the deconstruction of these alleged self-evidence may clarify how normative role models impact social life, political decision making, trigger populism or even kindle the most powerful idea of a „clash of civilizations“.

The course will be twofold:

In the first part there will be discussion of central concepts of social psychology, such as norms, identities, emotions, attitudes, persuasion, group dynamics and their interaction as viewed through the lens of social emotion and identity theory.

In the second part there shall be discussion on how these concepts impact peace and conflict within national and international relations. This will include the fields of gender, intercultural communication, and discourse analysis and their relevance for understanding intractable conflicts and their resolution.

Thus, students will get a profound and broad overview of the role of social psychology for understanding inter-human and international relations. Students will be asked to independently apply the course's theory to selected case studies.

The course is structured as an „inverted classroom“ based on small homework tasks to be shortly presented in every class, on group work, social psychological experiments and in-depth discussion of the literature.

Course III

Missing persons in post-conflict societies: A comparative perspective

Missing people are a sad and common phenomenon in post-conflict societies. Ranging i.a. from Argentina and Guatemala, to Chechnya, the former Yugoslavia and Cyprus they have come to symbolise the dark heritage of unjust regimes, of civil wars and dictatorships that continue to

be a festering wound even decades after the formal resolution of violent conflict. “Doing away” with members of opposing groups, regime critics or inconvenient minorities has been commonly defined one of the most dramatic violations of human rights and a most drastic and horrifying technique to exhibit absolute power:

“The phenomenon of forced disappearance (...) is the worst of all human rights violations. Indeed, it is a challenge to the very concept of such rights, the negation of a human being to exist, to have an identity. Forced disappearance transforms the being into a non-being. It is the ultimate corruption, an abuse of power which allows the authorities to transform law and order into something derisory and to commit infamous crimes”. (N. MacDermot)

As such the politically motivated disappearance of people has been both an effective instrument of collective intimidation and a convenient method of dispensing with unpleasant opponents avoiding ethical accountability and the trouble of show trials. For good measure, uncovering the fate of these persons is often avoided by succeeding governments, even though other transitional justice measures might have been realized, for the circumstances of their disappearance would raise unpleasant legal issues.

In Argentina it was above all the endeavour and perseverance of the famous mothers of the “Plaza de Mayo”, which exerted pressure onto succeeding governments of the Pinochet-regime (1976-1983) to disclose the circumstance of their son’s disappearance. Similarly, in Guatemala, the former Yugoslavia, Chechnya and Cyprus it is primarily an alliance of civil society organizations and relatives that engaged into the truth-seeking process. Truth and Clarifications Commissions under the auspices of the United Nations and the Red Cross, as well as specialized political chambers formed by the respective governments themselves, have been established to officially facilitate that process - with moderate success. Although significant achievements can be measured in the location and exhumation of mortal remains and the financial aid for families of the missing, the spheres of legal investigation, official acknowledgement of the victim’s plight, and the establishment of collective commemorations for committed atrocities have been widely neglected.

Thus, the missing persons as a conflict and post-conflict-phenomenon can be seen as powerful indicator of both, the grades of human right violations during conflict and the quality of post-conflict transformation and reconciliation.

In the seminar the question of how different societies deal with the urgent matter of missing persons, as well as the legal, social, emotional and ethical dimensions that are directly related, shall be critically discussed and compared.

In the first part of the course, students will delve into peace and conflict theory, including transitional justice in comparative conflict analysis, peace education, as well as socio-emotional reconciliation, particularly with regard to the basic needs of relatives’ of missing persons.

Drawing on this theory, students will then work out the political, legal and emotional frameworks that aim at both preventing and addressing the problem of missing persons (conventions, IOs and NGOs), as well as compare different case studies that provide vivid accounts on various aspects of this matter. The latter ranges from the emotional effects of relatives that live in an *in situ*-state of not knowing what happened to their loved ones and having to mourn without a grave, to their legal efforts for knowledge and acknowledgement. Students shall here critically discuss the chances, dilemmas and shortcoming of dealing with the phenomenon of missing persons.

Concluding, students will be given a series of Cypriot peace educational books drafted by the NGO “Association for Historical Dialogue and Research” (AHDR) that depict the topic of missing persons of Cyprus. They shall critically assess the methods these books deploy in dealing with this most sensitive issue in their aim of bridging the competing narratives of both Cypriot communities and motivating inter-communal talk.

The course is based on critical articles, legal documents, first-hand victim’s accounts and educational material related to missing persons.

Course IV

Shadows of the past: Germany’s WWII heritage and its reflections in the German-Greek (media) crisis

The repercussions of the global financial crisis of 2008 have stirred discussions on the risks and challenges of the world’s economic structures and have left their still visible imprint on the life quality of vast populations, with high unemployment rates and large scale migration of skilled, young labour (brain drain).

In Europe, they have triggered broad political disputes on the limits of inter-state solidarity, as well as broader social discourses on the cultural root causes of the crisis as particularly manifest in Europe’s southern countries Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

With Greece’s imminent bankruptcy in 2010 and the following bailout measures of the so called *Troika*, consisting of the European Central Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the European Commission, a fierce media dispute broke out between Germany and Greece. Here, Germany took the lead, when its yellow press deployed various cultural stereotypes that mingled with racist orientalist images. A significant series of articles depicted the average Greek as uncivilized and lazy, Greece’s history as a history of century long decay stemming from its Ottoman heritage. As such it attributed the causes of the Greece’s economic crisis entirely to what was depicted as a *cultural other*. These stereotypes where contrasted with positive self-images of the hard-working, trust-worthy German combined with claims to expel Greece from the Euro Zone. Greece’s press responded to these depictions with articles such as “Hitler’s spirit”,

where Germans were sweepingly depicted as eternal cultural supremacists, right-wing extremists and fascists.

These unprecedented media disputes that were observed with growing concern throughout Europe have seriously aggravated German-Greek relations until today. More importantly though: On the part of Greece they have been significantly shaped by open, respectively *re-opened* wounds related to Germany's WWII-heritage. This includes the unforgotten consequences of a broad famine with hundred thousands of victims during German occupation, a forced loan raised by the Nazi-regime against Greece (not repaid until today), to the large-scale atrocities of the German Wehrmacht committed against civilians that remain unpunished to date and are barely part of Germany's collective memory.

Political parties, legal experts, civil society and academic circles of both countries try to tackle the mutual alienation by various educational and scientific initiatives, including school exchange and oral history projects. Lately, a German comedian show most self-critically reflected on Germany's post-war misconduct in terms of symbolic and material acknowledgement vis-à-vis Greece that reached an audience of millions and caused new, German-wide discussions.

On that note, one can see how the current crisis is aggravated by the impact of unresolved, troubled pasts and a serious lack of acknowledgement and reconciliation on the part of the German government.

The course will therefore start with media and framing theory, will then provide a historic account of German-Greek relations within broader cultural discourses of "the West" and "the Orient", and will then delve into the detailed manifestations of German-Greek media discourses during the height of the financial crisis. These discourses will encompass both the stereotypic images of both countries' boulevard press, as well as the issues touching unresolved legal and emotional issues connected to Germany's fascist past.

Thus, students will get a profound insight into media theory and framing analysis, as well as into the role of post-colonial discourses and an in-depth understanding of the deeply intertwined past and present facets of German-Greek relations as a reflection of these broader cultural cleavages.

The course is broadly interactive, based on secondary literature, as much as primary media sources, documentary excerpts, as well as oral-history and expert interviews.