

## Thursday, May 14

13.00 – 13.30 Arrival

13:30 – 14.00

**National emotions, global body practices:  
Introduction to the topic of the conference**

*Prof. Dr. Gabriele Klein (Hamburg, Germany)*

14.00 – 15.00

**Embodiment, body pedagogics and cultures of belonging**

*Prof. Dr. Chris Shilling (Kent, UK)*

15.00 – 16.00

**Sports, cyborgs and gender:  
The reinvention of the elite athlete**

*Prof. Dr. Anthony King (Exeter, UK)*

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 – 17.30

**Collective bodies and networks. Embodying  
imagined communities in sport**

*Prof. Dr. Thomas Alkemeyer (Oldenburg, Germany)*

17.30 – 18.30

**Spectacles between utopia and melancholia**

*Prof. Dr. Jens Giersdorf (New York, USA)*

## Friday, May 15

10.00 – 11.00

**Modern and postmodern emotions in  
European contemporary football**

*Dr. Albrecht Sonntag (Angers, France)*

11.00 – 12.00

**The invention of a Portuguese football style**

*Dr. José Neves / Rahul Kumar (Lissabon, Portugal)*

12.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.00

**The idea of the nation as body movement.  
Political practices in the processes of nation-  
building and nation destroying**

*Prof. Dr. Friedbert Rüb (Hamburg, Germany)*

15.00 – 16.00

**Thinking theoretically about nationalism**

*Prof. Dr. Umut Özkirimli (Istanbul, Turkey/  
London, UK)*

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 – 17.30

**The transnational nation**

*Prof. Dr. Inge Baxmann (Leipzig, Germany)*

17.30 – 18.30

**Martial Arts, Amok and Ethnicity in the  
Malayan World**

*Prof. Dr. Birgitt Röttger-Rössler (Berlin, Germany)*

## Saturday, May 16

9.30 – 10.30

**Being 'British'? Imagined, invented and 'real'  
experiences of Lions fans in New Zealand**

*Prof. Dr. Joseph Maguire (Leicestershire, UK)*

10.30 – 11.30

**Botineras: The feminization of Argentine foot-  
ball and the rise of seminal fraternity**

*Prof. Dr. Jeffrey Tobin (Los Angeles, USA)*

11.30 - 12.30 Coffee break

12.30 – 13.30

**The world cup on YouTube**

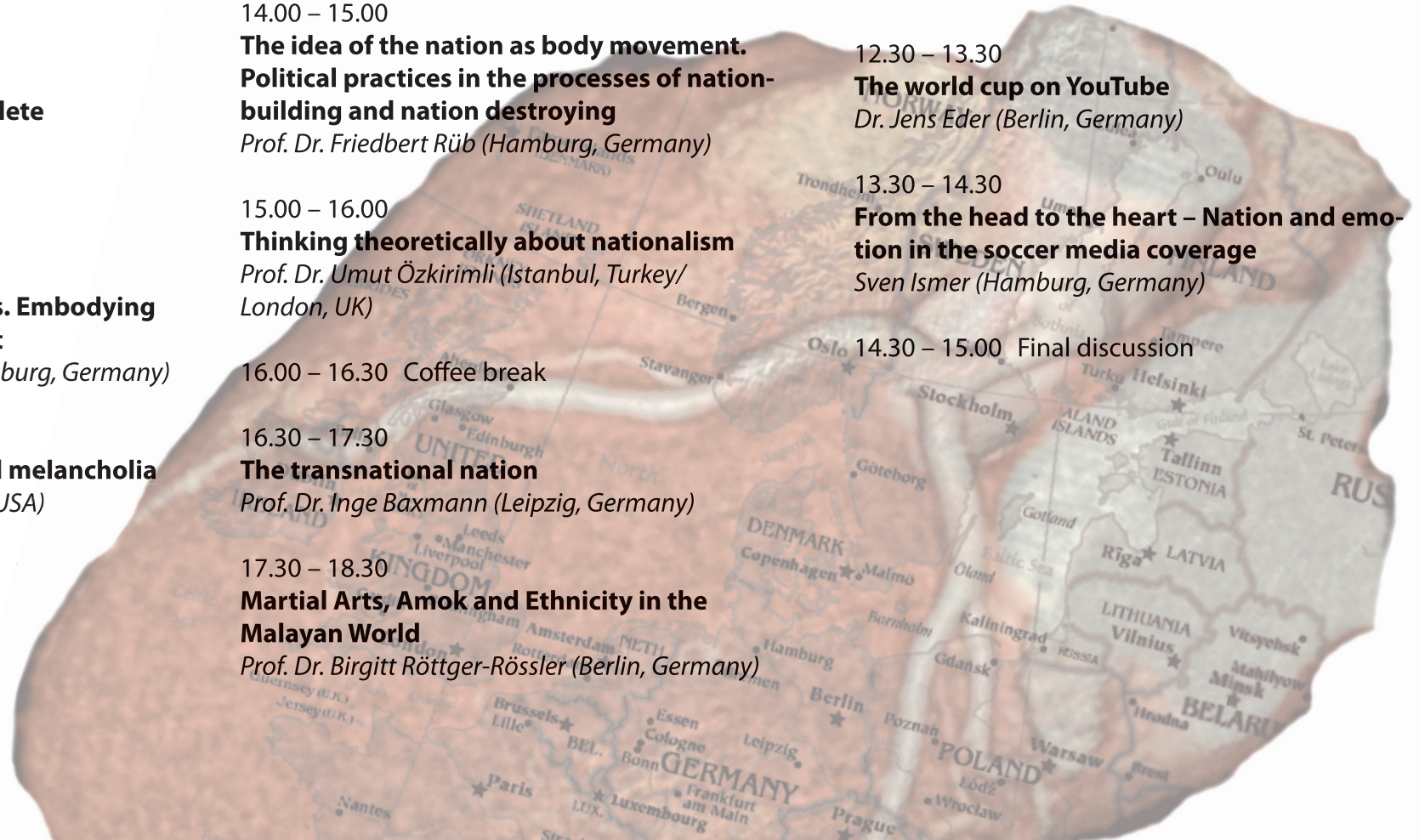
*Dr. Jens Eder (Berlin, Germany)*

13.30 – 14.30

**From the head to the heart – Nation and emo-  
tion in the soccer media coverage**

*Sven Ismer (Hamburg, Germany)*

14.30 – 15.00 Final discussion



## International Conference Embodying the Nation: Body, Culture and Collective Emotions

**Date:** May 14-16, 2009  
**Location:** Aby-Warburg Haus,  
Heilwigstraße 116, 20249 Hamburg  
**Organisation:** Gabriele Klein, Sandra Günter,  
Sven Ismer

The International Conference "Embodying the Nation: Body, Culture and Collective Emotions" will bring together contemporary approaches for cultural, political, social and movement studies as well as media studies and anthropology. The conference aim is to stimulate research by connecting the sociology of the body and the sociology of emotion with the research about nation and nationalism. By broaching the issue of the relationship between nations and the cultures of exercise, the central topic will circle around the significance of movement, sports and games for the evocation of national emotions, which actualise the nation as a social imagination (B. Anderson). Furthermore, the role that sport plays in the process of constructing national identity will be investigated.

The conference aim is to discuss the concept of a nation, which not only depends on being legitimated by laws and institutions. The goal is to develop a broader concept of nation by focusing on the performativity, especially with a focus on the social effectivity of body experience. Cultures of movement and sports are central in a process of "nation-building" in the sense that they are not only representing national identity and symbolism, but also create a bodily experienced emotion of belonging.

Another aspect of "Embodying the Nation" is added by the processes of globalisation and the changes to political systems similarly to those that have taken place in the last two decades throughout Europe. The transfer of political decision-making power to the European level in the context of globalisation is said to lead to a loss of meaning for the nation as an object of identification. Despite this loss, national excitement has been reconstructed through mass sporting events. Sport seems to be the last bastion of mobilising national emotions and the antipode to

globalisation. Sport (unlike dance) is establishing itself as an actual and symbolic domain in which national emotions can be evoked. Throughout the conference, a central question will be how nations are encoded as a collective body by revitalising and recoding the emotional make-up of collective identities. Ongoing processes of essentialising the 'imagined community' can be understood through analysing ritualised emotional stagings of national sport communities. The conference aims to open a broader debate about the multilayer relationship between nation, emotion, and body in relation to the globalisation-process. It ties in with the main areas of research in the department of human movement studies at the University of Hamburg and cooperates with the intercultural and interdisciplinary work within the centre for Performance Studies/ Hamburg. It will also be supported by the section "Sociology of the Body and of Sports" within the German Sociological Association (DGS). The conference is sponsored by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the German Association of Sociology (DGS).

**Further Information:**  
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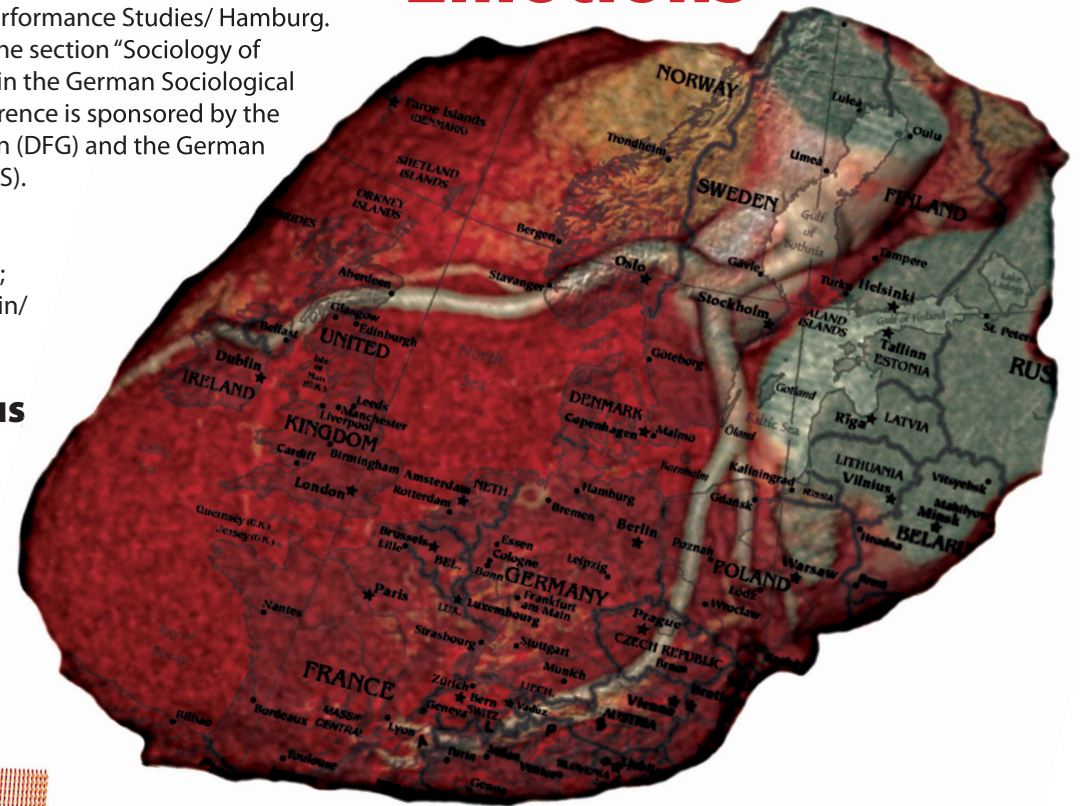
Performance Studies  
Universität Hamburg

Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft  
**DFG**

**UH**  
Universität Hamburg

DGS DEUTSCHE  
GESELLSCHAFT  
FÜR SOZIOLOGIE

# Embodying the Nation: Body, Culture and collective Emotions



**International Conference  
May 14-16, 2009**