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Education

- 2013 ***Ph.D. in Legal Anthropology***, University of Zurich, Switzerland
Dissertation Research: Muslim Women's Quest for Gender Justice in Lucknow, India (2008-2013)
 Fifteen months of empirical research on the way Muslim women's rights organizations in Lucknow negotiate gender justice, India, negotiate gender justice pertaining to marriage and the family.
- 2007 ***Lic. Phil. (equivalent to combined BA and MA) in Social and Cultural Anthropology, International Law and East Asian Art History***, University of Zurich, Switzerland
Master Thesis: A Tribal Women's Court in Udaipur, India, (2005-2006)
 Eight months of qualitative research on a unique tribal women's court in Rajasthan, India

Current Positions

- 2024- ***Research Consultant***, Organisation for Refuge, Asylum & Migration (ORAM), Berlin
 - Establishing contacts and conducting outreach in five eastern European countries; mapping of LGBTIQ organizations and humanitarian and refugee-serving organizations in the region; conducting interviews and focus groups with mapped organizations and members of the displaced queer community; data analysis; drafting of a 20-page report on findings.
- 2023- ***Adjunct Full Professor***, Anthropology and Law and Society Program
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, USA
 - Developing and teaching online and hybrid undergraduate courses on law and society, culture and the law, gender and the law, and sex and culture, develop online model courses for the college-wide use in the area of law, gender and sexuality, co-facilitate faculty workshops on intersectionality and career readiness of CUNY students.
- 2020- ***Honorary Research Fellow***, School of Sociology, Politics, and International Studies University of Bristol, UK
 - Active participation in the Migration Mobilities Bristol research center by writing blogs, attending workshops and seminars and collaborating in policy work; editing of the special issue on queer liberalisms and marginal mobilities.
- 2019- ***Co-director and co-founder of the Queer European Asylum Network***
 - Advocacy and policy work on queer asylum in the EU; co-organization of workshops, roundtables, and conferences on issues of migration, gender, sexuality and intersectionality; collaboration with funders and international organizations working on migration and asylum (i.e. Council of Europe, the International Gay and Lesbian Association (ILGA), Coalition of Cities Against Racism) and with political bodies in Germany (i.e. Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Federal Foundation Magnus Hirschfeld and the German Federal Agency for Civil Education)

Previous Positions (selection)

- 2018-2023 ***Adjunct Associate Professor***, Department of Anthropology and Political Science
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, USA
 - Developing and teaching online and in-person undergraduate course on law and society, culture and the law, gender and the law, and sex and culture, develop online model courses,

co-facilitate faculty workshops, mentored undergraduate and postgraduated students on a research project of the Teaching and Learning

2020-2023 **Research Fellow and Board Member of the Gender Committee to the ITFLOWS Project**, Brunel Law School, Brunel University London, UK

- Supported the writing and coordination of the ITFLOWS policy briefs on AI and agent-based migration prediction modelling and human rights; coordinated the policy work of the project and co-organized a policy-oriented conference on human rights and migration prediction technology at Brunel University London; led the drafting of a Gender Action Plan for the research on the prediction of migration flows to and within the EU; supported the drafting of the European legislative framework on migration and asylum for the European Commission; evaluated and monitored of the human rights and gender considerations relating to both asylum and migration law and the on-going actions of the project.

Spring 2022 **Research Methods Consultant to the IOM and Samuel Hall**-led project “*Mapping and Research to Strengthen Protection and Assistance Measures for Migrants with Diverse SOGIESC*”, Fujairah, UAE

- Advised on the qualitative methodology design, sharing of resources for qualitative research methodology tools development, approval of qualitative research tools, sharing of contacts for data collection for the research on the project: *IOM: Mapping and Research to Strengthen Protection and Assistance Measures for Migrants with Diverse SOGIESC*; supported the analysis and write-up: advised on the coding with the research team, contributed to analysis sessions with the research team, contributed to the drafting of sections of the report “*Mapping and Research to Strengthen Protection and Assistance Measures for Migrants with Diverse SOGIESC*”.

2021-2023 **Substitute Assistant Professor**, Department of Anthropology

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, USA

- Developing and teaching online undergraduate course on law and society, culture and the law, gender and the law, and sex and culture, develop online model courses for the college-wide use, co-facilitate faculty workshops, contributed to the department’s programming, evaluating Distinguish Teaching Prize portfolio.

Fall 2022 **Andrew W. Mellon Transformative Learning in the Humanities (TLH) Faculty Fellow** City University of New York, USA

- Participated in a cross-college collaboration on pedagogical innovation, antiracist curriculum strategies, and creating equitable student learning that is a part of a three-year innovative teaching initiative at CUNY supported by a \$2 million grant from the Mellon Foundation; co-organized and co-facilitated the creation of a student-led open education resource (OER) where students produced a podcast series that focuses on the lived experiences of CUNY students; co-authored a blog for Transformative Learning in the Humanities.

2018-2020 **Marie-Curie Research Fellow**, School of Sociology, Politics, and International Studies University of Bristol, UK

- Principal Investigator researching the experiences of LGBTQI+ Muslims and lesbian-identifying womxn with the asylum system in Germany, conducting, analyzing, and writing up research, organization of 4 high impact online symposiums, funded by the European Commission; publishing of 2 peer-reviewed articles, 3 policy briefs and 9 non-peer-reviewed articles, appearances as an expert at the Talking Migration podcast series and the Perth radio show “All Things Queer”; research featured in The Independent, Gay Star News, Pink News, Queer.de, and The New Arab.

- 2013-2018 **Adjunct Assistant Professor**, Department of Anthropology, Political Science, and Law and Society Major Program, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, USA
 - Developing and teaching online undergraduate course on law and society, culture and the law, gender and the law, and sex and culture.
- 2016-2017 **Adjunct Assistant Professor**, Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
 Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, USA
 - Developed and taught a course on practicing the intersectionality of race, gender, sexuality, and ethnicity.
- 2010-2013 **Visiting Scholar**, Center for Gender and Sexuality Law, Columbia University, New York, USA
 Writing up of PhD thesis; participating at the Center's events (lectures, workshops, seminars etc.)

Awards

- 2023 Federal Foundation Magnus Hirschfeld. Small Research Grant. (EUR 7,500)
- 2022-23 Mellon Transformative Learning in the Humanities Faculty Fellow, Transformative Learning in the Humanities, CUNY. (\$1,800)
- 2019 ESRC Impact Acceleration Account Grant. Grant Nr. ES/M500410/1. (£3,000)
- 2018 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Individual Fellowship. Grant Agreement Nr. 793497. 1. September 2018 – 31. August 2020. (2 years, EUR 195,454)
- 2012 Swiss National Science Foundation Fellowship for Prospective Researchers (6 months, CHF 35,000)
- 2008-12 University of Zurich Candoc Dissertation Fellowship. Grant Nr. 56650301. 1. August 2008 – 31. July 2012. (3 years, CHF 160,000)

TEACHING

Undergraduate Courses (2013- present)

- LWS 225 Research Methods in Law and Society (Law and Society Major Program, John Jay College, Fall 2023-)
- ANT 310 Culture and Personality (Anthropology Department, John Jay College, Fall 2016-)
- ANT 210 Sex and Culture (Anthropology Department, John Jay College, Fall 2019-)
- ANT 315 Systems of Law (Anthropology Department, John Jay College, Fall 2017-)
- ANT 330 Cultural American Pluralism and the Law (Anthropology Department, John Jay College, Spring 2021-)
- POL 319 Gender and the Law (Political Science Department, John Jay College, Fall 2013-)
- LWS 200 Introduction to Law and Society (Law and Society Major Program, John Jay College, Fall 2014-Spring 2017)
- WMST 2150 Practicing Intersectionality: The interdisciplinary study of race, gender, and ethnicity (Barnard College, Columbia University, Fall 2016)
- WGS 244 Women's and Gender Studies, Transnational Feminisms (Hunter College, Fall 2013)

Master Course (2022)

Displacement and the Asylum Process in Switzerland. Master Seminar. (University of Zurich, Spring 2022)

Faculty Seminar (2022-2023)

- TLC Intersectional Futures: Re-Framing Career Readiness for CUNY Students (Teaching and Learning Center, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 2022-2023)

Pedagogical and Professional Development (since 2021)

- 2023 *Student mentorship program*. Teaching and Learning Center. John Jay College. 2 Semesters
- 2022 *Mellon Transformative Learning in the Humanities Faculty Fellow*, Transformative Learning in the Humanities, City University of New York, 1 semester

- 2022 *John Jay OER/Open Pedagogy*, Department of Online Teaching and Support, John Jay College, 3 weeks
- 2021-2022 *Practical Teaching for Resilient Learning*, Teaching and Learning Center, John Jay College, 2 semesters
- 2021 *Effective Practices in Hybrid Education*, Department of Online Teaching and Support, John Jay College, 3 weeks

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

- 2017 Tschalaer, Mengia. Muslim Women's Quest for Justice. Gender, Law and Activism in India. Cambridge University Press. (Cambridge Studies in Law and Society).
- Nominated for the 2018 Herbert Jacob Book Prize (Law and Society Association), 2018 Cohn Book Prize (Association for Asian Studies), 2019 Clifford Geertz Book Prize (Society for the Anthropology of Religion, American Anthropological Association)
 - Very enthusiastic reviews in the *Law and Society Review*, *Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law*, *Verfassung und Recht in Übersee*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Book Review Literary Trust*
 - Received an internal University of Bristol REF 2021 score of 4-*

Journal Special Issue

- 2023 Tschalaer, M., and Fadi Saleh (eds.) Queer Liberalisms and Marginal Mobilities. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Vol 46(9).

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

- Tschalaer, M., Alexandra Xanthaki and Ermioni Xhantopoulou. Human Rights Risks of Migration Flow Predictions and Policy Implications Within the EU. *Human Rights Quarterly* (under review)
- 2023 Saleh, F. and Mengia Tschalaer. Introduction to Special Issue: Queer Liberalism and Marginal Mobility. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. 46(9), 1769-1790.
- 2023 Tschalaer, M. Queering migration temporalities: LGBTQI+ experiences with waiting within Germany's asylum system. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 46(9), 1833-1853. (Selected for the shortlist of eight articles for the Martin Bulmer Prize for Article of the Year Award 2023)
- 2023 Tschalaer, M. Queer Motherhood in the Context of Legal Precarity: Experiences of Lesbian Mothers Seeking Asylum in Germany. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Vol 46(2), 233-253.
- 2022 Tschalaer, M. Queer Necropolitics: Experiences of LGBTQI+ Asylum Claimants During Covid-19 in the UK. *Journal of Contemporary European Research*. Vol 18(1), 115-132.
- 2021 Tschalaer, M. Femininities and Victimhood in Black Lesbian Asylum Cases in Germany. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. Vol 47(15), 3531-3548.
- 2020 Tschalaer, M. Between Queer Liberalisms and Muslim Masculinities: The Assessment of Queer Muslim Asylum Quests in Germany. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Vol 43(7), 1265-1283.
- 2015 Tschalaer, Hong M. Muslim Women's Rights Activists' Visibility: Stretching the Gendered Boundaries of the Public Space in the City of Lucknow. *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal*, 11, 1-18.
- 2012 Tschalaer, Hong M. Competing Model-Nikahnamas: Muslim Women's Spaces within the Legal Landscape in Lucknow. *NAVEIN REET: Nordic Journal of Law and Social Research*, 3, 65-80.
- 2010 Tschalaer, Hong M. Women Entering the Legal Landscape: Negotiating Legal Gender Reforms in a 'Tribal' Women's Forum in South Rajasthan, India. *Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law*, 60, 41-70.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- 2025 Tschalaer, M. The recognition of lesbian refugee protection claims within the EU's asylum regime. In: Yurdakul, Beaman, Mügge, Scuzzarello and Sunanta (eds.) Oxford University Press Handbook of Intersectional Approaches to Migration, Gender, and Sexuality. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (forthcoming/under contract)
- 2023 Tschalaer, M. "Social and cultural politics of resistance and empowerment". In Martin Fotta, Cecilia McCallum and Silvia Posocco (eds.) *The Cambridge Handbook of the Anthropology of Gender*

and Sexuality. Cambridge: University Press (Cambridge Handbook in Anthropology), pp. 313–335.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108647410.015>.

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications

- 2021 Tschalaer, M. Fighting for asylum, as a lesbian and as a mother. *Beyond Trafficking and Slavery, openDemocracy*. 8. December.
- 2021 Tschalaer, M. Report from the Field: The Recognition of Queer Asylum Claims in Germany. *News From the Ninth Floor. Anthropology*. Vol 4(1).
- 2021 Tschalaer, M. Queer liberalisms and marginal mobility – special issue and interview series. *Migration Mobilities Bristol Blog*. 7 April.
- 2020 Tschalaer, M. The Recognition of Queer Asylum Claims in Germany. *nccr-on the move Blog*. 4. November.
- 2020 Tschalaer, M. Experiences of Waiting for LGBTQI+ Asylum Claimants in Germany: A Form of State Control and Resistance. In: Maria Lis Baiocchi “Gender Politics in the Age of Patriarchal Authoritarianism”. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*. 15. September.
- 2020 Tschalaer, M. 2020. Fehlender Schutz für Schwarze lesbische Geflüchtete. *Tagespiegel*. 23. June.
- 2020 Tschalaer, M and Nina Held and Danijel Čubelić. „Ich habe mich noch nie einsamer gefühlt“. *Tagespiegel*. 30. March. (This article appeared in the print version of the *Tagespiegel* under the title "Mein Leben ist eingefroren" on 6. April 2020.
- 2020 Tschalaer, Mengia, Nina Held and Danijel Čubelić. Coronavirus exacerbates LGBTQI refugee isolation and trauma. In: *Al Jazeera*. 22 April.
- 2019 Tschalaer, M. LGBTQI+ Asylum Claimants Face Extreme Social Isolation in Germany. In: *Beyond Trafficking and Slavery, openDemocracy*. 26. November.
- 2019 Tschalaer, M. Denied Victimhood of Lesbian Asylum Seekers Racialized as Black in Germany. In *Beyond Trafficking and Slavery, openDemocracy*. 14. August.
- 2019 Held, N. and Mengia Tschalaer. Better Legal and Social Support Needed for LGBTQI+ People Seeking Asylum in Germany. *Mobilities and Migration Bristol Blog*. 31. October.
- 2019 Tschalaer, M. Conforming to stereotypes to gain asylum in Germany. *Mobilities and Migration Bristol Blog*. 12. August.

Policy Briefs

- 2023 Held, Nina and Mengia Tschalaer. *The intersectionality of gender and sexuality in lesbian asylum applications: A guide to improving asylum practices regarding lesbian refugees in Germany*. Federal Foundation Magnus Hirschfeld.
- 2023 Tschalaer, Mengia, Alexandra Xanthaki and Ermioni Xhantopoulou. Migration Flows Prediction Tools and Asylum Policy Commitments in Alignment with Human Rights. Brunel Law School.
- 2023 Danijel Čubelić, Marie-Luise Löffler and Mengia Tschalaer. *An Intersectional Approach to the Istanbul Convention: Perspectives on the Protection of LBTQI Girls and Women in Germany*. Federal Foundation Magnus Hirschfeld und the Gunda-Werner Institute for Feminism (Heinrich Böll Foundation), Berlin.
- 2021 Tschalaer, Mengia and Christopher Pullen. Equality in the UK Asylum Process. Written Evidence submitted to the UK Parliament Women's Select Committee. Published on the UK Parliament Committees Website: 17. November 2021.
- 2021 Tschalaer, Mengia. The Istanbul Convention and Queer Women Seeking Asylum. Policy Bristol.
- 2020 Tschalaer, Mengia. Covid-19 and Queer Asylum. Policy Brief. June 29. Policy Bristol.
- 2020 Tschalaer, Mengia. The Recognition of Black Lesbian Asylum Claims in Germany. Policy Bristol
- 2019 Held, Nina and Mengia Tschalaer. Queer Asylum in Germany. Better Visibility and Access to Legal and Social Support Needed for LGBTQI+ People Seeking Asylum. Policy Bristol.

Reports

- 2023 Samuel Hall and IOM. Mapping and research to strengthen protection and assistance measures for migrants with diverse SOGIESC. IOM, Geneva.

2022 Boland, C. and M. Tschalaer. ITFLOWS Gender Action Plan, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and Brunel University London.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Funded Invitations and Conference Presentations (selection since June 2019)

- 07/2024 **Invited by Sarah Scuzzarello (University of Sussex) to present:** The Relevance of the Istanbul Convention for the Refugee for the Protection of Lesbian Asylum Claimants. *21st Annual IMISCOE Conference*. Lisbon, Portugal. (Panel accepted)
- 04/2024 Presenter: Queering Migration Temporalities: LGBTQI+ Experiences with Waiting within Germany's Asylum System. IMISCOE Spring Conference. Istanbul, Türkiye. (Paper accepted)
- 06/2023 **Keynote: The Implementation of the Istanbul Convention for Queer Refugees in Germany.** Heinrich Böll Foundation. Berlin, Germany.
- 09/2022 **Keynote: The Istanbul Convention Thought Intersectionally.** Heinrich Böll Foundation. Berlin, Germany.
- 07/2022 Speaker/Discussant/Session Chair: Experiences with Motherhood of Lesbian-Identifying Womxn Seeking Asylum in Germany. *Law and Society Association Global Meeting*. Lisbon, Portugal.
- 06/2022 **Invited as a speaker: Experiences with integration of queer asylum claimants/refugees. Rethinking integration: Gender approach, equal opportunities and non-discrimination.** European Coalition of Cities Against Racism. Online.
- 03/2022 **Keynote with Eithne Luibhéid:** Transforming Systemic Violence: Experiences of Female and Non-Binary Identifying Queer Migrants. Speaker Series. Barnard Digital Center of Humanities. Columbia University, USA.
- 06/2021 **Invited as a speaker: Queer Asylum: International Perspectives Between Activism and Academia.** Workshop. NCCR on the move. University of Neuchatel, Switzerland.
- 02/2021 **Invited as a panelist: Current Debates in the Protection and Study of LGBTQI+ Displaced People.** Hosted by the Oxford Department of International Development. Online.
- 11/2020 **Invited as a speaker by the German presidencies of the Council of the European Union and Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe** to give a talk on the lesbian asylum experience at the conference: Intersectionality and LGBTQI+-Policies in Europe: Lived Realities of Lesbian* Women and the Recognition of Rainbow Families. Berlin, Germany.
- 02/2020 **Invited for the Panel Discussion "Politics of Postcolonial Sexuality"** with Patricia Purtschert, Serena Owusua, and Stefanie Boulila. Theater Basel, Switzerland.
- 01/2020 **Invited as a speaker for a 3-day conference:** Access to asylum of queer refugees in Germany. Hohenheimer Tage on Migration Law, Stuttgart, Germany.
- 07/2019 **Invited as a panelist for a 1-day conference:** Panel: Intersectional perspectives on queer asylum. Under the European Asylum Rainbow: Intersectional Queer Challenges, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany.
- 06/2019 Presenter: Queer Asylum Spaces. 16th Annual IMISCOE Conference. Malmö, Sweden.

Impact and Outreach Activities (selection)

- 06/2024 *Co-organizer of in-person conference:* The Digitalisation of EU Border Security and Asylum Processes through the intersectional lens of race, gender and sexuality. In collaboration with the German Federal Agency for Civil Education. Hosted by the Gunda-Werner Institute, Berlin, Germany.
- 06/2023 *Co-organizer of in-person conference:* The Implementation of the Istanbul Convention for Queer Refugees. Hosted by the Gunda-Werner Institute, Berlin, Germany.
- 04/2023 *Co-organizer of in-person conference:* Migration Prediction, Policy and Human Rights. Brunel University London.
- 12/2022 *Podcast Producer:* Counternarratives and Storytelling: The Lived Experiences of CUNY Students. Transformative Learning in the Humanities (TLH), CUNY.
- 09/2022 *Co-organizer of in-person conference:* The Istanbul Convention Thought Intersectionally. Hosted by the Gunda-Werner Institute, Berlin, Germany.

- 03/2022 *Co-organizer (with Eithne Luibb id) of online speaker series. Transforming Systemic Violence: Experiences of Female and Non-Binary Identifying Queer Migrants. Hosted by the Barnard Digital Humanities Center. Columbia University, USA*
- 11/2021 *Co-Organizer of online conference. Queer Asylum and the EU-Dublin III System of Return: Challenges and Risks. Hosted by the Gunda-Werner Institute, online.*
- 06/2021 *Podcast Producer: Die Relevanz der Istanbul Konvention im Asylverfahren f r Lesbisch-Queere Frauen. Queer European Asylum Network.*
- 06/2021 *Co-Organizer of the roundtable: The Istanbul Convention and Queer Women Seeking Asylum. Attendees included representatives of civil society organizations in Germany, the German Ministry of Migration and Asylum and the German Ministry of Family Affairs. Germany.*
- 04/2021 *Co-Organizer of the Speaker Series: Queer Liberalisms and Marginal Mobility. Barnard College, Columbia University, USA.*
- 11/2020 *Co-Organizer of online conference: Recognition and Prevention of Violence against LGBTQI+ Persons on the Move. Panelists include representatives of the European Parliament, the Council of Europe, Transgender Europe, the German Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, and the lesbian support organization Le'TRa. Hosted by the Gunda-Werner Institute, online.*
- 04/2020 *Co-Organizer of online symposium: COVID-19 and Queer Asylum. (co-organized with the Council of Europe and various LGBTQI+ NGOs in Germany). Over 5,600 people attended the symposium and viewed the live stream and recordings on Facebook. Hosted by the Gunda-Werner Institute, online.*

Reviewing Activities

- 01/2024– present Reviewer for *Journal of Ethnic and Racial Studies* (Journal)
- 08/2023– present Reviewer for *Sexualities* (Journal)
- 05/2022– present Reviewer for *Refugee Survey Quarterly* (Journal)
- 01/2022– present Reviewer for *University of California Press* (Books)
- 09/2021– present Reviewer for *University of Texas Press* (Books)
- 01/2020– present Reviewer for *Signs* (Journal)
- 02/2020– present Reviewer for *Sexuality Research and Social Policy* (Journal)
- 11/2020– present Reviewer for *Bodies and Borders* (Journal)
- 06/2019– present Reviewer for the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* (Journal)
- 02/2019– present Reviewer for the *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal* (Journal)
- 09/2018– present Reviewer for *Modern Asian Studies* (Journal)
- 11/2016– present Reviewer for *Cambridge University Press* (Books)
- 08/2016– present Reviewer for the *Law and Society Review* (Journal)
- 03/2014– present Reviewer for the *Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law* (Journal)

Professional Activities

- 2021 Expert, Grant Proposal Evaluations, European Commission
- 2020-2023 Guest Editor, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*

Memberships

- 2021- American Anthropological Association
- 2021- European Anthropological Association
- 2019- IMISCOE International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion Network
- 2018- Migration and Mobilities Bristol (MMB)
- 2011- Law and Society Association

Languages

German (native), English (fluent), French (proficient), Hindi and Italian (conversational)