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PhD Candidate
Working Group Prof. Dr. Judith Beyer

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10.07.2024

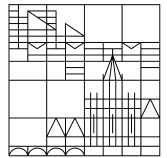
CV
Benedict S. Mette-Starke

Academic Degrees

- 08/2018 - today **PhD Candidate, Social and Political Anthropology**
University of Konstanz
- Working title: "New Nets of Politics: Digital Rights Activism in Myanmar and its Ethics"
- 09/2014 – 11/2017 **MA, Social-Cultural Anthropology**
University of Heidelberg
- Focus areas: techniques and technology, history of science, environmental anthropology, ethics
 - dissertation: "Fairphones and their uses. on ethical consumption and built-in ethics in smartphones"
- 10.2008 – 08.2014 **BA, Social-Cultural Anthropology (75%) & Economics (25%)**
University of Heidelberg
- Focus areas: political anthropology, anthropology of development, anthropology of religion, development economics, Southeast Asia

Teaching Expertise and Interests

- foundational anthropology classes
- foundational science and technology studies
- anthropological and social science research methods
- anthropology of ethics
- political anthropology
- media anthropology
- critical rights study
- material culture



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Teaching Experience

10/2023 – 03/2024 **“Current Debates in Anthropology” (2 classes) and “Learning through research: Methods and Foundations for Social-Cultural Anthropological Studies” (2 classes), BA level**

University of Tuebingen

- Updating class content, adjusting for developments and audience
- Linking classes with events at the department
- Supervising 50 projects regarding choice of topic and methods
- Guiding class, letting them articulate debates in new media formats such as scholarly posters and short vertical videos

10/2020 – 03/2021 **“Activism and Technics”, BA level research project seminar**

University of Konstanz

- Teaching higher level undergraduate students
- Supervision of design and conduct of individual research projects

01/2010 – 06/2012 **Freelance facilitator of workshops on sustainable development**

- Accounting, managing and communicating with participants
- Planning and conducting the workshops

International and Research Experience

01/2019 – 03/2021 **Ethnographic Research, Yangon, Myanmar**

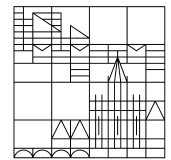
- 10 months in person and 2 months remote
- Building networks of trust with research partners who were part of a close-knit, very risk-aware group and fellow researchers. Conducting co-research with research partners
- Coordinating and managing research funds and assistants

09/2014 – 06/2015 **ERASMUS+ at University College London (ucl), UK**

- Building and expanding lasting research networks
- Deepening research foci on techniques and technology, ethics, material culture, medical anthropology, science and society as well as research methods

05/2011 – 08/2011 **Internship, Heinrich Böll Foundation (hbs) Southeast Asia, Bangkok**

- Within media&democracy and Myanmar programs, including assisting with workshop organisation
- Assisting the accounting department



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04/2011

Ethnographic Research, Cambodia

- For BA dissertation
- Searching relevant interview partners
- Conducting bilingual interviews with translation support and participant observation

Professional Experience

09/2023 – 03/2024

Lecturer, Department for Social-Cultural Anthropology

Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies, University of Tuebingen

- Teaching four classes
- Collaborating with other faculty members, expanding the department's academic network, e.g. inviting guest speakers
- Active engagement in departmental development, e.g. through marking reform

11/2020 – 03/2021

Lecturer, Social and Political Anthropology, Prof. Beyer

University of Konstanz

- Teaching "Activism and Technics" class
- Public scholarship and public engagement, making scholarly work accessible to a broader audience. Formats included radio interviews, podcast contributions, magazine interviews, blog posts and articles

07/2017 - 06/2018

Positions in Market Research

Society for Innovative Market Research (GIM), Heidelberg

- Conducting qualitative market research within a team. We used a wide range of methods, such as interviews focus groups, media and object supported research
- Research areas: health, cosmetics, media and automotive
- Contributed to research and enhanced report writing and design, in close collaboration with other researchers and design department

02/2012 – 08/2012

Teaching assistant, Department for Socio-Cultural Anthropology

University of Heidelberg

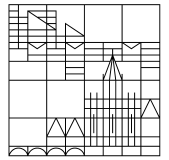
- Guiding fellow students in their reading, providing space for discussion

06/2009 – 08/2014

Student assistant, Cluster of Excellence "Asia & Europe"

University of Heidelberg

- Administration, accounting of research funds.
- Organization of workshops in Germany and India.
- Literature administration and scholarly text editing.
- Developing, maintaining and editing the projects' online presence.



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Journal Article (Peer Reviewed)

2022 with Jenny García Ruales, Joaquín Molina und Naomi Rattunde. Engaging with Non-Humans in Pandemic Fieldwork – Reflections on Ethnographies in Ecuador, Germany, Myanmar and Peru. *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie / Journal for Social and Cultural Anthropology*, 147(1+2): 75-98. 2022.

Conference Contributions

- 2024 Facts Beyond Reproach: Myanmar's Digital Rights Activist accountability through Establishing Data, Monitoring, and Archiving. Panel: Epistemologies of Evidence in Myanmar - Part 1: Fields. At: Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference. Held at Seattle, WA, 2024.
- 2020 Activist knowledge production through digital rights activism in Myanmar. Panel 015: Engaged media anthropology in the digital age. [Media Anthropology Network]. At: EASA conference 2020: New anthropological horizons in and beyond Europe. Held at Lisbon (online), 2020.
- 2019 Dynamics of Free Expression – the Everyday of Digital Rights Activism. At: Interdisciplinary Myanmar Conference: Dynamics of Everyday Life in Today's Myanmar. Held at the University of Passau, 2019.
- 2018 Digital Rights Movements in Myanmar. Sudden Surges, New Openings. At: Interdisciplinary Myanmar Conference: Migratory Models in Myanmar. Held at the University of Konstanz.

Panel Organisation

2021 Activist Atmospheres - Bodies and Emotions in the Tremors of Protest, jointly with Jeannine-Madeleine Fischer. At: GAA/DGSKA conference: Worlds. Zones. Atmospheres. Seismographies of the Anthropocene. Held at the University of Bremen (online).

Language Skills

- German (native speaker)
- English (native speaker proficiency)
- Myanmar/Burmese (advanced)
- French (basic)
- Khmer (basic)

Yours sincerely

Benedict Mette-Starke

Konstanz, 10 July 2024