



Workshop

„Participatory approaches in research ethics“

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Meeting

Network of Ethics Committees in Social Research (NEKS)

July 4-5, 2024, Munich, Germany

We are pleased to announce this year's summer workshop of the research and teaching unit for qualitative methodologies at the Department of Sociology, LMU Munich (Prof. Dr. Hella von Unger) at EineWeltHaus in Munich. This year's workshop is themed "Participatory Approaches in Research Ethics." We will explore how individuals, stakeholders, and communities can be involved in research ethics and ethics reviews. The starting point is a shift in perspective: research ethics is not solely the concern of researchers but also involves research participants as well as communities and societies, in which the research takes place. With these stakeholders, fundamentally different value and knowledge systems may enter into the ethical debate. The following speakers will stimulate our discussion:

- Sarah Banks (Professor of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University, UK): **“Negotiating the ethical space of participatory action research”**
- Tatjana Buklijas (Senior Research Fellow, Faculty of Arts, KOI TŪ/Centre for Informed Futures, New Zealand): **“Indigenous knowledge and values in research ethics and governance in Aotearoa New Zealand”**

Furthermore, participants of the workshop will have the opportunity to present selected works on the topic in short presentations and engage in dialogue and discussion in a World Café session. If you are interested in doing so, please describe your proposal for a brief presentation of a topic that may be discussed in depth in the World Café when registering. If you have any questions about the workshop, please contact Olaf Tietje (olaf.tietje@lmu.de).

The workshop will take place at **EineWeltHaus** (<https://www.einewelthaus.de>), SchwanthalerStrasse 80, Munich (close to the main train station), Thurs July 4, 2.30pm – 7pm and Friday July 5, 9.30 am-1pm. The working language is English.

Following the workshop, there will be a meeting of the newly established Network of Ethics Committees in Social Research (NEKS). Working language of the NEKS meeting will be German (and English as needed). For further information on NEKS please contact Hella von Unger (unger@lmu.de).

To register (for the workshop and/or the NEKS meeting): Please fill out the attached form(s) and send these to workshop@soziologie.uni-muenchen.de the latest **by April 30, 2024**.

Please note: In July 2024, the European Soccer Championship takes place in Munich, so please make your travel arrangements as early as possible.

Tentative Workshop Programme

Thurs July 4, 2024	2.30 pm	Registration and welcome coffee
	3 pm	Welcome and Introductions
	3.15 – 3.45 pm	Short presentations
	3.45 – 4.30 pm	World Café
	4.30 – 5.00 pm	Tea/Coffee break
	5.00 – 7.00 pm	Sarah Banks (UK): “Negotiating the ethical space of participatory action research” (abstract below) Lecture, small group work, discussion
Fri July 5, 2024	9.30 – 10 am	Morning tea/coffee
	10-11.30 am	Tatjana Buklijas (NZ): Indigenous knowledge and values in research ethics and governance in Aotearoa New Zealand” (abstract below) Lecture and discussion
	11.30 – 12	Tea/Coffee break
	12– 1pm	Closing discussion and final remarks
END OF WORKSHOP		
	1– 2pm	Lunch break

Treffen des Netzwerks Ethikkommissionen in der Sozialforschung (NEKS) Meeting of the Network of Ethics Committees in Social Research

Fr, 5. Juli, 2024, 2 - 5.30 pm, EineWeltHaus München

Vorschlag zur Tagesordnung / Agenda

1. Begrüßung (H. Reiter, D. Rottke, H. von Unger) / Welcome
2. Kurzvorstellung der Teilnehmenden, Kennenlernen /Getting to know each other
3. Austausch zu aktuellen Entwicklungen, Anliegen und Projekten // current developments, needs and projects
4. Aufbau des Netzwerks: Zielsetzung, Webseite, Logo, Mailingliste, Wahl der Sprecher:innen // Developing the network (aims, website, logo, mailinglist, electing speakers, etc)
5. Nächste Termine // dates
6. Verschiedenes // any other business

Further information on the workshop lectures:

Negotiating the ethical space of participatory action research

Sarah Banks, s.j.banks@durham.ac.uk

This session will examine the changing context for participatory action research (PAR) and the implications for ethical practice. PAR entails people with lived experience of the issue being researched playing an active role in designing and conducting the study, sometimes in partnership with academics or other 'professional' researchers, with the aim of bringing about positive change.

In many countries PAR is becoming popular, moving from the margins towards the mainstream. Its *action* orientation fits with research funders' concern for research impact (making a difference to real world issues); its *participatory* philosophy fits with agendas for public and citizen engagement; its valuing of *people with lived experience as co-researchers* chimes with the de-colonising imperative in higher education and public policy. At the same time the growth of digital technologies provides opportunities for extending the reach of PAR, with possibilities for global networks and inclusion of people previously not reached, while also excluding those without access to technology.

This context provides scope for the principles and practices of PAR to influence mainstream research agendas. Yet it also increases the threat of co-option and dilution of PAR as participatory methods and techniques are applied without being embedded in commitment to, and competence in, a more holistic and value-based PAR approach. This has always been a danger for PAR, but more so now as its popularity increases. We see tensions between means and ends; community control and co-option; liberation and protection; inclusion and exclusion. These are familiar and perennial ethical challenges, framed in the abstract, but how do we handle them now in our everyday practice? Are institutional ethics review processes a help or hindrance and how can we improve them?

Using real-life examples, this session will explore some of the everyday ethical challenges faced in PAR, examining the 'ethics work' undertaken by researchers as they strive to practise ethically and justify and reflect on their actions in context.

Sarah Banks is Professor in the Department of Sociology and co-founder of the Centre for Social Justice and Community Action at Durham University, UK. She teaches and researches in the fields of participatory action research, community development and social work. She has a particular interest in practical ethics and is co-editor of *Ethics in Participatory Research for Health and Social Well-being* (Routledge, 2019) and *Co-producing Research: A Community Development Approach* (Policy Press, 2019).

Indigenous knowledge and values in research ethics and governance in Aotearoa New Zealand

Tatjana Buklijas, Kristiann Allen, Anne Bardsley

Koi Tū: Centre for Informed Futures, University of Auckland/Waipapa Taumata Rau Aotearoa, New Zealand

While the institutionalization of (human participant) research ethics in New Zealand between the 1960s and 1980s followed the path similar to most Western countries, political developments from the 1970s onwards that reinvigorated the importance of the country's founding document, the Treaty of Waitangi – which formalized the relationship between the indigenous people, Māori, and the British Crown – have deeply informed research policies, governance, and research ethics in the country. The new attention to the “Treaty principles” has meant an increased expectation that public funds – including research funding - will be used in ways that address inequalities affecting Māori; and, also, that the research will be conducted in a way that responds to the needs and aspirations of Māori communities, while respecting their cultural traditions and values. This includes an ontological focus on collective impacts of research, in addition to the conventional research ethics protection of individual autonomy.

In this talk I will describe the development of indigenously-informed human research ethics in New Zealand. I will present brief case studies focusing on social research, discuss current open issues, and demonstrate ethics research manuals and forms currently in use at the University of Auckland, as well as the evolution of requirements by national public research funders. Finally I will argue that for all the specificities of former settler colonies with Indigenous peoples, there are universal lessons to be learnt for researchers and research systems internationally who are working with diverse communities.

Tatjana Buklijas (MD Zagreb PhD Cambridge) is a history of science & STS scholar with a longstanding interest in human participation in research, from her [early work on anatomy in Vienna](#) to the ongoing book project on a [landmark New Zealand clinical trial](#). More recently, with Koi Tū team at the University of Auckland as well as community (including indigenous) collaborators she has been researching community participation in public decision-making around complex issues involving science and technology. For more information see here: <https://www.complexconversations.nz/>.

Further information on the research and teaching unit for qualitative methodologies at the Department of Sociology, LMU Munich:

<https://www.en.qualitative-sozialforschung.soziologie.uni-muenchen.de/index.html> (EN)

<https://www.qualitative-sozialforschung.soziologie.uni-muenchen.de/aktuelles/index.html> (DE)