Trapped in Paradise

entangled lives and uncertain futures in tourist towns

Workshop June 3-4, 2021

Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern (online)



This workshop looks at small places whose position in a globalized world is predominantly mediated through tourism and migration. We are interested in places that have become desirable destinations for short- or long-term stays, leading to all types of uneven mobilities and appearing ever more like enclaves – on the one hand isolated and on the other connected to global networks. In short, we are interested in what it means to live and work in a place where others spend their holidays.

CONVENERS: Janine Dahinden (NCCR on the move/University of Neuchâtel), Annika Lems (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology Halle, Independent Research Group), Valerio Simoni (Graduate Institute Geneva), Sabine Strasser (University of Bern, Institute of Social Anthropology)

Thursday 3rd June

16:30-18:00 (CET)

Public Keynote: Valerio Simoni, Graduate Institute Geneva

Enacting the good life and getting stuck: Moral economies and articulations of value in touristic Viñales, Cuba

Response: Frances Pine, Goldsmiths University of London

Join Zoom Meeting: https://unibe-ch.zoom.us/j/64723035601?pwd=RnUrZUdZMTRGdnV0eElHc3ZWZnFOQT09

Friday 4th June

10:00-12:00

Panel 1, Europe and peripheries:

Tourism in the Faroe Islands: Exploration of an (un)contested mobility Emmanuel Charmillot/Oliver Pederson, University of Neuchâtel

Halfeti an underwater Paradise: A reconstruction of the past through presences and absences Annelies Kuypers, University of Zurich

Crisis, uncertainty and future-making in a thriving touristic resort Danaé Leitenberg, University of Bern

Discussant: Annika Lems, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

13:00-14:30

Panel 2, Americas:

The multi-headed hydra on the Point Paul Reade, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

Meeting 'others' on equal footing? Affective encounters in Havana's pre-covid salsa tourism Joanna Menet, University of Neuchâtel

Discussant: Janine Dahinden, University of Neuchâtel

15:00-16:00

General discussion, conclusion, and future collaboration: Sabine Strasser, University of Bern

