

CfP: Workshop "Riots & Resistance" III
Friday, 18 July 2014, 10:00 am -17:30pm

Institut für Protest- und Bewegungsforschung, TU Berlin,
Hardenbergstraße 16-18, Room 6.06

In recent years "Riots" could be observed in various regions around the globe. Far from being a new phenomenon, there seems to be nevertheless an increase in this very particular form of contentious politics: From the Maydan square in the Ukraine, to the uprisings at Taksim Square in Turkey, the steady unrest in various countries in the European Union, food riots in Ouagadougou, revolts in northern Africa, and the recurring émeutes in French Banlieues.

Being a hotly discussed topic within the media landscape, the term "Riot" is all too often used in a seemingly self-evident way. However, neither the media nor the academic discourses provide a clear definition of what riots actually are and how they distinguish themselves from other forms of resistance such as revolts, everyday resistances, protests, uprisings, social movements, civil disobedience etc. It is therefore worth taking a closer look at the phenomenon in the context of the multilayered effects of neoliberal capitalism and the current economic and financial crisis.

Following up on the previous workshops in February 2014 and December 2013, we are happy to invite you to the third workshop of this series, that is concerned with "Riots & Resistance". As a result of previous discussions, this third workshop is designed as a mixture of colloquium and open discussion, aiming to provide an open and interdisciplinary space for discussing research projects in progress, as well as methodological and empirical questions.

The first part is dedicated to presentations and discussions of various research projects on "Riots & Resistance". We welcome contributions, tackling some of the following or related questions:

- **Conceptualizing riots and other forms of contention:** What constitutes a riot? What concepts, definitions of and theoretical approaches to riots do exist? What is the conceptual relationship of riots to social movements, protest and resistance? Do riots occur as isolated events or/to which extent are they part of a broader conflictual context?
- **Actors and motivation:** Who participates in riots? : (Why) do people decide to riot? Problematizing violence: How are riots linked to "violence"?
- **Space:** What role does space plays in the configuration of protest?
- **Methodology:** What methods and methodological approaches can be used to research riots and resistance?

In the second part we will engage in group discussions. As an outcome of the last workshop these will be concerned with methodological questions and different empirical research approaches.

We warmly welcome presentation of bachelor or master thesis, research projects, PhD chapters, PhD proposals, article drafts and other scientific work in progress on "Riots & Resistance". Presentations can be given in German or English but should take maximum 15 minutes. We strongly encourage new contributors and participants to submit!

Please send your proposals (1-2 pages) until 9th June 2014 to: phi.greif@googlemail.com

To provide a solid ground for discussions, final (background) papers of the presentations should be handed in until 7th July 2014.

If you would like to participate but not to present a paper, please let us know until 7th July 2014, so that we know how much coffee and cookies we need to buy ☺.