

DR MARTINA KOPF

Address: Department of African Studies
Spitalgasse 2/Hof 5
1090 Wien

Email: martina.kopf@univie.ac.at
Phone: +43-1-4277 43206

Birth date 4 November 1970

Nationality: Austria

RESEARCH AREAS

- Kenyan literature in English
- Feminist theory and African women's writing
- Literary discourses on development and humanitarian aid
- Literatures of the genocide in Rwanda
- Fiction and narrative in transdisciplinary research
- Africa in British and French 20th century colonial literature
- Memories of violence and ethics of representation

TEACHING AREAS

- General theory and criticism of African literatures
- Literary history of Africa
- African language literature in translation
- Writing and publishing contexts in contemporary East and West Africa
- Literatures of 20th century colonialism in Africa
- Post-independence canon of Anglophone and Francophone African literature
- Afro-feminist and postcolonial feminist thought
- Narrative and discourse studies in the social sciences
- Postcolonialism and development

ACADEMIC CAREER

Since 2021	Senior Lecturer in African Literatures, University of Vienna (tenured).
07/2017 – 02/2022	Elise Richter Senior Postdoc Position funded by the Austrian Science Funds (FWF) at the Department of African Studies, University of Vienna Project title: <i>Concepts of Development in Postcolonial Kenyan Literature</i> .
WS 2016 – SS 2017	Senior Lecturer in African Literatures, University of Vienna.
WS 2015 – SS 2016	Lecturer at the Department of African Studies and at the Department of Development Studies, University of Vienna.
SS 2015	Visiting Professor, Department of Development Studies, University of Vienna.
WS 2012 – SS 2014	Lecturer, Department of African Studies and Department of Development Studies, University of Vienna.
2009 – 2012	Post-doc position (full time) funded by the Austrian Science Funds at the Department of African Studies, University of Vienna. Project title: <i>Colonial Concepts of Development in Africa, 1920-1960</i> .
1998 – 2004	Lecturer, University of Vienna, Department of African Studies.

FELLOWSHIPS AND FIELD RESEARCH

01-02 2020	Visiting Scholar at the Department of Literature, University of Nairobi.
11/12 2018	Library research at the British Institute of Eastern Africa (BIEA), Nairobi.
09/2017	Research fellow at the Department of New Anglophone Literatures and Cultures (NELK), Institute of English and American Studies (IEAS), Goethe University Frankfurt.
09/2015	Fellow at the Käte Hamburger Kolleg/Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University of Duisburg-Essen. Project title: <i>Developing Africa in Colonial and Postcolonial Imaginations</i> .
04/2014 – 02/2015	Fellow at the Käte Hamburger Kolleg/Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University of Duisburg-Essen. Project title: <i>Developing Africa in Colonial and Postcolonial Imaginations</i> .
02/03 2011	Archival research at the Archives Nationales de Sénégal, Dakar (6 weeks).
02 and 09/2010	Library research in the British Library/London (6 weeks).
09/2009 and 06/2010	Library research at the Bibliothèque Nationale Française, Paris (5 weeks).
01-04 2008	Freelance journalist in Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa (3 months).
11/2007	Invited press visit on fairtrade cotton production in Senegal (1 week).
05/2006	Invited press visit to AWEPA – Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa Conference in Cape Town / South Africa (1 week).

NON-ACADEMIC CAREER

2004 – 2009	Managing editor for the Africa section of the Austrian print magazine <i>Südwind – Magazin für Internationale Politik, Kultur und Entwicklung</i> .
2002 – 2003	Sabbatical for doctoral research.
1998 – 2002	Financial manager of the publishing company <i>Milena Verlag</i> , Vienna.

EDUCATION

2013 – 2014	Mentoring Program ‚muv6‘ for Women Academics and Scientists, University of Vienna.
1998 – 2004	<p>Doctoral Studies (PhD) at the University of Vienna, Department of African Studies and Department of Romance Studies.</p> <p>Dissertation: Healing narratives? Trauma, narration and memory in the writing of Assia Djebar and Yvonne Vera (published with Brandes & Apsel, 2005) Degree conferred 17.05.2004.</p>
1989 – 1997	<p>Undergraduate and Graduate Studies (Diplomstudium), University of Vienna. African Studies / Gender Studies / Development Studies / Global History Diploma thesis: Geh, kehre wieder und erinnere dich: Schwellen zwischen Literatur und Geschichte (published with Turia & Kant, 1998).</p>
WS 1993 – SS 1994	Erasmus program in Political Science at the <i>Dipartimento di Studi e Ricerche su Africa e Paesi Arabi, L'Orientale</i> , University of Naples, Italy.
1991 – 1993	Students' representative at the Department of African Studies, University of Vienna.
1988 – 1989	Voluntary year of social service, Elderly Homecare Services of the Innsbruck City Government, Austria.

SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE

Since 2019	Member of the International Advisory Board of <i>LIFT – The Journal of Literature and Performing Arts</i> .
Since 2009	Member of the editorial board of <i>Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies</i> .
To present	Referee reader for <i>Journal of African Cultural Studies</i> , <i>Tydskrif vir Letterkunde</i> , <i>African Identities</i> , <i>JEP – Journal of Development Studies</i> , <i>Polylog – Zeitschrift für Interkulturelles Philosophieren</i> , <i>Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism</i> , <i>Liverpool University Press</i> , <i>Galda Verlag</i> , <i>Peter Lang – International Academic Publishers</i>
1998 – 2004	Board member of <i>Milena Verlag – Verein zur Förderung der Literatur und Wissenschaft von Frauen</i> [Association for the promotion of women writers and academics].
1995 – 1997	Founding member and board member of <i>fora – Forum for feminist African Studies</i> , University of Vienna.

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION AND WORKSHOPS

- 2022 *Afrika – Bilder, Diskurse, Stereotypen: Zur Selbst- und Fremdrepräsentation eines Kontinents* („Africa – images, discourses, stereotypes: on self and foreign representations of a continent“)
Lecture series at the University of Salzburg, Austria, Centre for Intercultural Theology and Study of Religions
Convened by Univ. Prof. Franz Gmainer Pranzl and Martina Kopf
- 2022 *Current Trends, Uncommon Paths: Decolonising the Academia through Feminism*
International Workshop convened by Martina Kopf and Lisa Tackie, University of Vienna, Department of African Studies
- 2019 *Fictions of Development*
Panel at the 18th Triennial Conference of the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (ACLALS)
University of Auckland, New Zealand.
- 2019 *Teaching Feminism, Anti-Racism and Decoloniality in Austria: Workshop with Chandra Talpade Mohanty.*
Convened by Judith Ehlert, Alexandra Heis, Martina Kopf and Brigitte Fuchs.
University of Vienna, Department of African Studies.
- 2018 *Encountering Development in Postcolonial Fiction.*
International Workshop. University of Vienna, Department of African Studies.
- 2017 *Workshop on Strategies for the Promotion of African Language Literature.*
Including keynote lecture and public reading by Univ. Prof. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o.
Chair: Univ. Prof. Adams Bodomo; Coordination: Dr. Martina Kopf.
- 2016 *Schnittpunkt Afrika: African Languages and Literatures in the Era of Social Media*
Conference, Department of African Studies, University of Vienna.
- 2015 *Building Stories – Building Cooperations: The Role of Narrative and Fiction as Constitutive Elements of Politics.*
International Workshop, Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University of Duisburg-Essen.
Convened by Frank Gädinger, Martina Kopf, Aysem Mert and Christopher Smith.
- 2012 *ÜberLeben: Ruanda – Sprache als Ort des Erinnerns*
Public reading and panel discussion, Hauptbücherei, Wien.
Convened by Martina Kopf and Franz Schmidjell (Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation, VIDC)
- 2011 *Knowledge and Development in Late Colonialism*
Panel at the 4th European Conference on African Studies (ECAS 4), Uppsala.
- 2011 *Developing Africa: Development Discourse(s) in Late Colonialism.*
International Workshop, University of Vienna.
Convened by Gerald Hödl and Martina Kopf.
- 2010 *From Colonial Service to Development Work – Changing Structures and Motives of European Foreign Assignments in Africa.*
Panel at the Conference of the African Studies Association in Germany (VAD), University of Mainz.

- 1999 *Textreisen in den anderen Kontinent*
Workshop. Afroasiatisches Institut, Graz, Austria.
- 1996 *Confrontations: Womens' Voices in the Discourse of African Studies.*
International symposium of *fora - Forum for feminist African Studies.*

MEMBERSHIPS

African Literature Association (ALA)
European Association for Commonwealth Literature and Languages (EACLALS)
Vienna African Writers Club (VAW)
Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies
Vienna African Languages and Literatures Series (VALL)

LANGUAGES

German (native)
English
French
Italian
Swahili, Chinese (Basic)

PUBLICATIONS

Authored and co-authored books

- 2019 Anke Graneß, Martina Kopf and Magdalena Kraus. *Feministische Theorie aus Afrika, Asien und Lateinamerika*. Wien; Stuttgart: facultas; UTB.
- 2005 Martina Kopf. *Trauma und Literatur: Das Nicht-Erzählbare erzählen – Assia Djebar und Yvonne Vera*. Frankfurt a. M.: Brandes und Apsel.
- 1998 Martina Kopf. *Die weibliche Spur Afrikas: Schwellen zwischen Literatur und Geschichte in Westafrika*. Wien: Turia + Kant.

Edited books

- 2014 Hodge, Joseph M.; Hödl, Gerald; Kopf, Martina (eds) *Developing Africa: Concepts and Practices in Twentieth-Century Colonialism*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
(peer reviewed)
- 2002 Ballauff, Karin; Kopf, Martina (eds) *Eure Sprache ist nicht meine Sprache: Texte von Migrantinnen in Österreich*. Vienna: Milena Verlag.
- 2000 Ballauff, Karin; Kopf, Martina; Meraner, Johanna (eds) *Die Sprache des Widerstandes ist alt wie die Welt und ihr Wunsch: Frauen in Österreich schreiben gegen Rechts*. Vienna: Milena Verlag.

Edited Journals

- 2020 Martina Kopf and Daniela Waldburger (eds) Special section on Literature and Literary Studies in Kenya, *Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies* 39/2020.
- 2016 Frank Gadinger, Martina Kopf, Ayşem Mert and Christopher Smith (eds) *Political Storytelling: From Fact to Fiction*. *Global Dialogues* 12, publication series of the Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University of Duisburg-Essen.
- 2006 Martina Kopf (ed.) *Sexuality and Power in African Literature*. Special Issue of *Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies* 6/11.

Chapters and articles in peer reviewed journals and books

- 2021 Binyavanga Wainaina's Narrative of the IMF-Generation as Development Critique. *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, DOI: [10.1080/13696815.2021.1976118](https://doi.org/10.1080/13696815.2021.1976118).
- 2020 At Home With Nairobi's Working Poor: Reading Meja Mwangi's Urban Novels. In *The Politics of Housing in (Post)Colonial Africa: Accommodating Workers and Urban Residents*, eds Martina Barker-Ciganikova, Kirsten R  ther, Daniela Waldburger and Carl-Philipp Bodenstern, de Gruyter Oldenbourg, 98-120.
- 2020 Literatur in Nairobi und der Wunsch, Kenia neu zu erfinden. *Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies* 39, 83-104.
- 2019 How Do We Teach Feminist Theory? A Conversation by Anke Grane   and Martina Kopf. *Feminist Review* 122, 158-166.
- 2019 Scattered Testimony: Locating the Rwandan Genocide in Transnational Witnessing. In *Routledge Handbook of African Literature*, ed. Moradewun Adejunmobi and Carli Coetzee. London; New York: Routledge, 354-368.
- 2019 Encountering Development in East African Fiction. *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature* 54/3, 334-351. Article first published online: May 25, 2017; <https://doi.org/10.1177/0021989417707801>.
- 2014 Developing Africa in the Colonial Imagination: European and African Narrative Writing of the Interwar Period. In *Developing Africa. Concepts and Practices in Twentieth-Century Colonialism*, ed. Joseph M. Hodge, Gerald H  dl and Martina Kopf. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 341-366.
- 2014 Ein Bauer, ein Gouverneur und ein Pflug: Entwicklungsdiskurs und Kolonialliteratur im Frankreich der 1930er Jahre. In *Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies*, 14/26, 19-47.
- 2012 The Ethics of Fiction: African Writers on the Genocide in Rwanda. In *Journal of Literary Theory* (6/1), 65-82.
- 2012 Narratives of a wounded time: Yvonne Vera's poetics of trauma. In *Style in African Literature: Essays on Literary Stylistics and Narrative Styles*, ed. J. K. S. Makokha, John Obiero Ogone and Russell West-Pavlov. Amsterdam/New York: Rodopi, 91-110.
- 2005 Writing Sexual Violence: Words and Silences in Yvonne Vera's *Under the Tongue*. In *Body, Sexuality, and Gender: Versions and Subversions in African Literatures 1*, ed. Flora Veit-Wild and Dirk Naguschewski. Amsterdam/New York: Rodopi, 243-253.

Non-peer reviewed book chapters and articles

- 2019 Martina Kopf und Anke Graneß: Postkoloniale Theorie und Kritik: Feminismus und Dekolonisation. In Anke Graneß, Martina Kopf, Magdalena Kraus *Feministische Theorie in Afrika, Asien und Lateinamerika*. Wien: Facultas UTB, 33-73.
- 2019 Schwarzer Feminismus, Womanismus, Intersektionalität. In Anke Graneß, Martina Kopf, Magdalena Kraus *Feministische Theorie in Afrika, Asien und Lateinamerika*. Wien: Facultas UTB, 75-121.
- 2019 Africa is not far from here. *Global Cooperation Research: A Quarterly Magazine*, 1(3), 11.
- 2016 More than a Single Story: Alternative Versions of Giving and Receiving between Africa and Europe. In *Political Storytelling: From Fact to Fiction*, ed. Frank Gadinger, Martina Kopf, Ayşem Mert and Christopher Smith. *Global Dialogues* 12, 52-61.
- 2016 The Imperial Migrant. In *A Multi-disciplinary Mosaic: Reflections on Global Cooperation and Migration*, ed. Markus Böckenförde, Nadja Krupke, and Philip Michaelis. *Global Dialogues* 13, 106-108.
- 2016 Widersprüchliche Akteurinnen: Bildungsnarrative von Frauen im kolonialen Afrika der Zwischenkriegszeit. Working Paper, Reihe *feminismen diskutieren*, Verband feministischer Wissenschaftlerinnen, https://www.vfw.or.at/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Kopf_Widerspruechliche-Akteurinnen.pdf.
- 2012 "Indeed our writers have become our Truth Commission...": Literatur in Zimbabwe. Indaba: Das SADOCC-Magazin für das Südliche Afrika, 73, 20-23.
- 2010 Ethik und Ästhetik in der Literatur: Zum Genozid in Rwanda. In *Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies*, 10/18, 91-113.
- 2009 Trauma, Narrative, and the Art of Witnessing. In *Slavery in Art and Literature: Approaches to Trauma, Memory and Visuality*, ed. Birgit Hähnel and Melanie Ulz. Berlin: Frank & Timme, 41-58.
- 2007 "If you think because you're educated ..." A reading of Dambudzo Marechera's "House of Hunger". In *Perspectives in Poverty Alleviation*, ed. Thomas Böhler and Clemens Sedmak. Wien; Berlin: LIT Verlag, 9-15.
- 2002 "A Voice Full of Unremembered Things": Literarische Darstellung sexueller Gewalt in Yvonne Veras Roman *Under the Tongue*. In *Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies*, 2/4, 1-21.

Interviews and Reviews

2020 Looking at all the background behind the story: Interview with Doseline Kiguru. *Stichproben: Vienna Journal of African Studies* 39, 119-128.

2020 Review essay on "Dialogues on African Literature, Film and Theatre". LIFT – The Journal of Literature and Performing Arts, n°1 (2019). Eldoret: Moi University Press. *Stichproben: Vienna Journal of African Studies* 39, 145-159.

2016 Ein Lied an Kenia: Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor (2014) *Dust*. In *Daworo: The Vienna African Writers Quarterly Newsletter*, 3/3+4, 7-8.

2010 Hubertus Büschel, Daniel Speich (eds): *Entwicklungswelten: Globalgeschichte der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit* (Frankfurt am Main: Campus 2009). Review in *JEP – Journal für Entwicklungspolitik* 16 (3), 2010, 119-122.

From 2002 to 2019 I have reviewed a number of novels and anthologies by women writers from Africa and the diaspora for the feminist review magazine *Weiberdiwan: Die feministische Rezensionszeitschrift*