

Panelvorschlag für den 27. Wissenschaftlichen Kongress der DVPW „Grenzen der Demokratie / Frontiers of Democracy“, 25.-28. September 2018 , Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main

### Title

#### **Doing democracy: translations and boundaries**

This panel is supported by the DVPW working groups “Sociology of International Relations” and “Politik, Wissenschaft und Technik“, and the ad hoc group “Konstruktivistische Theorien der Politik“.

### Panel Organizers

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### Abstract

For a while liberal-representative democracy appeared to many as the quasi-natural state of political life. This certainty has come undone: Democracy again is *in the making*. Theoretical debates about democracy have taken on heat and there is a plethora of initiatives to practically innovate it. Many of these practices of remaking democracy are fundamentally translocal: in the realm of state- and peace building, international organizations attempt to transfer supposedly universal models of democracy to non-Western societies. Entrepreneurs build transnational networks and set up globally operating private businesses to spread methods of public deliberation. Transnational social movements cultivate new forms of participation and advocate for accountability in line with good governance discourses. While the pressure that dynamics of globalization exert on established democracies has become a matter of public and scholarly debate, this translocal doing of democracy has received scant attention so far.

Against the background of a praxeological conception of democracy as performative representation (Rosanvallon, Saward, Disch, Ezrahi) this panel asks: *How do practices of doing democracy travel? What do attempts to expand and reform democratic practices across localities look like? What role do translocal practices play for the innovation of established and emerging democracies?*

We are particularly interested in studies that investigate *translations* and *boundaries*, achievements and limitations of these processes. In turning this lens onto our own practices as scientists, we also encourage submissions that explore translations and boundaries between the social sciences and translocal democratic practices, or offer methodological innovations in studying the translocal assemblages of democracy.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is January 20, 2018. Please send your abstracts (max. 300 words) to Sina Birkholz (Email: [s.birkholz@fu-berlin.de](mailto:s.birkholz@fu-berlin.de)).