

Conference Program (Sep 21<sup>st</sup> 2025)

# MINREG2025

## Difference and Belonging: Indigenous and Autochthonous National Minorities in Europe's Transforming Regions

November 13-14, 2025

Leipzig/Germany at the IfL Leipzig (Schongauerstraße 9, 04328 Leipzig)

(German: Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde; English: Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography)

### Thursday, November 13th 2025

- **08:30-09:00**      **Registration, Coffees, and Conversations**      **Room 317**
- **09:00-09:30**      **Welcome**      **Room 317**
- **09:30-11:00**      **Keynote and Discussion**      **Room 317**

Anwen Elias (Aberystwyth University)

*“Rights of Self-Determination for Minorities/Stateless Nations”*

Session Chair: Frank Meyer (IfL)

- **11:00-11:30**      **Coffee Break**      **Room 317**
- **11:30-12:30**      **Paper Sessions**

Session 1 (Room 317)	Session 2 (Room 108)
<b>Digital Representations</b>	<b>Questions of Legislation</b>
Session Chair: Měto Nowak (SI)	Session Chair: Fabian Jacobs (SI)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zschieschang, Christian (SI Bautzen), Harvey, Francis (IfL Leipzig): <i>Naming Places. Challenges for minorities in the development of digital place name collections and gazetteers</i></li> <li>• Losang, Eric (IfL Leipzig): <i>Cartographies of Belonging: National and Regional Atlases as Instruments of Cultural Self-Positioning among Minorities</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vasilevich, Hanna (EURAC Bozen): <i>Between Reform and Resistance: Ukraine's National Minority Legislation amid EU Accession and Regional Transformation</i></li> <li>• Pachnik, Cezary (Jacob of Paradis Uni, Gorzów Wielkopolski): <i>“Autochthony” issue and sovereignty of natural resources: why national minorities should have the right to resources in the light of contemporary international law?</i></li> </ul>

- **12:30-13:30**      **Lunch Break**      **Room 317**

○ **13:30-15:00**      **Paper Sessions**

<b>Session 3 (Room 317)</b>	<b>Session 4 (Room 108)</b>
<b>Regional Development in Lusatia</b>	<b>Negotiating Identities</b>
Session Chair: Ludger Gailing (BTU)	Session Chair: Kristine Beurskens (IfL)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nowak, Měto (SI Bautzen): <i>Intended value or side-effect? German-Sorbian Lusatia as example for (non)integration of a national minority into regional change</i></li> <li>• Mirzakeyeva, Bayan (TU Berlin): <i>Sorbs in Post-mining Lusatia and Kazakhs in Post-Virgin Lands Campaign of Northern Kazakhstan: a Comparative Analysis Through Urban Political Ecology, Decolonial Environmentalism, Indigenous Epistemology</i></li> <li>• Laschewski, Lutz (SI Bautzen): <i>Without it is bad, but with it is not good either. Minority protection and regional economic development</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balogh, Péter (ELTE Budapest): <i>Perceptions of the Slovak-Hungarian borderland and EUrope among ethnic Hungarians in southern Slovakia</i></li> <li>• Martena; Sanita (RTA Rēzekne), Marten, Heiko (IDS Mannheim): <i>Constructions of Identity and Belonging of Latgalian Speakers in Latvia: Censuses and Linguistic Landscapes Between Centralism and Local Initiatives</i></li> <li>• Crepaz, Katharina, Prackwieser, Josef (EURAC Bozen): <i>A “Minority within a Minority”? Intersectional Research in the South Tyrolean Minority Context</i></li> </ul>

○ **15:00-15:30**      **Coffee Break**      **Room 317**

○ **15:30-17:00**      **Paper Session: Conceptual Debates**      **Room 317**

Session Chair: Anna Grzybek (Berlin)

- Alymbaeva, Aida Aaly (Halle): *What Does ‘Indigenous’ and ‘Autochthonous’ Mean in Contemporary Europe? An Anthropological Perspective from Germany*
- Zaslavskaya, Olga (Paris): *Chromatic Belonging: Color, Landscape, and Indigenous Knowledge in Arctic Transformations*
- Ričel, Feliks (Örebro University): *Introduction to the political representation systems of the Sámi people in Northern Europe*

○ **17:00-17:30**      **Wrap Up Day One**      **Room 317**

○ **19:30**      **Dinner (individually paid) in Micellos (Katharinenstraße 12)**

### Friday, November 14th 2025

- **08:30-09:00**      **Registration, Coffees, and Conversations**      **Room 317**
- **09:00-10:30**      **Keynote and Discussion**      **Room 317**

Martin Klatt (European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg)

*“An added value? On the inclusion of national minority communities in regional development strategies and their implementation”*

Session Chair: Lutz Laschewski (SI Bautzen)

- **10:30-11:00**      **Coffee Break**      **Room 317**
- **11:00-12:30**      **Fishbowl**      **Room 317**

*“Transformative Research on Minorities for Regional Development?”*

Session Chairs: Fabian Jacobs (SI) & Ludger Gailing (BTU)

- **12:30-13:00**      **Wrap Up and Future Networking**      **Room 317**
- **13:00**      **Lunch Break and Goodbye**      **Room 317**

### Registration

Registration is possible until October 31<sup>st</sup> 2025: <https://indico.leibniz-ifl.de/event/49/>

A registration fee of 60 € is required.

Registration is limited to a maximum of 60 participants

### Organising Committee

- Frank Meyer, Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, [f\\_meyer@leibniz-ifl.de](mailto:f_meyer@leibniz-ifl.de)
- Fabian Jacobs, Sorbian Institute in Bautzen
- Ludger Gailing, Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg

### Contact

For further information, please contact the conference organisers at [f\\_meyer@leibniz-ifl.de](mailto:f_meyer@leibniz-ifl.de) or [minreg2025@leibniz-ifl.de](mailto:minreg2025@leibniz-ifl.de).

## CONFERENCE VENUE

We will convene at the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography (or German: Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde) in the East of Leipzig. If you reside in Leipzig's city centre, please use the following connections from Leipzig Main Station (German: Hauptbahnhof). Please consult the following Google Maps link for navigation: <https://goo.gl/maps/YUegNUduXfFwT3Tk9>

Tram (approx. 45 minutes):

From the main station, take tram 3E or 7 to the final stop *Sommerfeld*. Walk through the *Paunsdorf Center* towards the *Sachsen-Therme*. The IfL is located diagonally across from the car repair shop.

Tram and Bus (approx. 30 minutes):

From the main station, take tram 7 (direction *Sommerfeld*) to the stop *Barbarastraße* or tram 3E (direction *Sommerfeld*) to the stop *Permoser-/Torgauerstraße*. Continue with bus 90 (direction *Paunsdorf Center*) to the stop *Alte Schmiede*. Cross *Riesaer Straße*. The IfL is located in the middle of the three building complexes.

Suburban / Regional Train (approx. 35 / 20 minutes):

From the main station, take S3 (direction *Wurzen*) or RB 110 (direction *Döbeln*) / RE 50 (direction *Dresden*) to the stop *Engelsdorf*. Go up the stairs and turn left, then turn left again at the intersection and follow *Riesaer Straße*. Turn right into *Schongauer Straße* and at the roundabout turn left. The IfL is located in the middle of the three building complexes.

To plan your journey, please use the timetable information service of the *Mitteldeutscher Verkehrsverbund* ([www.mdv.de](http://www.mdv.de)) or the “LeipzigMOVE” app.

