



COLLEGE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
GUEST LECTURE

The intertwining effect of Transitional Justice and Democratization in Turkey and Germany



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AUIB American Space

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Abstract: Transitional Justice (TJ) is a concept and process encompassing a number of different legal, political, and cultural instruments and mechanisms that can strengthen, weaken, enhance or accelerate processes of regime change and democratization in post-conflict and transitional societies. Trials, compensations, and reconciliation measures can foster or hamper political transition or reconciliation processes and there thus is not an automatic guarantee for desirable outcomes. TJ measures can be politically instrumentalized, such as we have seen in post-WWII East and West Germany and in post-Cold War Turkey. The way by which TJ measures are applied and the actors who use them determine the different outcomes of political regimes. This lecture is based on Mihr's 2018 monograph "[Regime Consolidation and Transitional Justice](#)" published by Cambridge University Press.

Bio: Anja Mihr is currently a German Academic & Exchange Service (DAAD) Associate Professor at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. She specializes in Human Rights, Governance, Public Policy, and Transitional Justice and has developed training courses on Transitology. Mihr is also the Founder and Program Director of the Center on Governance through Human Rights at the Berlin Governance Platform in Germany. She has held professorships at the Willy-Brandt School of Public Policy at Erfurt University, Germany, and the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights at the University of Utrecht. Mihr has also been Head of the Rule of Law department at The Hague Institute for Global Justice and carried out a number of Visiting Professorships for Human Rights and Public Policy, including as at Peking University Law School together with the Raoul Wallenberg Research Institute on Human Rights of Lund University in 2008, an earlier at the School for International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. From 2006-2008 she was the European Program Director for the European MA Degree in Human Rights and Democratization at the European Inter-University Center for Human Rights in Venice, Italy. Mihr received her Ph.D. in Political Science in 2001 from the Free University of Berlin.