

Francia. Forschungen zur westeuropäischen Geschichte

Herausgegeben vom Deutschen Historischen Institut Paris

(Institut historique allemand)

Band 48 (2021)

Thomas Maissen

**Preface to the Focus on »The Bureaucratization of
African Societies«**

DOI: 10.11588/fr.2021.1.93946

Rechtshinweis

Bitte beachten Sie, dass das Digitalisat urheberrechtlich geschützt ist. Erlaubt ist aber das Lesen, das Ausdrucken des Textes, das Herunterladen, das Speichern der Daten auf einem eigenen Datenträger soweit die vorgenannten Handlungen ausschließlich zu privaten und nicht-kommerziellen Zwecken erfolgen. Eine darüber hinausgehende unerlaubte Verwendung, Reproduktion oder Weitergabe einzelner Inhalte oder Bilder können sowohl zivil- als auch strafrechtlich verfolgt werden.

THE BUREAUCRATIZATION OF AFRICAN SOCIETIES EVERYDAY PRACTICES AND PROCESSES OF NEGOTIATION

Edited by Susann Baller

Translation and copy editing: Paul Reeve

This publication was prepared within the Transnational Research Group
»The Bureaucratization of African Societies« funded by the
Max Weber Foundation, the German Historical Institute Paris (GHIP)
and the Centre de recherches sur les politiques sociales (CREPOS).

THOMAS MAISSEN

PREFACE TO THE FOCUS ON »THE BUREAUCRATIZATION OF AFRICAN SOCIETIES«

This Francia Focus assembles contributions from current and former fellows of the Transnational Research Group (TRG) »The Bureaucratization of African Societies«. In 2017, the TRG was established in Dakar (Senegal) by the German Historical Institute Paris (GHIP) and the Centre de recherches sur les politiques sociales (CREPOS), a Senegalese research structure in the social sciences and humanities. During its five-year term, the TRG was entirely funded by the Max Weber Foundation, the umbrella organisation of the GHIP and nine other German institutes abroad. The Foundation finances its activities almost exclusively through annual contributions from the German Federal Government, made available by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The cooperation between GHIP and CREPOS started in 2015. Séverine Awenengo Dalberto coordinated a preliminary project with two postdocs and two graduates studying aspects of »Identity, Identification, and Bureaucratization in Africa«. In 2017, Susann Baller became the director of the newly established TRG, into which the ongoing individual research projects were integrated. This unique research programme offered fellowships of three to four years to a total of seven postdocs and nine doctoral students from different African and European countries. In 2021, one of the TRG's first postdocs, Amadou Dramé, became its director for the last year of its funding, after Susann Baller was appointed as one of the two directors of the Merian Institute for Advanced Studies (MIASA) at the University of Ghana in Accra. MIASA is another collaborative project financed by the BMBF and supported by a German consortium including the GHIP.

The TRG has been made possible and was accompanied by an international steering committee since its beginnings. The committee consists of scholars from a network of partner institutions, namely Thomas Maissen (GHIP), Ibrahima Thioub (Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar), Alfred Inis Ndiaye and Ndiouga Adrien Benga (CREPOS), Andreas Eckert (Humboldt-Universität, Berlin), Mamadou Diawara (Programme Point Sud/Goethe-Universität Frank-

furt a. M.), Béatrice Hibou and Laurent Fourchard (Sciences Po, Paris), Jean-François Bayart (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva), Séverine Awenengo Dalberto (CNRS-IMAF), and Susann Baller (GHIP-CREPOS). The steering committee supported the TRG in its strategic orientation and the selection of its fellows.

The TRG's international and interdisciplinary research programme integrates a broad spectrum of disciplines and themes within the social sciences and humanities, as can be seen in the list of the TRG members and their projects found at the end of this preface. The regular lectures, conferences, workshops, and seminars became part of the academic landscape, especially at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar. The TRG increased international academic exchange and global knowledge production among equal partners in the global South and North. Seminars brought guests from more than twenty countries to Dakar. TRG members themselves travelled to at least as many countries to do archival or field research and to participate in conferences. In the years 2017 to 2019, the TRG organized summer schools in Paris, Berlin, and Bamako.

For this Focus, Francia invited all former and current members of the TRG to submit a proposal for an article about their research on different aspects of bureaucratization in Africa. The selected papers all went through a two-phase peer-review process. Regardless of the challenges caused by the COVID-19 crisis, discussing these papers – albeit virtually – made for exciting exchanges, and deepened the involvement of the members of the TRG in this joint endeavour even further. Over the course of the TRG's funding term, in addition to the ten selected contributions, a number of fellows successfully completed the research they started within the research group. Kelma Manatouma defended his Ph.D. thesis in summer 2020. Johara Berriane and Peter Lambertz obtained prestigious academic positions. We are looking forward to the outcomes of all the research projects that the remaining members of the TRG GHIP-CREPOS pursued in Dakar between 2015 and 2021.

Paris, March 2021

Funded Projects, 2015–2021

Postdocs

Dr Johara BERRIANE: »Identités de papier et bureaucratisation du ›croire‹ entre le Maroc et le Sénégal« (2015–2018)

Dr Laure CARBONNEL: »La bureaucratisation des pratiques festives et culturelles au Mali« (2018–2021)

Dr Lamine DOUMBIA: »Le foncier et la bureaucratisation au Mali – Mimer et hybrider les logiques« (2016–2020)

Dr Amadou DRAMÉ: »L'islam dans la politique sécuritaire de la France en Afrique de l'Ouest: identifier, contrôler et surveiller les lettrés musulmans, 1906–1962« (2015–2022)

Dr Elieth EYEBIYI: »The Bureaucratization of Informality. The Temporalities of Benin-Nigeria Cross Border Fuel Smuggling« (2018–2021)

Dr Peter LAMBERTZ: »Ledgers, Ethics and Logistics. Transportation and Bureaucratic Technologies on the Congo River« (2017–2018)

Dr Martin MOURRE: »Les anciens combattants au Sénégal. Une histoire des pratiques et de l'imaginaire bureaucratique militaire, 1945–1975« (2017–2020)

Doctoral students

Abdoul Aziz DIAGNE (Université Cheikh Anta Diop): »Les points de traite sur le fleuve Gambie et les pratiques bureaucratiques du XVI^e à la fin du XVIII^e siècle« (2018–2021)

Kamina DIALLO (Science Po Paris): »Fabriquer des ›ex‹-rebelles en Côte d'Ivoire. Analyse comparée de la construction locale des identités et des carrières d'ex-combattants en contexte post-conflit« (2017–2020)

Koly FALL (Université Cheikh Anta Diop): »Pratiques et dynamiques de solidarité dans les organisations communautaires en milieu rural. Études de cas à Adéane et à Coubanao« (2018–2021)

Ulrike LUTTENBERGER (Université de Leipzig): »La bureaucratisation dans la musique populaire sénégalaise« (2019–2022)

Kelma MANATOUA (Université Paris X–Nanterre): »Identifier les individus au Tchad: politiques et pratiques des papiers d'identité (Njamena et Goré)« (2015–2018)

Bintou Mbaye DIENG (Université Cheikh Anta Diop): »L'identification des captifs dans le contexte de l'abolition de l'esclavage. Procédures et pratiques à Saint-Louis et Gorée, 1848–1905« (2015–2018)

Modou NIANG (Université Gaston Berger Saint Louis): »Le fonctionnement des organisations paysannes dans le Delta du fleuve Sénégal: entre tendances bureaucratiques et logiques traditionnelles« (2017–2020)

Cecilia PASSANTI (Université Paris Descartes): »Quand les technologies rentrent en politique. Expertises, savoirs et contestations au tour des technologies électorales au Kenya et au Sénégal« (2018–2021)

Aissatou SECK (Université Cheikh Anta Diop): »La bureaucratie sanitaire et les endémio-épidémies en Afrique de l'Ouest, Sénégal, 1850–1970« (2019–2022)