Workshop description

Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (TRCs) for indigenous people have become widespread in recent years. Canada’s TRC has already ended, Greenland’s and Norway’s TRC processes are ongoing, Finland just decided to set up a TRC, and in Sweden there is increasing pressure to do so. Underlying the decisions to establish TRCs is the recognition that past injustices have shaped the present in so far unacknowledged and under-researched ways and have sometimes hardened into enduring and structural injustices that need to be addressed.

The workshop seeks to explore the connections between TRCs and enduring injustices. It will cover different forms of enduring injustice and ask how addressing them through a TRC differs from addressing them within other frameworks for dealing with structural and historic injustice. It also highlights potential points of conflict between TRCs and the aim of addressing enduring injustices. Lastly, the workshop is meant to explore avenues for future research as more TRCs for indigenous peoples are taking up their work.

The workshop is sponsored by the Society for Applied Philosophy and the Globalizing Minority Rights Project at UiT.
Program

Enduring Injustices and Truth and Reconciliation Commissions for Indigenous Peoples

Monday, 21.10.2019
Room: Krognessveien 33 (Musikkonservatoriet): A.1.002, Tromsø
09:15-10:00 Opening address by Liss-Elene Ramstad, Leader of the Norwegian Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s secretariat
10:00-10:15 Coffee Break
10:15-11:45 Enduring injustices and the health system
Anne Silviken and Elisabeth Gerhardsen: Consequences of historical trauma on mental health in the Sami population
Gunn-Tove Minde: Accommodating Sami culture and beliefs in the health system
Moderator: Øyvind Stokke
11:45 - 13:15 Lunch break
13:15-14:45 How to address historic and enduring injustices
Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen: Compensatory affirmative action and apologies for historical injustices
Luks Meyer: Limits to and Ways of Superseding Claims Owing to Historical Injustices
Moderator: Kerstin Reibold
14:45-15:00 Coffee Break
15:00-16:30 TRCs and the problem of structural injustices
Patrik Lantto: Great need, but lacking knowledge: Thoughts on a Sami truth and reconciliation commission in Sweden
Laila Susanne Vars: TBD
Moderator: Andreas Føllesdal
17:00-18:00 Guided tour of the Sami exhibition at Tromsø museum

Tuesday, 22.10.2019
Room: Nedre lysthus (Centre for Peace Studies): 06, Tromsø
9:00-10:30 TRCs and public discourse
Kerstin Reibold: Who needs to tell the truth? Willful ignorance, epistemic exploitation, and trust
Øyvind Stokke: Irreparable losses and the political culture of memory
Moderator: Nadim Khoury
10:30-10:45 Coffee break
10:45-12:15: Emotions and Reconciliation
Thomas Brudholm: Before Reconciliation
Michael Schefczyk: Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and the Reconciliation Sequence
Moderator: Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen
12:15-13:30 Lunch break
13:30 – 15:00 Comparative perspectives on reconciliation processes
Astrid Nonbo Andersen: Memory and Reconciliation in Greenland
Nadim Khoury: Transitional justice in Palestine/Israel
Moderator: Annamari Vitikainen
15:00-15:30 Coffee break
15:30-17:00 Roundtable: What does reconciliation mean in Norway?
Jens Ivar Nergård, Anje Somby, Niklas Labba, and Anne-Julie Semb
Moderator: Andreas Føllesdal
17:00-17:15 Closing remarks

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Practicalities

Enduring Injustices and Truth and Reconciliation Commissions for Indigenous Peoples

Arriving from outside Tromsø

There is an airport bus between the airport and the town centre; it has its final stop at the Scandic Ishavshotel. Look for buses named “Flybuss” (Link: https://www.bussring.no/airport-express/). You can buy tickets directly from the driver.

Monday, 21.10.2019

Room: Krognessveien 33 (Musikkonservatoriet): A.1.002
Take bus no.37 from Sjøgata S4 to Musikkonservatoriet. You can check bus times and the map on https://www.tromskortet.no/?lang=en_GB
Then follow this map:

Tuesday, 22.10.2019

Room: Nedre lysthus (Centre for Peace Studies): 06
Take bus no.20 from Fredrik Langes Gate F4 to UiT. You can check bus times and the map on https://www.tromskortet.no/?lang=en_GB
Then follow this map:

Do not hesitate to get in touch if you want to register or have any questions:
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