

## VENUE

Festung Mark  
Hohefortewall 1  
39104 Magdeburg

## ORGANISER

Prof. Dr. Bettina Hitzer (OvGU Magdeburg)  
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Cover photograph:  
Nurses and Vietnamese refugee children, Operation Babylift-flight at San Francisco International Airport 1971, World History Archive/Alamy Stock Foto



Bereich Geschichte, Ethik und Theorie der Medizin



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8 - 10 January 2025

# POLITICS OF CHILD ADOPTION IN 20TH CENTURY

► International Conference ◀



Bereich Geschichte, Ethik und Theorie der Medizin  
Medizinische Fakultät  
Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg  
Institutsleiterin Prof. Dr. Bettina Hitzer  
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UNIVERSITÄTSMEDIZIN  
MAGDEBURG

# CONFERENCE

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025

2.00 pm Welcome and Introduction

### 2.30 pm Panel 1: Adoption and Welfare State Governance

Hege Beate Stein Helland (University of Bergen/Norway): *When the state decides: Adoptions from care in Norway and England*

Derek Kirton (University of Kent/UK): *The Politics of Adoption for Racially Minoritised Children in the UK: exploring the 20th century roots of ongoing controversy*

Commentator: Agnes Arndt (HAIT, Dresden)

4.30 pm Coffee break

5.00 pm Keynote Lecture

Iuliia Skubytska (Bard College/USA): *"Russian Mercy": Forced Adoptions of Ukrainian Children during the Russo-Ukrainian War*

7.00 pm Conference Dinner

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2025

### 9.00 am Panel 2: Adoption and (Post)Coloniality

Joanne Faulkner (Macquarie University, Sidney/Australia): *Adoption as apparatus of colonial governance: representing Aboriginal childhood on stolen land*

Raven Sinclair (George Gordon First Nation University/Canada): *Colonialism and the biopolitical underpinnings of the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit child removal systems in Canada, 1950-2024*

Commentator: Benedikt Stuchtley (Philipps University Marburg)

11.00 am Coffee break

### 11.30 pm Panel 3: Adoption and political repression and (post)warfare

Peter Anderson (University of Leeds/UK): *Adoption and civil war: Franco's Spain as a case of Mass Child Removal*

Barbara Klich-Kluczewska (Jagiellonian University Krakow/Poland): *Adoption Practices and the Orphan Crisis in Post-War Poland (1945-1949)*

Commentator: Frank Henschel (CAU Kiel)

1.30 pm Lunch

### 2.30 pm Panel 4: Importing Adoption, Exporting Children: Adoption in (Post-)Colonial Contexts

Yves Denéchère (Université d'Angers/France): *Illicit practices in international adoption in France (1960s-2000): What responsibilities?*

Simonella Tanguy-Domingos (CEPED/Université de Paris/France): *Children adoptions from Benin to France: historical influences, diplomacy and paradigmatic changes*

Commentator: Till Kössler (MLU Halle)

4.30 pm Coffee Break

### 5.30 pm Exhibition "Niños robados. Gestohlene Kinder. Stolen children" (Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung der SED-Diktatur, Berlin); engl./dt.

Introduction: Anna Kaminsky (Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung), Stadtbibliothek Magdeburg

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025

### 9.00 pm Panel 5: Taking Children: Political Interests and Illicit Networks

Gonda Van Steen (King's College, London/UK): *Cold War Stories: The Adoption of Greek Children in the United States, 1950-1960s*

Jessaca B. Leinaweaver (Brown University/USA): *The Adoption of Children from Peru in Spain*

Commentator: Susanne Quitmann (LMU Munich)

11.00 am Coffee Break

### 11.30 pm Panel 6: Care Meets Racism: South Koreans into Europe

Koo Young Eun (Harvard – Lund University/Sweden): *Modernizing the Care System and Liberal Social Work in Post-Liberation South Korea*

Tobias Hübinette (Karlstad University/Sweden): *2Race, Color-Blindness and International Adoption in Sweden*

Commentator: You Jae Lee (Eberhard Karls University Tübingen)

1.30 pm Lunch

2.30 pm Final Discussion / Conclusion

# PROGRAM