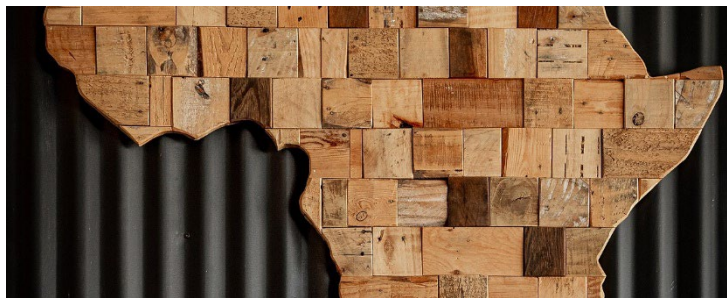


Workshop und Arbeitstreffen  
des „Arbeitskreises Afrika“ der  
Deutschen Vereinigung für  
Religionswissenschaft (DVRW)

16.-17. September 2022

Universität Rostock



## Concepts from the Global South: New Directions for the Study of Religions in Africa?

Alternative epistemologies and the postcolonial criticism of Western knowledge systems are currently receiving much attention in society as well as academia. Moving forward, the Study of Religions must rethink its “Western” terms and concepts which have long served as standard vocabulary for researching religious practice in cross-cultural perspective. The working group “AK Africa” cordially invites its members and all interested researchers to a workshop which will discuss the recently published book “Changing Theory: Concepts from the Global South”, edited by Dilip Menon ([Routledge, 2022](#)). We will read various chapters of the book, particularly those which focus on terms relevant to the African context. The workshop will discuss in which way the book’s approach challenges and enriches the Study of Religions in Africa: Is it possible to establish a “multilingual conceptual vocabulary” – as the editor proposes – which will allow for a global conversation in the Study of Religions in Africa and beyond? How does a rigid conceptual rethinking of research as translanguaging practice change approaches to our own research?

Participants in the workshop are requested to contribute to the discussion either by preparing a short contribution based on selected chapters from the volume (day 1) or by presenting an aspect of their current research experience (day 2) they wish to discuss. Conference languages are English and German.

The working group “AK Africa” is an open forum for transdisciplinary research on religions in Africa and beyond, including African diasporas worldwide. The group offers a platform for young as well as established researchers to connect over their work, exchange experiences and to discuss theoretical matters and methodological questions of their research. Further, the working group advocates for a cross-cultural and transdisciplinary perspective in the study of religions in Africa, connecting the German academia with international researchers. For more information, see [here](#).

The workshop in Rostock will include a business meeting of the working group, where we will plan future activities for the next years. The meeting is open to all interested in the Study of Religions in Africa. New members, ideas and suggestions are warmly welcome!

The workshop will be held on-site at the University of Rostock. Online participation will most likely be possible for parts of the program upon special request.

**Anne Beutter, Universität Luzern**

**Ulrike Schröder, Universität Rostock**

**Katharina Wilkens, Universität Leipzig**

## Preliminary schedule:

### Friday, September 16, 2022

14.00-15.00 Arrival and registration, Coffee

15.00-15.15 Welcome and introduction

15.15-16.00 Introductory remarks on the book (Ulrike Schröder)

16.00-16.30 Tea & Coffee

16.30-18.00 Discussion Panel (I)

18.00-18.30 Snacks

18.30-20.30 Discussion Panel (II)

### Saturday, September 17, 2022

09.00-10.30 Presentation of current research projects (I)

10.30-11.00 Tea & Coffee

11.00-12.00 Presentation of current research projects (II)

12.00-12.30 Lunch

12.30-14.00 Business meeting of AK Africa

### General Information:

**Location:** Universität Rostock, Hauptgebäude /Eingang „Neues Museum“ (main building /entrance „New Museum“), Raum /room 322, Universitätsplatz 1, 18055 Rostock, in Google Maps:

<https://goo.gl/maps/2a8WLgAVTxx6ENXq7>

**Registration:** For registration, please email to [ulrike.schroeder2@uni-rostock.de](mailto:ulrike.schroeder2@uni-rostock.de) until September 4, 2022. Please indicate also which book chapter you want to prepare for discussion (day 1) or whether you want to present your research work (day 2).

**Accommodation:** Participants are requested to cater for their own accommodation. For a list of recommended hotels and guesthouses, see below.

**Travel costs:** Some limited travel funding will be available. Eligible for assistance are students and attendees with limited income and/or no options of reimbursement at their home institutions. For further information, please contact [Katharina.Wilkens@lrz.uni-muenchen.de](mailto:Katharina.Wilkens@lrz.uni-muenchen.de)

**Health and hygiene:** The workshop will follow the general [AHA-L-rules](#) and the valid general rules of health & hygiene at the University of Rostock.

**Recommendations for Accommodation:**

Pension am Doberaner Platz, <https://www.pension-doberanerplatz.de/> (€)

Pension Nielsen, <http://www.pension-nielsen-online.de/> (€)

Stadtpension Lotte, <https://stadtpension-rostock.de/> (€)

GästeHaus Rostock (Rostock-Lütten Klein), <https://gaestehaus-rostock.de/> (€) – connected with the city center by tram line 5 (travel time approx. 30 mins)

Hotel Greifennest, <https://www.greifennest.de/> (€€)

Hotel Stadtperle, <https://www.stadtperle-rostock.de/> (€€)

Hotel Vienna House /Die kleine Sonne, <https://www.viennahouse.com/de/hotel-kleine-sonne-rostock/das-hotel/uebersicht.html> (€€)

PentaHotel Rostock, <https://www.pentahotels.com/de/hotels/deutschland/rostock> (€€€)