



**Deutsch-Britische Gesellschaft  
München e.V.**

[www.dbg-munich.de](http://www.dbg-munich.de)

**Wednesday 13. March 2024  
19:00**

IBZ München

Amalienstr. 38

**THIS TALK WILL BE HELD IN ENGLISH**

## **Histories of colonial violence British and German. On comparisons, connections, and cooperations**

In both Britain and Germany, the last decade has witnessed growing public engagement with the history of colonial violence perpetrated in Asia and Africa. These debates have, however, addressed different concerns and remained largely disconnected from each other. When Britain and Germany are compared in this discourse, the comparison rarely goes beyond the repetition of old stereotypes. Based on new historical research into colonial violence in the British, German, and Dutch colonial empires around 1900, this presentation asks what we find if we examine the British and German empire side by side, focusing not only on comparison but also on connections and cooperations between the two.

**Tom Menger** is a historian of empire in the period between c. 1870 and 1914. Currently, he is a postdoctoral researcher at the Käte Hamburger Research Centre global dis:connect – LMU Munich. Tom acquired his PhD with a transimperial history of *fin-de-siècle* colonial violence and war (monograph forthcoming). This dissertation was awarded the 2023 Dissertation Prize of the German Association for British Studies. During his doctoral phase, Tom was associate PhD at Queen Mary University of London (2018). Recently, he has been working on the infrastructures of the early colonial oil industry and on a project that seeks to study imperial rule, violence and security beyond the dichotomy of ‘continental’ and ‘maritime’ empires.



**Tom Menger**

**Judd Kinzley** is a professor of modern Chinese history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and will be joining this talk as discussant.

Press links:

'Gewalt ohne Grund', 20 October 2021: <https://www.faz.net/aktuell/wissen/geist-soziales/deutscher-kolonialismus-in-ostafrika-gewalt-ohne-grund-17591499.html>

'Abdulrazak Gurnah and the afterlives of German colonialism', *Africa is a Country*, 13 January 2022, <https://africasacountry.com/2022/01/abdulrazak-gurnah-and-the-afterlives-of-german-colonialism-in-east-africa>.

„Ähnlichkeiten zwischen den Imperien waren groß“, *Einsichten. Das Forschungsmagazin*, 2022: <https://lmu-epaper.de/einsichten-2022-2/aehnlichkeiten-zwischen-den-imperien-waren-gross-unterhaltung-mit-historiker-tom-menger-ueber-koloniale-kriegsfuehrung-und-massive-gewaltaehnlichkeiten-zwischen-den-imperi/>