

Press invitation

23 Mai 2023



Colonial and Anti-Colonial Thinking. From the Enlightenment to the 20th Century

Fifth International symposium in the *Historical Judgement* series

Deutsches Historisches Museum, 23 June 2023



Deutsches Historisches Museum

Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit
Daniela Lange
Unter den Linden 2
10117 Berlin

T +49 30 20304-410
presse@dhm.de

www.dhm.de

The Monument to Hermann von Wissmann with Askari and Lion, which depicts the governor of the former colony of German East Africa, was unveiled on 3 April 1909 in Dar es Salaam. On the night of 31 October 1956, it was sprayed with paint and toppled in Hamburg.

© Deutsches Historisches Museum / Wolfgang Siesing

The **fifth symposium in the *Historical Judgement* series**, which will take place on **Friday, 23 June 2023**, will explore colonial and anti-colonial thinking in German history. What positions did Kant, Herder, and Hegel take on colonialism? What criticism was levelled at the German colonies in the colonial period? What critical engagement was there with colonialism under National Socialism? And what were the differences between anti-colonialism in East and West Germany before 1989?

These and other questions will be discussed by historians, philosophers, political scientists, and sociologists at the international interdisciplinary symposium "**Colonial and Anti-Colonial Thinking from the Enlightenment to the 20th Century**". Speakers include **Susan Buck-Morss** (CUNY Graduate Center, New York), **Christiane Bürger** (Universität Erfurt), **Andrea Esser** (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena), **Raphael Gross** (Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum), **Pascal Grosse** (Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin), **Naita Hishoono** (Namibia Institute for Democracy, Windhoek), **Thomas Khurana** (Universität Potsdam), **Dagi Knellessen** (Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum), **Elísio Macamo** (Universität Basel), **Gwinyai Machona** (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), **Willeke**

Sandler (Loyola University Maryland, Baltimore), **David Simo** (Université de Yaoundé I), **George Steinmetz** (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), **Benedikt Stuchtey** (Philipps-Universität Marburg), **Lora Wildenthal** (Rice University, Houston), and **Chunjie Zhang** (University of California, Davis).

Raphael Gross, president of the Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum, explains: "At this year's symposium, from a variety of perspectives, we will address critiques of colonialism in Germany from the Enlightenment to the 20th century. We hope that this exchange of ideas will provide stimulating perspectives on the complex, ambivalent relationship between colonialism and anti-colonialism in German history and lead to a better understanding of contemporary debates about the colonial past."

The symposium will be accompanied by the fifth issue of the magazine Historical Judgment, titled "**Colonial and Anti-Colonial Thinking from the Enlightenment to the 20th Century**" and scheduled for publication on 13 July 2023.

Friday, 23 June, 9 am to 7 pm

Colonial and Anti-Colonial Thinking

From the Enlightenment to the 20th Century

Fifth international symposium in the Historical Judgment series

Venue: Pei Building at the Deutsches Historisches Museum

Conference language: German and English with simultaneous interpreting

Free attendance

Registration at: <https://www.dhm.de/en/historicaljudgement/registration/>

Detailed program at: <https://www.dhm.de/en/programme/conferences/colonial-and-anti-colonial-thinking-from-the-enlightenment-to-the-20th-century/>

The symposium will be recorded and made available on the DHM's [YouTube channel](#).

For interview and filming requests, please contact the press office directly at presse@dhm.de or 030/20 304 410