

re thinking solidarity

Over the last decades, U.S. society has witnessed dramatic clashes between the claims of individualism and the values of community and citizenry. Despite social movements such as Occupy Wallstreet, Black Lives Matter, and Fridays for Future, the idea of solidarity – relying on republican ideals of social cohesion, religious traditions, and the notion of the public good – appears to have lost traction in the U.S. and beyond.

In light of these developments, the conference sets out to “rethink solidarity.” This entails interrogating the political, cultural, economic, and environmental dimensions of solidarity as well as addressing solidarity in the context of democracy, including current crisis scenarios and the recurrence of populist imaginaries. In a transnational context, it involves asking how far discourses of globalization undermine bonds of solidarity. Can there be a “global solidarity”? Finally, it implies re-examining the mechanisms and ideological operations that interpellate individuals into subject positions marked by solidarity attachments or obligations.

The conference expands the existing research on solidarity from theoretical vantage points such as affect studies and ecocriticism as it brings together scholars from the social sciences and from literary and cultural studies. It seeks to contribute to a nuanced theoretical understanding of solidarity and its genealogies and to discuss how solidarity can be imagined, conceptualized, and practiced within and beyond national settings.

no conference fee / registration requested

conference format:

The 20th conference will be held online.
Please see www.amerika-akademie.de

the bavarian american academy

The Bavarian American Academy promotes and coordinates the interdisciplinary cooperation of scholars in the social and cultural studies in the widest sense, specializing in aspects of North American culture, society, politics, and economics in their hemispheric and global contexts.

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DFG Deutsche
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20th international conference
July 8 – 9 2021



**bayerische
amerika-akademie**

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thursday july 8 2021

2.00 PM Warm-up and Welcome

2.30 PM Conference Opening by **Heike Paul**
(Bavarian American Academy,
FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)

3.00 PM Panel 1

Theories of Solidarity in Democratic Societies

Chair: **Christof Decker** (LMU Munich)

Sally J. Scholz (Villanova University)
Solidarity's Reach

Dietmar Süß (University of Augsburg)
History, Anticapitalism and the Social
Practice of Solidarity

4.00 PM Coffee Break

4.15 PM Panel 2

Traditions of Solidarity

Chair: **Michael Hochgeschwender**
(LMU Munich)

Janine Giordano Drake

(Indiana University Bloomington)
The Industrial Workers of the World and
the Churches: The Unexpected History
of "Solidarity" in the United States

André Habisch (KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)
The Catholic Social Thought Tradition:
How Entrepreneurs Contributed to its
Emergence

5.15 PM Coffee Break

5.30 PM Award Ceremony

BAA Dissertation Award

7.00 PM Keynote Address

Chair: **Heike Paul** (FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Pippa Norris (Harvard University)
The Challenge of Authoritarian Populism

friday july 9 2021

3.00 PM Panel 3

Global Representations of Solidarity

Chair: **Nathalie Aghoro**
(KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)

Clemens Spahr

(University of Mainz)
Bayani: Class and International Solidarity
in Contemporary Rap Music

Quynh Nhu Le

(University of South Florida)
Envisioning Asian/Indigenous Solidarity
through Time and Tense

4.00 PM Coffee Break

4.15 PM Panel 4

Cultural Practices of Solidarity

Chair: **Katharina Gerund**
(FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Chandra Russo

(Colgate University)
Embodied Experience and
Social Movement Study

Silvia Schultermandl

(WWU Münster)
Intimate Archives and Experimental
Narratives of Transnational Kinship

5.15 PM Coffee Break

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5.30 PM Panel 5

Solidarity in the Anthropocene

Chair: **Sylvia Mayer**
(University of Bayreuth)

Lisa Garforth

(Newcastle University)
Utopia, Solidarity, and the Anthropocene:
Hope after Human-Centeredness

Solvejg Nitzke

(TU Dresden)
Green Companions/Making Kin with Trees:
Interspecies Solidarity and the Future
of Humanity

6.30 PM Coffee Break

7.00 PM Closing Keynote

Chair: **Heike Paul**
(FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Aleida Assmann

(University of Konstanz)
Repairing the Past: Divided Narratives
and National Solidarity

8.00 PM Wrap-up and End of Conference

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