

PHILIPPINEN-INITIATIVE

Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Fakultät für Philologie



Fakultät
für
Philologie

PROGRESS REPORT
ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/22
SEPTEMBER 2021





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For more information on our *Philippinen-Initiative* please visit our website:

<https://philippinen.blogs.ruhr-uni-bochum.de>



INTRODUCTION



The Philippinen-Initiative at Ruhr-Universität Bochum (Germany) is based at the Faculty of Philology of our university. Its vision is to become an interdisciplinary initiative which is open for cooperation with researchers and students from several disciplines, and to build up academic exchange between Ruhr-Universität Bochum and Philippine academic institutions. Still, its starting point lies in the Dept of Romance Languages and Literatures. Teaching and research in this department has so far been focused on the historic dimension of contact between the Philippines, South-East Asia in general and the Iberian world. From this starting point we wish to establish a dynamic that involves our neighbour faculties and, hopefully, other institutions in the new period that awaits us when academic activities will have resumed in every respect.

We are looking forward to fully develop our promising collaboration.



PROF. DR. ROGER FRIEDLEIN
Romanisches Seminar, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

1. TEACHING

Since the signing of the agreement, there have been courses with Philippinistic content in every term at Romanisches Seminar (Dept of Romance Languages and Literatures) at the Faculty of Philology.

A list of courses taught at Romanisches Seminar:

SUMMER TERM 2018 *Las Filipinas hispánicas*

Philippine colonial history from Magellan to Rizal

(taught in Spanish by R. Friedlein)

WINTER TERM 2019-20 *Berichte der Entdeckungsfahrten nach SO-Asien*

Chronicles of the Spanish and Portuguese voyages to South-East Asia, incl. Pigafetta, Antonio de Morga

(taught in German by R. Friedlein)

SUMMER TERM 2020 *José Rizal*

Comprehensive course on José Rizal, esp. *Noli me tangere*, *Filipinas en cien años* and *Último adiós*, in comparison to Spanish novels of Realism

(taught in Spanish and German by R. Friedlein)

WINTER TERM 2020-21 *Centenarios de los descubrimientos*

Celebrations of the 4th and 5th centenaries of the Columbus and Magellan voyages in comparison (1892 – 1992 – 2020), including analysis of PH Quincentennial site

(taught in German and Spanish by R. Friedlein)

In this cultural study course, we will deal with the voyages of discovery of the Spanish and Portuguese expansionist period since the end of the 15th century, which are known to have taken the Iberian seafarers to all continents outside Europe. In an introductory phase of the seminar, the most important voyages of Columbus, da Gama, Magellan and Álvares Cabral as well as their documentation will be presented. The focus thereafter, however, will not be on the early period of colonial expansion, but on the celebrations dedicated to the 400th and 500th anniversaries of the voyages in the



Iberian and in the formerly colonized countries in the 19th and 20th centuries, respectively. The last of these anniversaries, the 500th anniversary of the circumnavigation of the world by Magellan and Elkano, is being celebrated this year in Spain and the Philippines. We will work through the celebrations and the postcolonial debates that have been sparked by them in comparative perspective.

(Winter term 2020-21: *Centenarios De Los Descubrimientos* - course description)

SUMMER TERM 21 *Kontakt - Emotion - Erfahrung. Perspektiven auf die iberische Chronikliteratur*

Spanish and Portuguese chronicles on Latin America and SE Asia, incl. Leonardo de Argensola: *Conquista de las islas Malucas*

(taught in German by Dr. Dirk Brunke)

Since the ventures of Henry the Navigator (1394-1460), the Iberian monarchies have been pioneers in European overseas expansion. The literature produced during the expansion period, roughly until the end of the 17th century, has long been the focus of cultural studies research. In addition to intercultural hermeneutics or so-called imagology, which discusses the question of imagining the foreigner(s) (see the seminal studies by Todorov, *La conquête de l'Amérique*, 1982, and Greenblatt, *Marvelous Possessions*, 1991), the following perspectives have also been discussed in research alongside these questions about cultural contact: the fluid boundaries between fact and fiction; the legitimation procedures used by authors to justify conquest and missionization. The focus here, however, will also be on two topics that have received little attention to date: To what extent does a specifically early modern concept of experience emerge in the writings? What role do emotions play with regard to cultural contact?



In addition to the Letter of Columbus and the letters of Hernán Cortés, the report of A. Pigafetta on the Magellan expedition and Leonardo Argensola: *Conquista de las Islas Malucas* will be discussed.

(Summer term 2020-21: *Kontakt - Emotion - Erfahrung. Perspektiven auf die iberische Chronikliteratur* - course description)

WINTER TERM 2021/22 Francisco Xavier – cartas, drama, epopeya

(taught in Spanish and German by R. Friedlein)

Francisco de Xavier (born in Javier (Navarre) 1506 - 1552) or Franz Xaver is one of the founders of the Jesuit Order, together with Ignatius of Loyola. His missionary work

extends over large parts of the Asian continent, where Spain and Portugal develop their colonial expansion: India, the Southeast Asian archipelago, Japan and China. In this context, both a multitude of texts of the saint himself and, soon after, a diverse body of literature as well as iconography about the soon to be canonized saint emerge. In the seminar, first the historical context of the political and religious expansionist movement of the Iberians will be examined - also critically; secondly, the cultural products will be presented that have contributed to the fact that Francisco Xavier is considered today as the first-rate reference figure of Asian Christians.



Sievernich, Michael (Hg.): Franz Xaver: Briefe und Dokumente 1535 – 1552, Regensburg 2006.
 Arellano, Ignacio (Hg.): San Francisco Javier entre dos continentes, Madrid 2007.

Invited professor: DR. FRANCIS NAVARRO (ATENEO UNIVERSITY, MANILA)

(Winter term 2020-21: Kontakt - Emotion - Erfahrung. Perspektiven auf die iberische Chronikliteratur - course description)

The courses have been attended by between 10 and 25 participants each and the students had the possibility to elaborate articles, credited with 3 to 5 credit points.

Examples: “Language in Rizal: *Noli me tangere*”; “Manila Galleon trade in Antonio de Morga”; “The indigenous in Pedro Chirino: *Relación de las Islas Filipinas*”; “Postcolonial discourse on the Philippine Quincentennial web site”.



Source: Museo Franz Mayer, Mexico City, Foto Roger Friedlein

2. GUEST LECTURE AT RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM AND UNIVERSITÄT ZU KÖLN

hosted by

PROF. DR. ROGER FRIEDLEIN (Bochum) und PROF. DR. SARAH ALBIEZ-WIECK (Köln)

DEPUTY SPEAKER HON. LOREN LEGARDA:

Magellan and the Philippines – 500 years later

7-Jun 2021, 10.30h – 11.45h MET

The discovery voyages and the following colonial expansion of European powers – the monarchies of Portugal and Spain being the earliest ones – have been the object of exaltation and of criticism from their beginning. From the pivotal figure of Bartolomé de Las Casas, the debate about the legitimacy and the evolution of colonial expansion have given rise on the one hand to what has been called the *leyenda negra* (black legend) of Spain, as an example of a particularly devastating colonialism. On the other hand, the leaders of the first voyages Christopher Columbus and Vasco da Gama have been fashioned as polyvalent heroic figures that were used to crystallize national Hispanic and Portuguese identities.

From the 19th century onwards, the centenary commemorations of their voyages have been a major instrument to that goal, especially the fourth centenary of the Columbus voyage in 1892, which was celebrated in Spain with a long series of cultural, scientific and political acts that were organized with the participation of



QUINCENTENNIAL. The "first Contact" between the crew of Ferdinand Magellan and locals in Guiuan, Eastern Samar as illustrated by artist Derrick Macutay. The National Historical Commission of the Philippines has unveiled on March 16, 2021 the first of the 34 historical markers in Guiuan, Eastern Samar to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the first circumnavigation of the world. (Photo courtesy of National Historical Commission of the Philippines)

500
Quincentennial
Commemorations
in the Philippines

An Online Discussion
**Magellan and
the Philippines**
500 Years Later

with
Hon. LOREN LEGARDA
Deputy Speaker and Representative, Lone District of Antique
House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines

Moderators:
Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein
Ruhr University Bochum
PD Dr. Sarah Albiez-Wieck
University of Cologne

**Monday,
7 JUNE 2021**
10:30am – 11:45am (CEST)
via Zoom Conference

To register, please email:
sekretariat-friedlein@rub.de
l.helguero@uni-koeln.de

in cooperation with:
(under the Agreement on Philippine Studies
Program between the Philippine Consulate
General in Frankfurt and Ruhr University
Bochum)

PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL
DEPUTY SPEAKER
LOREN LEGARDA
LONE DISTRICT OF ANTIQUE

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT
BOCHUM
RUB

Universität
zu Köln

the independent Latin American countries, the USA and European neighbours, only a few years before the Spanish-American War in 1898 would put an end to most of what had been the Spanish colonial empire. While in the 1960s a new vision on the first encounters had already been established by Miguel León-Portilla in México under the catchy name of *La visión de los vencidos* (the vision of the vanquished), the Fifth Centenary in 1992 gave rise to an intense, sometimes polemical and ever-ongoing debate: *Descubrimiento* or *encuentro*? Discovery or encounter? *Evangelización* o *genocidio*? Evangelization or genocide? North and South American nations have found very diverging ways of commemorating the events that range between *hispanismo*, *nacionalismo* and *indigenismo*. In the year 2000, indigenous protest also accompanied the fifth centenary of the first voyage to Brazil by Pedro Alvares-Cabral, who is still celebrated as national hero in the country.

The voyage of Ferdinand Magellan – a Portuguese in the service of the Spanish crown –, Sebastián Elcano and Enrique de Malaca has been much less the object of national myth-making. Much more than that, Stefan Zweig's short historical narrative "Ferdinand Magellan" (1927), very popular and often translated, has had a decisive share in the 20th-century shaping of Magellan as an individual hero, and his voyage as a *Sternstunde der Menschheit* (roughly, *Highlights of mankind*), which is the title of Zweig's collection of five 'stellar' historical miniatures.

Since then, the evolution of post-colonial discourse has led to enrich the variety of perspectives on the voyages of Columbus, Da Gama, Alvares Cabral and Magellan. The Quincentennial activities in the Republic of the Philippines, but also in Spain, are another mark stone in the ever-developing interpretation of the historical encounter of East and West.



3. RESEARCH



Dr. Dirk Brunke

DR. DIRK BRUNKE has applied for a grant at DFG (German Research Council) for his project on Spanish and Portuguese chronicle narratives to Latin America and SE Asia

This three-year term postdoc project would grant him a full-time position.

Voyage – shipwreck – captivity. Compassion and autobiography in the era of expansion

In his postdoc project, DIRK BRUNKE focusses on the topic of compassion in a corpus of texts that comprises autobiographical narratives of the era of Spanish and Portuguese expansion, namely voyage, shipwreck and captivity reports, written in or about Southeast Asia and particularly, the Spanish Philippines. In historical perspective, these stories of affliction acknowledge the centrality of misery familiar from the religious context of the (com-)passio and the devotio moderna, i.e. the piety movement which, since the Middle Ages, has aspired to strengthen faith, amongst other things, by compassionately reliving the Passion of Christ. In contrast to this specifically religious function of compassion, however, the authors of the texts in question do not make use of their experiences of distress to strengthen their faith. In contrary, they employ the emotion of compassion – and, of course, other emotions like fear or astonishment – to describe affective reactions to the newly discovered cultures and spaces.

The analysis of the cultural context of the functions of generating compassion will reveal that a literary dimension of compassion opens up in texts – reports –, which are not genuinely poetic. The fact that the experiences of affliction are put into an affective rhetorical discourse enables the suffering to be emotionally comprehended in the act of reading, and, indeed, that the reading becomes an aesthetic moment of experience for the compassionate or sympathetic reader. Thus, the experiences made overseas can be transmitted over time and distance.

Research conference “Einsatz der Affekte: Momente der Alteritätserfahrung im Schrifttum der europäischen Expansion 1460–1700” (*Employing the affects: Aspects of alterity experience in texts from the period of European expansion 1460-1700*)

The research conference will take place from 30-Marto 1-Apr 2022 at Ruhr-Universität Bochum and is organized by Dirk Brunke (RUB) and Prof. Dr. Hendrik Schlieper (Univ. Paderborn). 12 participations confirmed, including Prof. Luis Castellví Laukamp (Univ. Manchester).

**Einsatz der Affekte:
Momente der Alteritätserfahrung im Schrifttum der europäischen Expansion
1460–1700**

**Forschungskolloquium an der Ruhr-Universität Bochum
30. März – 1. April 2022**

Das Schrifttum der europäischen Expansion – d.h. jene Texte, die im Zusammenhang mit der frühneuzeitlichen Vereinnahmung der beiden Amerikas, des Fernen Ostens und des Mittelmeerraumes entstehen – umfasst ein breites Spektrum an Textsorten, so etwa Bordbücher, Briefe, Reise-, Schiffbruch- und Gefangenenerichte sowie verschiedene Formen der Historiographie und Kosmographie. Aufbauend auf den wegweisenden Studien von Todorov (*La conquête de l'Amérique*, 1982) und Greenblatt (*Marvelous Possessions*, 1991) zur Imagologie der ‚Eroberungen‘, hat sich die Forschung diesem Textkorpus bislang unter recht heterogenen Gesichtspunkten genähert. Zunächst sind die historische Fiktionstheorie (vgl. grundlegend Hempfer 2002, weiterführend und am Beispiel der *Conquista* Mexikos Carman 2006) und Studien zur Narrativierung von Geschichte (im Sinne Hayden Whites) zu nennen, die die fließenden Grenzen zwischen Fakt und Fiktion ebenso thematisieren wie die Nicht-Abgrenzbarkeit der genannten Textsorten zu im modernen Sinne literarischen Texten, wie sich dies paradigmatisch an Cabeza de Vacas *Naufragios* aufzeigen lässt. Besonderes Interesse gilt außerdem der Dynamisierung von Diskurstraditionen und Gattungsgrenzen, die im Dienst komplexer Legitimationsverfahren stehen kann, wie etwa in Cortés’ *Cartas de relación* (vgl. hier auch Frömmer 2018 zu Kolumbus und Vespucci). Darüber hinaus werden Fragen des autobiographischen Erzählens und der Emergenz frühneuzeitlicher Subjektivität diskutiert (vgl. Penzkofer 2016 resp. Gumbrecht 1987 und Folger 2011), wie sie sich beispielhaft in Jean de Lérys *Histoire d'un voyage fait en la terre du Brésil* und den *Comentarios reales* des Inca Garcilaso darstellen.

Das geplante Forschungskolloquium setzt an diesem Punkt an, um das Schrifttum der europäischen Expansion auf den gemeinsamen Einsatz von Affekten hin zu befragen. Hierbei kann von der leitenden Beobachtung ausgegangen werden, dass den Momenten der Alteritätserfahrung, auf die die genannten und zahlreiche weitere einschlägige Texte des hier betrachteten Zeitraums gründen, ein spezifisches Affektpotenzial eigen ist: Die dargestellte Begegnung mit dem Anderen steht konstitutiv – und ganz im Sinne der zitierten Definition aus Covarrubias’ *Tesoro* (1611) – im Zeichen des instantanen, starken und nicht steuerbaren ‚Ergreifens‘. Den komplexen Verfahren der Verschriftlichung und Darstellung, aber auch der bewussten Ausklammerung ebendieses Affektpotenzials nachzugehen, lohnt nun aus drei Gründen: Die hier interessierenden Texte sind erstens Dokumente der Zeitgeschichte, die zwar vordergründig Anspruch auf Referenzialität erheben, in die aber zugleich die jeweils individuelle Erfahrung (mit) der Alterität eingeschrieben ist. Es handelt sich zweitens um dezidiert adressatenorientierte und handlungspragmatisch ausgerichtete Texte, in denen Affekte strategisch mit Blick auf Publikations-, Gebrauchs- und Rezeptionskontexte zum Einsatz kommen. Schließlich und drittens ist aus literaturwissenschaftlicher Perspektive in Betracht zu ziehen, dass sich der jeweilige dokumentarische Anspruch eben auch an dezidiert poetischen Mitteln und Formen bemisst, die vor dem Hintergrund der frühneuzeitlichen Diskussion und Neubewertung der Affekte (vgl. hierzu grundlegend Steiger 2005 sowie jüngst Matzat 2020) auch im Schrifttum der Expansionszeit eine ganz eigene Prägung erhalten.

Kontakt

Dr. Dirk Brunke
Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Romanisches Seminar
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DR. SANDRA ISSEL-DOMBERT has received a grant of Deutsche Forschungsgesellschaft DFG for her project on migration linguistics in contact situations (Lisbon, Macau, Manila). The grant will involve the organization of academic events.

Dr. Sandra Issel-Dombert

Spain in Asia and Asia in Spain: A migration linguistic analysis of the sociolinguistic situation of female Filipino domestic workers in Spain

Migration is female: but despite half of all the migrants worldwide for the past 70 years being women and their experiences differing from those of migrating men, they are less considered in linguistic or general academic research. A symbol of international migration of women in the globalized working world are so called domestic workers, who work in the worldwide healthcare and cleaning sector. The Philippines are leading in this branch. An explanation for this is the linguistic heritage of the colonial period. Their linguistic heritage goes back 300 years to the Spanish and 50 years to the US-American colonialization and is productive especially in times of the New Economy. Filipino working migrants are being marketed as linguistically well-educated and adaptable workforces. One of the leading countries receiving Filipina domestic workers is Spain, despite being a traditional country of emigration itself. Only since the turn of the millennium, Spain accomplished a radical transformation and became the currently most important immigration country of the EU. The challenges related to migration for the destination society as well as for the migrants regarding language acquisition, participation in society, and integration in the work environment is of highest social, public, and political importance. For Spain, this is one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century.

This project combines colonial and migration linguistics in a cross-sectional study and explores the origin and destination societies as well as the migrants. The following central questions are based on interviews and a triangulation of ethnographic, socio- and discourse linguistic methods with approaches of gender linguistics and Postcolonial Language Studies, and will be answered pertaining the triad society of origin – migrants – destination society: 1. (regarding the society of origin): Which attitudes do the speakers have towards Spanish, the former colonial language of their society of origin? In how far do these attitudes vary in terms of generation, level of education, and gender? 2. (regarding the migrants): How do the Filipinas experience their personal development regarding language, identity, and integration into the destination society? 3. (regarding the destination society): How are Filipinas perceived by Spaniards, especially regarding language and integration? Hence, this proposal aims to examine the vitality of Spanish on the Philippines as well as the commercialization of the Philippines' colonial linguistic heritage using the example of the sociolinguistic integration of Filipina domestic workers in Spain.

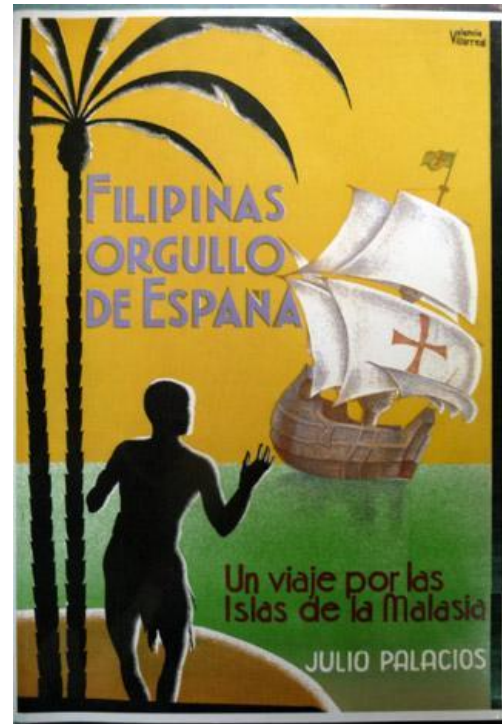
The project contributes to a better understanding of the progression of Spanish, the former colonial language in the South East Asian region, as well as its commercialization in the globalized working world. Furthermore, it raises awareness of the reality of migrated Filipina domestic workers and thereby can give them a voice.

4. PUBLICATION PROJECT

R. FRIEDLEIN and **BEATRIZ FRIEDEL ABLANEDO** (eds.): *Gallery of authors on the Archipelago*
(working title)

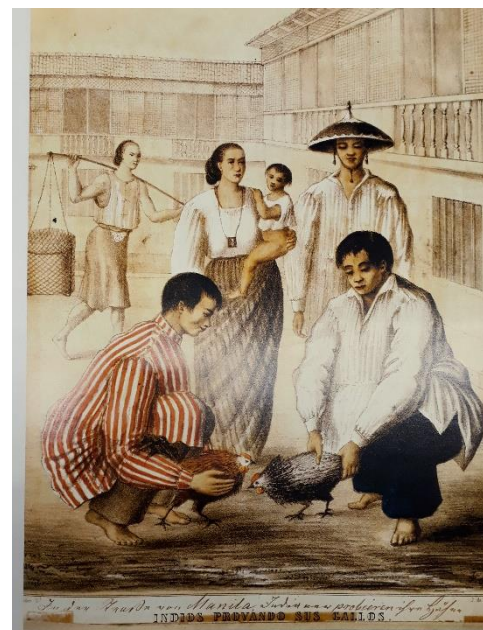
This will be a book situated on the border between an academic and a more popular publication, presenting the main personalities who have brought forward cultural exchange and mutual knowledge between the Philippines (and South-East Asia in general) and the countries of the Iberian Peninsula, Spain and Portugal, in the 19th and 20th century. It will present voyagers and authors both European and Philippine, including personalities like Sinibaldo de Mas or Jaime Gil de Biedma on the Spanish side, and major representants of the Philippine *ilustrados* like Rizal or Juan Luna.

Participants of this volume will include German, Spanish and Philippine academic authors.



Planned for publication in print and e-book with publisher Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft WBG at Frankfurt Book Fair 2023, in English and Spanish/German (to be decided).

Mrs Beatriz Ablanedo Friedel M.A. has been contracted for a period of two years to take care of the organization of this book and other activities of the Philippinen-Initiative.



5. PHILOGIC LIBRARY OF THE FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY

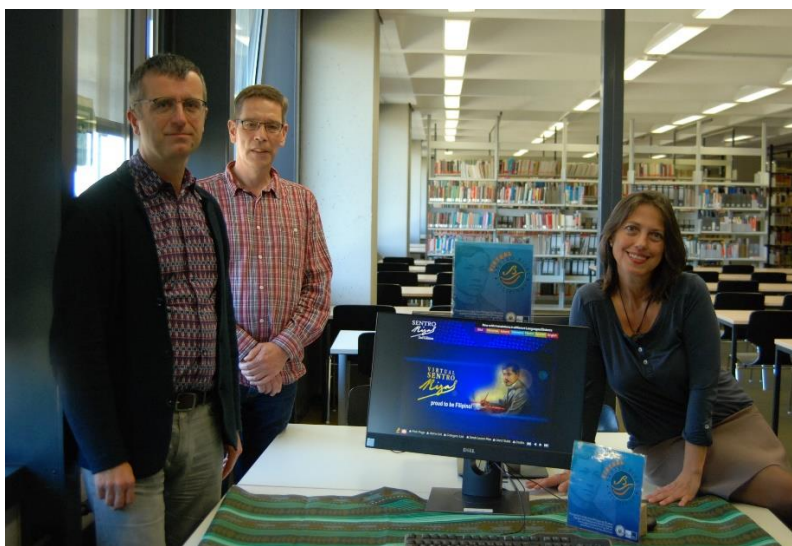
INSTALLATION OF SENTRO RIZAL

The **VIRTUAL SENTRO RIZAL** was installed in the library of the Faculty of Philology on level 7. From 11.10.2021 on, it will be accessible to all students and researchers of the Ruhr-Universität.

In addition, the library is currently expanding its bibliographic collection with new acquisitions of Philipinist research.



Vice Consul **FATIMA MUELLER** of the Philippine Consulate in Frankfurt hands over the virtual Sentro Rizal to **PROF. DR. ROGER FRIEDLEIN**.



The installation of Sentro Rizal in the library of the Faculty of Philology.

Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein, Joachim Brommauer (director of the Philologic Library) and Beatriz Friedel Ablanado (from left to right)

6. WEBSITE PHILIPPINEN-INITIATIVE

Our website **PHILIPPINEN-INITIATIVE** has been put online in order to register our activities, which have their main focus in academic research and teaching, but also include divulgation activities directed to the public outside of the university.

<https://philippinen.blogs.ruhr-uni-bochum.de>

PARTICIPANTS:

Prof. Dr. Dominik Begerow, Prof. Dr. Sebastian Bersick, Dr. Dirk Brunke, Lucas Franken M.A., Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein, Annemarie Hussein M.A., Dr. Sandra Issel-Dombert, Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Löwenstein, Prof. Dr. Christiane Meierkord, Prof. Dr. Christine Moll-Murata, Prof. Dr. Christian Schwermann, Prof. Dr. Judith Visser



BEITRÄGE

17. MAI 2021

The Quincentennial – new perspectives on the encounter

Lecture by Deputy Speaker Hon. Loren Legarda: *Magellan and the Philippines – 500 years later* (7-Jun 2021, 10.30h – 11.45h MET)

The discovery voyages and the following colonial expansion of European powers – the monarchies of Portugal and Spain being the earliest ones – have been the object of exaltation and of criticism from their beginning. From the pivotal figure of Bartolomé de Las Casas, the debate about the legitimacy and the evolution of colonial expansion have given rise on the one hand to what has been called the *leyenda negra* (black legend) of Spain, as an example of a particularly devastating colonialism. On the other hand, the leaders of the first voyages Christopher Columbus and Vasco da Gama have been fashioned as polyvalent heroic figures that were used to crystallize national Hispanic and Portuguese identities.

From the 19th century onwards, the centenary commemorations of their voyages have been a major instrument to that goal, especially the fourth centenary of the Columbus voyage in 1892, which was celebrated in Spain with a long series of cultural, scientific and political acts that were organized with the participation of the independent Latin American countries, the USA and European neighbours, only a few years before the Spanish-American War in 1898 would put an end to most of what had been the Spanish colonial empire. While in the 1960s a new vision on the first encounters had already been established by Miguel León-Portilla in México under the catchy name of *La visión de los vencidos* (the vision of the vanquished), the Fifth Centenary in 1992 gave rise to an intense, sometimes polemical and ever-ongoing debate: *Descubrimiento or encuentro?* Discovery or encounter? *Evangelización o genocidio?* Evangelization or genocide? North and South American nations have found very diverging ways of commemorating the events that range between *hispanismo*, *nacionalismo* and *indigenismo*. In the year 2000,

SUCHE

KATEGORIEN

Allgemein
Kultur
Lehre
Literatur
Veranstaltungen

SCHLAGWÖRTER

15. Jahrhundert	16. Jahrhundert		
17. Jahrhundert	19. Jahrhundert		
Argensola	Ausstellung	Bibliothek	
China	Chroniken	Fachliteratur	
Generalkonsulat	Kino	Kolonialismus	
Kongress	Kooperation		
Kulturwissenschaft	Literaturwissenschaft		
Mode	Philippinen	Portugal	Rizal
SoSe 2018	Spanien	WiSe 2019/20	

7. ACADEMIC MOBILITY AND DIVULGATION

Academic mobility between RUB and PH partner institutions was planned to be the keystone of the *Philippinen-Initiative*.

The principal part of the PH donation was meant to be spent on academic mobility in both directions. Contact to Academic Institutions in Manila and eventually on Panay had to be taken up on a trip of a group of RUB professors in May 2020, but had to be cancelled due to the mobility restrictions for all university staff since 2020. The date for this groundbreaking trip has still to be defined. It is now planned for March or August 2022.

The selection process for the PH lecturer/s who had to be chosen in the context of the academic exploration trip is still stalled. This has led to the circumstance that the financial means of the project have not been spent and are thus still available for our future projects. An expansion of the agreement (dedicated largely to the publication project in ch. 4) has been signed in Oct 2021.

Divulgarion: all activities for non-academic public have come to a standstill since mid-2020 due to pandemic legislation. Public lecture of R. Friedlein on the Magellan Quincentennial in *RUB Blue Square* (Bochum), planned for Oct-2020, then April-2021, was cancelled twice and a new venue is to be confirmed, possibly in the newly built *Haus des Wissens* in the centre of Bochum.

Philippine cinema screenings at RUB Filmclub, planned for autumn 2020 were cancelled and cannot be realized before Summer term 2022.

Recently, Romanisches Seminar has initiated a cooperation with Landesspracheninstitut LSI (Bochum) in order to organize an intensive course for Tagalo/Filipino with the support of GenCon in one of the upcoming terms. This course would be open to students and faculty members, but also to the outside public.

