



**UG**

**DEPARTMENT OF  
PHILOSOPHY & CLASSICS**

In Collaboration with  
Centre for Philosophy in Africa, Nelson Mandela University,  
South Africa  
and  
Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University of  
Duisburg-Essen, Germany



**INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON**

**GLOBALIZING  
POLITICAL  
PHILOSOPHY**

**27 March 2026**

Venue: Seminar Room 2,  
Cedi Conference Centre,  
University of Ghana

Time: 9:00 – 16:00

UNIVERSITÄT  
DUISBURG  
ESSEN

*Offen im Denken*

**NELSON MANDELA**  
UNIVERSITY



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**DEPARTMENT OF  
PHILOSOPHY & CLASSICS**

The Department of Philosophy & Classics, University  
of Ghana

In Collaboration with

Centre for Philosophy in Africa, Nelson Mandela  
University, South Africa

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International Conference

on

# **GLOBALIZING POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY**

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## **SYNOPSIS:**

This international conference is an opportunity to do comparative political theorizing in the interest of moving beyond artificial boundaries. Crossing such boundaries is necessary because current political reality makes it abundantly clear that there is a lot to learn from contexts like Africa where political theorists have had to contend for a very long time with the consequences of the deficits of democracy. The lessons we can learn from this context would not mean much, however, if opportunities are not created to enable scholars from the so-called global north to engage with African political thinkers. With this conference, we offer such an opportunity by bringing together African and European political theorists to explore how current political developments call for reimagination of political philosophy. The conference will focus on philosophical texts by members of the 'Legon Tradition of Philosophers' as the springboard for this comparative political theorizing.

### **Organizers:**

Dr. Richmond Kwesi

Prof. Uchenna Okeja

Prof. Andreas Niederberger

Registration: [rkwesi@ug.edu.gh](mailto:rkwesi@ug.edu.gh)

## FRIDAY, MARCH 27

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9:00 – 9:15	<b>Welcome Address:</b> Prof Wazi Apoh, <i>Dean, School of Arts</i>
9:15 – 10:00	<b>Session 1: Why Globalize Political Philosophy?</b> Moderator: <b>Prof. Uchenna Okeja</b> , <i>Nelson Mandela University</i> Text: Wiredu, K. (1996). <b>“Philosophy and the Political Problem of Human Rights”</b> . In <i>Cultural Universals and Particulars: An African Perspective</i> . Indiana University Press
10:00 – 10:15	Coffee break
10:15 – 11:00	<b>Session 2: Globalizing Political Philosophy: Methodology</b> Moderator: <b>Dr. Christian Schepers</b> , <i>Universität Duisburg-Essen</i> Text: Gyekye, K. (1997). <b>“Quandaries in the Legitimation of Political Power.”</b> In <i>Tradition and Modernity: Philosophical Reflections on the African Experience</i> . Oxford University Press
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:00	<b>Session 3: Values of a Global Political Philosophy</b> Moderator: <b>Prof. Martin Odei Ajei</b> , <i>University of Ghana</i> Text: Gyekye, K. (1997). <b>“Traditional Political Ideas, Values, and Practices: Their Status in the Modern Setting”</b> . In <i>Tradition and Modernity: Philosophical Reflections on the African Experience</i> . Oxford University Press.
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch

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13:00 – 13:45

**Session 4: The Issue of Language in Globalizing Political Philosophy**

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Moderator: **Dr. Richmond Kwesi**, *University of Ghana*

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Text: Wiredu, K (1996). **“Formulating Modern Thought in African Languages: Some theoretical Considerations.”** In *Cultural Universals and Particulars: An African Perspective*. Indiana University Press

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13:45 – 14:00

Coffee break

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14:00 – 14:45

**Session 5: Globalizing Political Philosophy: Agency and Scope**

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Moderator: **Prof. Andreas Niederberger**, *Universität Duisburg-Essen*

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Text: Gyekye, K. (2013). **“We the People’: In Pursuit of the Politics of Inclusion”.** In *Philosophy, Culture, and Vision: African Perspectives*. Sub-Saharan Publishers.

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14:45 – 15:00

Summary and Concluding Remarks: **Dr. Eva Weiler**, *Universität Duisburg-Essen*

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15:00 – 16:00

Post-Conference meeting with Networks

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