



# Inaugural Conference

**10 and 11 November 2020**



**Research Institute  
Social Cohesion**

**In November, the Research Institute Social Cohesion (RISC) holds its inaugural conference, inviting renowned international speakers. The event will be held online and can be followed via livestream, hosted by the Leipzig Section.**

The question as to what holds current societies together or causes them to drift apart is the subject of research, media debates, and political struggles for interpretation alike. As an association of eleven universities and research institutes, the Research Institute Social Cohesion (RISC), which is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), will study in the coming years the current challenges of social cohesion from an interdisciplinary perspective. On 10 and 11 November we will be holding our inaugural conference. We are delighted that we could attract high-ranking scholars from Germany and abroad to hold the introductory lectures. They will discuss different ideas of social cohesion from their own perspectives and contribute to further international comparison.

**Im November richtet das Forschungsinstitut Gesellschaftlicher Zusammenhalt (FGZ) seine Eröffnungskonferenz mit renommierten internationalen Referent\*innen aus. Die Veranstaltung findet online statt und kann über einen Livestream verfolgt werden. Gastgeber ist das FGZ-Teilinstitut Leipzig.**

Die Frage danach, was heutige Gesellschaften zusammenhält oder auseinander driften lässt, ist gleichermaßen Gegenstand von Forschung, medialer Debatten und politischer Deutungskämpfe. Als Verbund aus elf Hochschul- und Forschungseinrichtungen analysiert das vom Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF) geförderte Forschungsinstitut Gesellschaftlicher Zusammenhalt (FGZ) die gegenwärtigen Herausforderungen, mit denen gesellschaftlicher Zusammenhalt konfrontiert ist, aus einer breiten interdisziplinären Perspektive. Wir freuen uns, dass wir hochrangige Wissenschaftler\*innen aus dem In- und Ausland für die Einführungsvorträge gewinnen konnten. Sie werden verschiedene Vorstellungen von gesellschaftlichem Zusammenhalt erörtern und zum weiteren internationalen Vergleich beitragen.

## 10 November 2020

11.00 am–12.00 pm CET

**General Assembly** (*internal*)

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12.00 pm–1.00 pm CET

Lunch



*Start of the live stream*

1.30 pm–2.00 pm CET

**Welcome address**

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by the speakers of the RISC:

Nicole Deitelhoff, RISC Frankfurt

Olaf Groh-Samberg, RISC Bremen

Matthias Middell, RISC Leipzig

2.00 pm–2.40 pm CET

**Video lecture**

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**The Far-Right Challenge to Social Cohesion**

Cas Mudde, University of Georgia, Athens

2.40 pm–3.20 pm CET

**Video lecture**

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**The Broader Harms of Hate: Risks to Social Solidarity**

Barbara Perry, Ontario Tech University, Oshawa

3.20pm–3.50pm CET

Coffee break

3.50pm–4.30pm CET

**Video lecture**

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**In Risc of Mistrust: An Empirical Landscape**

Jutta Allmendinger, Berlin Social Science Center

4.30pm–5.10pm CET

**Video lecture**

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**Inclusion and Narratives of Hope after the American Dream**

Michèle Lamont, Harvard University, Cambridge

5.10pm–5.50 pm CET

**Video lecture**

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**Talking Across the Political Divide**

Arlie R. Hochschild, University of California, Berkeley

## 11 November 2020

9.00 am–9.40 am CET

**Video lecture**

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**Wir Stachelschweine: Von der Kunst des demokratischen Zusammenlebens**

Till van Rahden, University of Montreal

9.40 am–10.20 am CET

**Video lecture**

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**Anpassung nach unten: Versuch über Vulgarität**

Albrecht Koschorke, RISC Konstanz



*End of the Live Stream*

10.20 am–10.50 am CET

Coffee Break

10.50 am–12.30 pm CET

**Working groups** *(internal)*

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12.30 pm–1.30 pm CET

Lunch

1.30 pm–3.30 pm CET

**Institute Council** *(internal)*

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Rio Gandara / Helsingin Sanomat

**Cas Mudde** is a renowned researcher in the field of extremism, especially in right-wing politics, and in European politics with a focus on populism. He is the Stanley Wade Shelton UGAF Professor at the School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Georgia and a Professor II at the Center for Research on Extremism (C-REX) at the University of Oslo. He is also Affiliated Researcher at the University of California, Berkeley.



Paige K Parsons Photography

**Arlie Hochschild** is Professor Emerita at the University of California, Berkeley. Her recent research focuses on the rise and the motivation of the alt-right in the USA, while her earlier research includes works on emotional labour and the sociology of emotion. Her latest publication, *“Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right”* was a finalist for the National Book Awards.



Privat

**Barbara Perry** is the Director of the Centre on Hate, Bias and Extremism at Ontario Tech University. She has published extensively on hate crimes against minorities, which threaten and disrupt social cohesion in a diverse and tolerant society, as well as on right-wing extremism and societal bias. Her publications include *“In the Name of Hate: Understanding Hate Crimes”* and *“Hate and Bias Crime: A Reader”*.



Stefanie Wetzell, fotografie\_styling, Bad Homburg

**Till van Rahden** holds the Canada Research Chair in German and European Studies at the University of Montreal. His work focuses on Jewish-German history, current challenges for democracies, gender questions, and European history after the Enlightenment. His latest monograph is *“Demokratie: Eine gefährdete Lebensform”*.



WZB / David Ausserhofer

**Jutta Allmendinger** is President of the WZB Berlin Social Science Center. Her research focuses on questions about the labour market, welfare politics, and social injustice. She earned her PhD degree at Harvard University and her habilitation at the FU Berlin. Among other roles, she is Senior Fellow of the Center for European Studies at Harvard University and Professor of Educational Sociology and Labor Market Research at Humboldt University.



Privat

**Albrecht Koschorke** is an expert on cultural and narrative theory as well as cultural semiotics with a focus on German literature from the seventeenth to the twentieth century. He is a member of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and of the Academia Europaea as well as Extraordinary Professor at Pretoria University. Koschorke is a PI at the RISC and deputy speaker of the Konstanz section.



Regine Hendrich

**Michèle Lamont** is Director of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University and Professor of Sociology and African and African American Studies. She publishes on culture and inequality, racism and stigma, social change and successful societies, and qualitative methods. She holds honorary doctorates from five countries and has received multiple prizes, among them the Erasmus prize and the Gutenberg Research Award.



Forschungsinstitut  
Gesellschaftlicher  
Zusammenhalt



*Live stream:*

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCDuHm9cBTiOynDH93ywJaDw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDuHm9cBTiOynDH93ywJaDw)

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