Perspektiven auf globale Politik

AFK-EUPRA – 18 (PART 1) AND 23 (PART 2): CONFLICT AND PEACE IN ARTS, MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC

12. März 2017 · *von* jungeafk · *in AFK-EUPRA 2017* · *Hinterlasse einen Kommentar*

AFK-EuPRA – 18 (Part 1):
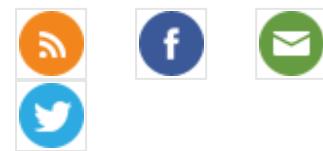**Conflict and Peace in Arts, Media and the Public**

Chair: Lisa Bogerts (Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany)

Presenters:

Angel Iglesias Ortiz (University of Tampere, Finland): Peace Visual Discursive Representation in Scenarios of Antagonism

From a historical perspective this paper reviews the ways the *world peace* discourse has been characterized in visual representations by different national and international actors. The paper explores the necessary, but at the same time impossible, task to achieve a definitive fixation of meaning.

The point of the analysis is to understand how different antagonist stances make a discursive articulation of their vision of world peace. For example, the representation and symbolization of the dove is the case from which different discursive articulations antagonize and try to fix certain identity to a signifier like "world peace". Thus, the different attempts to articulate a discursive field will activate relations of hegemony.

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For this, in the empirical section, more than 20 images are analysed from a theoretical point of view trying to understand the use of signifiers, their fixation in a wider discursive field, the logics of difference and equivalence and issues of identity formation. The visual material covers a timeframe period post- WWII and the Cold War years. The presentation of the images stays in an explanatory level with the description of the images using the compositional interpretation approach. This level is complemented with the contextual issues related to the actor involved or the historical event depicted in the visual material.

The next level of analysis addresses the conceptual dimension of the visual material. With the findings of the previous part, this level looks in more detail into the use of signifiers, nodal points, meaningful expressions (e.g. symbolic elements, pictorial representations, or imaginaries,); what particular ideas are mobilized or how these are transferred from the actor's perspective to what world peace represents.

The analysis will show the attempts to appropriate a symbol, like the dove and olive branch, and the political manoeuvres behind this issue. The diversity of images and actors brings the possibility to contrast the discursive articulations in a multilevel perspective. The conclusions are contrasted with the views on language of peace and war. The images and messages included mobilize ideas and words that affect the perception in favour of a certain action that can convey violence or its prevention. The point with this is to question the logics that support the meaning used in these visual representations and understand how positive / negative peace takes place in the discourses analysed.

Fabian Namberger (University of London, UK) & Gerdis Wischnath (FU Berlin, Germany): Cartographies of Violence: Postcolonial Views on the (De-)Construction of Space in Research and Practice

Dualistic spatial allocations of a (peaceful) here and a (violent) there, near and far, global north-south, which bear on the construction of differences, are omnipresent. From the perspective of (political) science their task is to "order" and make researchable peace and war. Especially, cartographic images play a central role in the spatial fixture of conflict, peace and violence, since they not only cast complex and contested (conflict) realities into the visual frame of hegemonic patterns of interpretation ("north vs. south", "strong state vs. failed state"), but at the same time use their visual power to move the causes of global conflicts to the global south's "spaces of violence". Against the reductionism of common spatial meta-narratives (state container, deterritorialisation) our contribution argues for a reflected use of maps in particular and images of space in general, in order to unmask Eurocentric inequities and to clear space for social hybridity and polyphonies.

AFK-EuPRA – 23 (Part 2):
Conflict and Peace in Arts, Media and the Public

Chair: Thomas Daffern (EuPRA)

Presenters:

Jamileh Dastmardi & Metin Ersoy (Eastern Mediterranean University, North Cyprus): The Role of the Media in Syrian Refugee Cases

Engin Aluç & Metin Ersoy (Eastern Mediterranean University, North Cyprus): Methods and Concepts in Peace Journalism

Metin Ersoy & Raziye Nevzat (Eastern Mediterranean University, North Cyprus): Peace Journalism in Post-Intervention Divided Cyprus

Papers:

Sandra Martínez Domingo (International Catalan Institute for Peace, Spain): What is the Link Between Immigration and Terrorism? Analyzing the Discourse of the Far-Right Parties from Austria and France.

Far-right parties gained considerable support in many European countries in recent years. Austria comes within a whisker of becoming the first country in the history of the European Union to elect a far-right president, Horbert Hofer, the candidate from the Freedom Party. Similarly, in France, Marie Le Pen is expected to be Front National's (FN) candidate in the 2017 presidential election and probably to make it to the second round of voting.

For this reason, it is worth to analyse the political rhetoric of these parties, which is characterized by enhancing "national identity" and by appealing to fears and insecurity to the native population. Thus, this paper aims to investigate the myths and realities of their political discourse.

Each far-right party has its own particularities, but the analysis presents that all of them have a common strategic framework: defending a causal link between immigration and terrorism and describing the current context as an „invasion of violent radical Islamists" who seek to incite the „decline of the Western civilization". This discourse serves to justify its immigration and security political proposals, focusing on two main factors: the increase in the number of asylum seekers over the last few years and the Islamist terrorist attacks that have taken place in Europe. With a Eurocentric vision and with an in-group bias, these parties reduce

current social context to a matter of national security and they stigmatise anyone who applies for asylum as an „enemy" through usual processes of hate speech: dehumanization and objectification.

On the one hand, the paper contrasts the arguments and justifications regarding securitization and migration policies of FPÖ and FN parties with the latest data on terrorism and migration. On the other hand, this study summarizes social consequences that may arise from the growth of these anti-immigrant movements and policies.

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