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INSTITUTSKOLLOQUIUM WINTERSEMESTER 2019/20

ANTHROPOLOGIE DER INSEL

*Institut für Europäische Ethnologie,
Hanuschgasse 3, 1010 Wien*

Regina Römhild

*Islands as political laboratories: Crete and the
European imagination of the Mediterranean.*

Revisiting my fieldwork on and beyond Crete I will argue that islands in the Mediterranean (but not only there) are political laboratories dedicated to the boundary work of borders and identities. Conflicting imaginaries of belonging as well as intersecting transmaritime, transnational, transcontinental mobilities and relations intervene in diverse hegemonic narratives of national and European unity. It is thus worth to “think with islands” in order to productively decentre and “migrantize” static geopolitical geographies.

DO 21.11.2019, 17.00

Seminarraum 1, 2. Stock

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Regina Römhild is a cultural anthropologist and professor at the Institute for European Ethnology, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Her main fields of teaching and research are critical migration and border regime studies, Europe in postcolonial, globally entangled perspective, Mediterranean & political anthropology. She established and runs the “Critical Europeanization Studies Lab” at the Institute and has, more recently, written about postcolonial and “postmigrant Europe” (in *Postmigrantisches Perspektiven*). Her most recent book is edited together with several colleagues affiliated with the lab, entitled “Europa dezentrieren. Globale Verflechtungen neu denken” (Frankfurt a.M., New York: Campus). Among her current interdisciplinary engagements is the collaboration with colleagues and PhD researchers in the Research Training Group “Minor Cosmopolitanisms” that aims at establishing new ways of studying and understanding the cosmopolitan project against and beyond its Eurocentric legacies.

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28.11.2019 Greca Meloni