

Cross-Movement Alliances in the Global South and across the North-South divide
Special issue of « Moving the social »

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This special issue will focus on alliances and collaboration among progressive movements. The special issue results out of the conference cross-movement mobilization April 5-7, 2017 in Bochum, a joint cooperation between the Institute for Social Movements (ISB), Bochum, the Institute for Protest and Social Movement Research (IPB), Berlin, and the ISA's Research Committee on Social Classes and Social Movements (RC47).

The aim of this special issue is to empirically explore and further theorize the formation of alliances across social movements and organizations with different constituencies originating in the Global South. In moving away from single movement approaches literature has begun to shift its interest to the interactions that social movements have between each other and with other actors. This special issue aims at covering this topic from a wide range and scale, starting from cooperation at the local level, such as urban resistance in cities and communities, to cooperation on issues such as climate change, energy transition, the political economy, which focus on cross movement alliances in the global South, across the global South and the global North divide. While research is beginning to explore the topic of cross-movement alliances in Europe and the US e.g. from the perspective of increased opportunities, pooled resources, or shared grievances through capitalist crisis, cross-movement alliance formation originating in the global South remains largely unexplored. Yet there is increasing empirical evidence, e.g. on alliance formation between the trade union movement and other social movements, which suggests innovative strategies for collaboration, despite significant political, economic, social or cultural barriers. Thus, we seek contributions exploring the trajectories of alliance formation within countries of the South or across the North-South divide. Theoretically we are interested in integrated, theory bridging approaches and innovations, e.g. from gender studies and movements or theories from post-colonial or labour perspectives.

In specific we seek contributions which focus on

1. processes of alliance formation and cooperation: How and why are alliances emerging? What factors facilitate or hinder cross-movement mobilization?
2. "The dark side of cross-movement alliances". Inequalities, hierarchy, and power in cross-movement alliances: How do actors deal with ideological differences, with cultural images of 'others', and power struggles in cross-movement mobilization?
3. Synergies, trade-offs and unintended consequences of alliance formation processes: What negative effects can cooperation have e.g. on the constituencies or aims and organizational structures (e.g. cooptation)?
4. Boundary construction in alliance formation processes and mechanisms of exclusion (e.g. right wingers, people and organizations with different ideologies): Who is intentionally or unintentionally kept outside?
5. The breaking and de-construction of alliances: Why does cooperation end?
6. Cross-movement alliances as transformative encounters: what do activist learn from each other and how does it transform their perspectives? What kind of cross images are formed and what is the role of reflexivity in changing aims and perceptions of one's own movement and the potential allies?
7. Political implications of movement alliances: Why is it politically relevant

Submission Process and Deadlines

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All papers will be subjected to double-blind peer review for further instructions see

http://moving-the-social.ub.rub.de/index.php/Moving_the_social

Please contact us if you have any further inquires

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