



photo: Martin Gaenzle

Lecture | **Monday 16 January 2017, 18:00 s.t.**

*China's Many Tibets: Political Integration and Pockets of Resistance*

Ben Hillman | Crawford School of Public Policy, College of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University, Canberra

Department for South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies  
Spitalgasse 2, Hof 2, Entrance 2.1 (South Asian Studies), Seminar Room 3

Workshop | **Wednesday 18 January 2017, 10:00–16:00**

*Himalayan Borderlands in Transition*

with contributions by: Filippo Brambilla, Jürgen David, Martin Gaenzle, Ben Hillman, Reinier Langelaar, Wolfram Schaffer, Mélanie Vandenhelsken, Guntram Hazod, Ute Wallenböck, and Susanne Weigelin-Schwiedrzik

Department for South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies  
Spitalgasse 2, Hof 2, Entrance 2.7 (Tibetan and Buddhist Studies), Seminar Room 1

<http://www.univie.ac.at/cirdis>

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*China's Many Tibets: Political Integration and Pockets of Resistance*

In 2008 a wave of political unrest broke out across Tibetan regions in China. Characterized by street protests, inter-communal violence, and, later, by self-immolations, the political unrest was the most widespread since the annexation of Tibetan areas in the first decade of the People's Republic of China. A notable characteristic of the recent wave of protest and conflict has been its spread from central Tibet to the eastern parts of the plateau. And yet, although unrest spread far and wide, not all areas were affected. This seminar draws on recent fieldwork in eastern Tibet to explain why have some Tibetan localities mobilized politically while others have not. Findings challenge previous scholarship on this subject, and shed light on political developments in Tibetan areas, including the dynamics of integration, state-society relations, the efficacy of China's nation-building project, and the prospects for further unrest.

**Dr. Ben Hillman** is a comparative political scientist who specializes in ethnic politics and policies in China and Asia. He has worked as an advisor to Governments and the United Nations on peace building and post-conflict governance strategies. His book *Patronage and Power: Local State Networks and Party-state Resilience in Rural China* (Stanford University Press, 2014) examines local political institutions and decision-making in China's ethnically diverse western regions. He is co-editor (with Gray Tuttle) of *Ethnic Protest and Conflict in Tibet and Xinjiang: Unrest in China's West* (Columbia University Press, 2016). Dr. Hillman's current research investigates political mobilization in China's Tibetan areas.