



Violence and Militancy from '68 to the G20

Nihon Room, Pembroke College, Cambridge | September 14, 2017

'Gewalt' and 'Militanz' have long played a critical role in the theory and practice of violence and counterviolence on the radical German Left. From the politics of the personal put forward by the 68ers to the recent riots in Hamburg after the July G20, leftists have for decades grappled with political violence and the militant politics of identity in terms of their own self-formation, practice, and political resistance.

This symposium, the final event in a DAAD-funded series of workshops entitled [*Herrschaft and Gewalt from the Kaiserreich to the Berlin Republic*](#), brings together international experts in the theory, history, psychology, and practice of Western militant violence, including: the Black Panthers, the 1970s and 80s anti-nuclear protests, the 1980s squatting wave in Germany and the Netherlands, and the urban terrorism of the Red Army Faction, as well as the intellectuals across Europe who participated in this wider network. The conversation will coalesce on the recent riots in Hamburg, applying a history and theory to understand the most recent shifts in political violence. Bringing together theory and practice, this session will open a space to critically discuss the evolution of this striking form of political contestation, and interrogate the idea of militancy as the uniting feature of leftwing violence. It will trace the political genealogy of the G20 riots, situating them within theoretical and historical approaches to leftwing violence and militancy since 1968 in both a German and a transnational context.

Speakers include:

Professor Kimberly Hutchings, Queen Mary University of London
'Does the Idea of Militant Non-Violence Make Sense?'

Dr Andrew Tompkins, Sheffield University
'Peaceful but offensive' protest: Varieties of Violence in the 1970s Anti-Nuclear Movement'

Dr Bart van der Steen, Leiden University
'In the shadow of the Red Army Faction: Debating the boundaries of militant activism in the 1980s'

Mr Gert Levy, Gestalttherapeut, Köln
'Militant leftwing-movements in Germany since 1962: From the Stones Concert in Berlin's Waldbühne to Hamburg's 2017 G20'

The event takes place on **14 September 2017** in the Nihon Room, Pembroke College, Cambridge, 9:30-17:00 (map: <https://goo.gl/Vnln0U>)

The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited to 50. Please register via email to Ms Ali Jones at: aj430@cam.ac.uk