



International Forum 2023
Un/thinking the “Crisis”: Knowledge, Art, Politics

Dates: November 6-17

Call for Papers Release: August 28, 2023.
Deadline for proposals: September 18, 2023.
Approval information: September 29, 2023.

Format: Online

Languages: French, English, and Spanish.

Proposal submissions: unthinkingthecrisis@gmail.com

Call for Panels

The Interdisciplinary Centre for Global South Studies at the University of Tübingen in cooperation with its partner universities invite scholars, activists, and artists to present their work at the International Forum 2023. This year, the Forum encourages epistemological, theoretical, artistic, and practice oriented interventions that explore various notions and dimensions of “crisis”.

In recent years the concept of “crisis” has been increasingly invoked in various debates and reflections across diverse disciplines to address a paradigm shift that not only questions the approach to study phenomena or the validity of regulating institutions, but also the self-critique we apply to interpretive frameworks themselves. Yet, it seems as if “crisis” is only ‘discovered’ and attains urgency when theorised from dominant perspectives. Bringing into dialogue temporal and scalar dimensions of “crisis” across different disciplines and geographies, the Forum seeks to “un/think the crisis” as a pivotal moment for reconsidering analytical categories, exposing new actors, and exploring novel ways of thinking about practices and knowledges of everyday living. In other words, beyond using the term “crisis” merely as an adjective applicable to economic, geopolitical, sociocultural, aesthetic or ecological matters, the Forum seeks contributions that address the contestation(s) within “crisis” that rearrange, establish, and ultimately sets in motion transformation(s).

“Crisis” lays bare pre-existing structures and redistributes practices and ways of acting in the commons. In major scholarships, the crisis has been seen in relation to the production of political violence (Mbembe and Roitman, 1995) and violence on imagination as concepts as of *afrodystopia* (Tonda, 2021) suggest. In this way, “crisis” provokes us to explore the vulnerability of humankind in various ways; but it is equally an opportunity to think in terms of possibilities of the pluriverse (Arturo Escobar, 2020) and the creation



of another culture of the arts (Ladagga, 2006). In this sense the Forum seeks to engage in dialogue with the propositions that have emerged in recent years to rethink relationships and the formation of subjectivities, communities and agencies, and invites proposals from across disciplines that address the “crisis” through questions such as:

- How is “crisis” experienced, explored and conceived from the Global South (for example, in relation to rapid urbanism, migration and mobility, or in ecological “crisis” and climate change, etc.)?
- What new actors, processes, concepts and perspectives have been imagined to propose new modes of action in relation to "crisis" (for example, rights of nature)?
- What have been the products, representations and artistic proposals emerging in relation to "crisis", both in their reflection on cultural institutions and in the proposal of new aesthetic paradigms?
- What subjectivities, affects, and ways of living are set in motion during times of “crisis”? How do these influence the formation of communities and patterns of socialization?
- How can we “un/think crisis” in terms of the socio-economic conflicts and power dynamics that have developed in contemporary societies (for example, war, conflict, rising costs of living)?
- How have disciplines articulated and, in turn, been rearticulated given the paradigm shift of “crisis”? What are the challenges and transformations emerging in and through possibilities of “un/thinking crisis”?

We invite scholars, practitioners, activists, and artists to submit their proposals, which should not exceed 400 words. The accepted languages are Spanish, English, or French.

Organizers: Bani Gill, Louis Nana, and Edivaldo González (all University of Tübingen)