“Mapping and Politics in the Digital Age”

Author’s Workshop

08th and 09th January 2018, Duisburg, Germany

Centre for Global Cooperation Research, Schifferstr. 196, 47059 Duisburg

About the workshop

The project is about rethinking mapping and politics in the contemporary digital era. Thus mapping is not narrowly constructed as cartography. We use mapping as a way of knowing/seeing the world mapping as ‘politics’, ‘biopolitics’ and ‘ontopolitics’. How do humans map? We aim to develop a broad heuristic division of mapping a little like this (as a sort of structure that people in the book might engage with in different ways):

Mapping 1: Modernist mapping what we are calling the world of politics - this was a process of putting things in separate boxes, in the grid of empty two-dimensional space, the world of linear causality. Different things can be mapped and counter-mapped.

Mapping 2: Mapping biopolitically here mapping becomes more specialised and contested - Mapping no longer expresses a universalising, ‘God’s eye’ gaze, but situated forms of contextual knowledge.

Mapping 3: Mapping ontopolitically here mapping is a process of world-making, creating a fuller world rather than flattening it out. Perhaps this can also be mapping of relational differences to see correlations in word searches, pixels, etc. seeing things through other things as in digital humanitarianism or other sensing technologies.

We are really just thinking through these issues and grey areas between them just to see if it is possible or useful even to rethink mapping and politics a little.

Programme

Monday, 08th January 2018

09:30-10:00 Arrival and coffee

10:00-11:30 Welcoming and Conceptual Remarks. Recap of the work so far

Introduction: Mapping and Politics in the Digital Age (Pol Bargués-Pedreny, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, David Chandler, University of Westminster, and Elena Simon, Centre for Global Cooperation Research)

11:30-11:45 Coffee break
11:45-13:30  First session: Mapping and Politics  
Chair: Anna Feigenbaum 

Presentation I: On the epistemology of maps and mapping (Luis Lobo-Guerrero, University of Groningen) 

Presentation II: Mapping Modernity: Mercator Revisited: a synthesis of Heaven and Earth (Inge Panneels, University of Sunderland) 

13:30-14:15  Lunch break 

14:15-16:00  Second session: Mapping and Biopolitics 1  
Chair: Christian Scheper 

Presentation I: From the cartographic gaze to contestatory cartographies (Anna Feigenbaum, Bournemouth University, and Doug Specht University of Westminster) 

16:00-16:15  Coffee break 

16:15-18:00  Third session: Mapping and Biopolitics 2  
Chair: Doug Specht 

Presentation I: Mapping epidemics: Performativity, risk and geopolitics (Adam Ferhani, University of Sheffield, and Gregory Stiles, University of Sheffield) 

Presentation II: Remapping the urban: A non-place for Islam in Istanbul (Ayse Cavdar, University of Duisburg-Essen) 

19:00  Dinner at Palazzo, Königstr. 39, 47051 Duisburg, Germany 

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Tuesday, 09th January 2018 

Venue: Centre for Global Cooperation Research, Schifferstr. 196, 47059 Duisburg 

09:30-10:00  Arrival and coffee  
10:00-11:45  Fourth session: Mapping and Ontopolitics 1  
Chair: Gregory Stiles 

Presentation I: Mapping the virtual: The rise of digital humanitarianism (David Chandler, University of Westminster) 

Presentation II: About terms and conditions: Mapping in the technosphere (Harshavardhan Bhat, University of Westminster) 

11:45-12:00  Coffee break
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Chair/Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00-13:15</td>
<td>Fifth session: Mapping and Ontopolitics 2</td>
<td>Chair: Inge Panneels</td>
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<td>Presentation I: Travelling with maps after</td>
<td>(Pol Bargués-Pedreny, University of Duisburg-</td>
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<td>cartography critiques (Pol Bargués-Pedreny,</td>
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<td>13:15-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
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<td>14:00-15:30</td>
<td>Sixth session: Clarifying the framework</td>
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<td>(Clive Barnett, University of Exeter)</td>
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<td>15:30-16:00</td>
<td>Wrap up</td>
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<td>16:00</td>
<td>End of Workshop</td>
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List of participants:

Pol Bargués-Pedrety, is a post-doc research fellow at Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Spain). polbargues@gmail.com

Clive Barnett, is Professor of Geography and Social Theory at the University of Exeter. C.Barnett@exeter.ac.uk

Harshavardhan Bhat is a PhD Researcher with the Monsoon Assemblages Project at the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment at the University of Westminster. h.bhat@my.westminster.ac.uk

Ayse Cavdar is a journalist and post-doctoral research fellow at the Centre for Global Cooperation Research in Duisburg. cavdar@gcr21.uni-due.de

David Chandler is Professor of International Relations and Director of the Centre for the Study of Democracy at Westminster University. d.chandler@wmin.ac.uk

Anna Feigenbaum is a Principal Academic in Digital Storytelling at Bournemouth University where she runs the Civic Media Hub and BU Datalabs project. afeigenbaum@bournemouth.ac.uk

Adam Ferhani is a doctoral researcher in the Department of Politics at the University of Sheffield. His research interests include global health and critical security studies. ajferhani1@sheffield.ac.uk

Luis Lobo-Guerrero is Professor of History and Theory of International Relations at the University of Groningen. l.e.lobo-guerrero@rug.nl

Inge Panneels is an artist and Senior Lecturer at the University of Sunderland. Her work explores notions of space using glass as a preferred medium for place-making projects. inge.panneels@sunderland.ac.uk

Christian Scheper is a senior researcher at the Institute for Development and Peace at the University of Duisburg-Essen. cscheper@inef.uni-due.de

Elena Simon is a research assistant at the Centre for Global Cooperation Research in Duisburg. simon@gcr21.uni-due.de

Doug Specht is a Lecturer at the Communication and Media Research Institute, within the University of Westminster. d.specht@westminster.ac.uk

Gregory Stiles is a doctoral researcher in the Department of Politics at the University of Sheffield. g.stiles@sheffield.ac.uk