



Centre for

**Global  
Cooperation  
Research**

## **Masterclass 2014**

### **Gifts of Cooperation**

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Venue: Essen Germany

#### **Abstract**

To give, to accept and to reciprocate – according to Marcel Mauss' famous essay "The Gift", the conjunction of these three activities is the basis of social and cultural life. This claim is increasingly being discussed not only by cultural and social anthropologists, but by a wide range of authors in philosophy and sociology and beyond. While sociologists following Bourdieu or Caillé concentrate on symmetrical gifts, philosophers in the tradition of Derrida, Marion or Hénaff are debating the asymmetry of relations based on gifts. Either way, the evolving gift-paradigm is used in many fruitful ways to challenge both rationalist and normativist theories of action and society.

From different angles, the Masterclass discusses the claim that modern societies depend on their ability to constitute and reproduce social relations through giving and recognition. Apart from the market and the state, giving and reciprocating have to be considered basic principles of association: Whether in face-to-face interaction, in associations of civil society, in networks of all kinds, alternative economies, intergenerational relations or arrangements of the welfare state. It is widely acknowledged that various types of gift-giving play a central role. Beyond these issues, the Masterclass will also ask the question of the role the logic of the gift plays on the level of global cooperation. Can the gift generate an anti-utilitarian basis for forms of international recognition and solidarity (e.g. in development cooperation, international philanthropy or debt reliefs)?

Where do relations based on the gift underlie, strengthen or disrupt markets and hierarchies? What exactly is the place of gifts in a range of social relations? What is role of an ethics of the gift-giving in the context of urgent global challenges?



Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014

09:45 – 11:45

The Gift Paradigm and Convivialism

[Alain Caillé](#)

Paris West University Nanterre La Défense, France

14:30 – 16:00

Gift Exchange and Convivial Culture

[Donni Wang](#)

Stanford University, USA

Intercultural Atmospheres: The Affective Quality of Gift Situations

[Basil Wiese](#)

University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany

16:15 – 17:00

Gift Exchange in a Catholic Society

[Lina Pranaitytė-Wergin](#)

Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany



Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014

09:45 – 11:15

Asymmetrical Giving and the Public Sphere

[Ilana Silber](#)

Bar-Ilan University, Israel

14:00 – 17:00

Symposium:

Die Gabe der Kooperation / The Gift of Cooperation

(Venue: Gebläsehalle, Duisburg)

- The Good Gift-Returning: Approaching Gastrosophical Anthropology  
[Harald Lemke](#), Centre for Gastrosophy, Salzburg
- Who Eats Where and With Whom? Eating with the other instead of eating the other  
[Schamma Schahadat](#), University of Tübingen
- Brown bags and Dead Chicken - or how we (s)eat together alone and alone together  
[Sebastian Schellhaas](#), University of Frankfurt/Main and  
[Mario Schmidt](#), Centre for Global Cooperation Research, Duisburg
- On the Table – Handling with Abundance  
[Stephan Lorenz](#), University of Jena
- Feast from the Trash: Dumpster Diving between Rescuing, Hunting and Giving  
[Christine Unrau](#), Centre for Global Cooperation Research, Duisburg /  
University of Cologne

Get Together



Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014

- 09:45 – 11:15      The Gift in Social Theory  
[Frank Adloff](#)  
University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany
- 11:30 – 13:00      From Elementary Forms of Gift and Ritual to Reciprocities of  
Constitutive Practice: Social Fact Making in Durkheim and  
Mauss  
[Anne Rawls](#)  
Bentley University, USA
- 14:30 – 16:00      Reversing the Essai sur le don's pareidolian interpretation  
[Mario Schmidt](#)  
Centre for Global Cooperation Research, Germany  
The Absent Gift of Performativity. Derrida's Social Theory of  
the Gift  
[Nicola Tams](#)  
University of Freiburg, Germany
- 16:15 – 17:45      The Vitality of Reciprocity: Money and the Gift on a  
Threefold Perspective  
[Arthur Bueno Oliveira](#)  
Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany/ University of São Paulo, Brazil  
  
Cooperation and Punishment among Heterogeneous Agents  
[Martin Schmidt](#)  
University of Göttingen, Germany



Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014

09:45 – 11:15      The Organization of trans-national giving: The United Jewish Appeal and the nationalization of American Jews

[Dan Lainer-Vos](#)

University of Southern California, USA

11:30 – 13:00      The Gift to the Distant Other in a Global World

[Elena Pulcini](#)

University of Florence, Italy

14:30 – 16:00      Transnational Care Arrangements

[Verena Rossow](#)

University of Applied Sciences Düsseldorf, Germany

Transnational Philanthropy and the (Re-)creation of  
National Ideologies

[Ildikó Zakariás](#)

Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary

16:15 – 17:45      The Ambivalence of Reciprocity: An Anthropological and Postcolonial Analysis of Volunteer Services in Development Cooperation

[Benjamin Haas](#)

Leiden University, Netherlands

Loans and Grants as Modalities of (Arab) Development Assistance in the Light of Theories of the Gift

[Inken Wiese](#)

University of Konstanz, Germany



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014

- 09:45 – 11:15      The Gift as Debt Cancellation  
[Grégoire Mallard](#)  
Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies,  
Switzerland
- 11:30 – 12:15      Relating Reciprocity and Asymmetry in Social Art Practice  
[Erik Hagoort](#)  
Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Belgium/ University of Antwerp, Belgium
- 14:30 – 16:00      The Gift  
[Jochen Gerz](#)
- 16:15 – 17:45      **Roundtable Discussion: Putting the Cards on the Table:  
Social and Political Implication of the Gift Paradigm**