

Tom Menger
Academic Curriculum Vitae

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Tom Menger

Born: Amersfoort, 1991

Affiliation: Ludwig Maximilian University Munich (LMU)

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Colonial violence in the 19th and 20th century
- Imperial infrastructure
- Transnational/transimperial empire
- History of the early oil colonial industry
- Colonialism and imperialism
- Colonial genocide
- European state and military violence, ca. 1890-1950: continuities and origins
- Perpetrator studies
- *Fin de siècle* thought and culture

ACADEMIC CAREER

2021-2025 Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, Käte Hamburger Research Centre ‘Global dis:connect’, **Postdoctoral Research Associate**.

2017-2021 University of Cologne, a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne, **Programme Fellow a.r.t.e.s. Eumanities doctoral programme**. Ph.D. project: *‘The Colonial Way of War: Extreme violence in knowledge and practice of colonial warfare in the British, German and Dutch colonial empires, c. 1890-1914’* (submitted April 2021, passed viva *summa cum laude* 9 July 2021).

- 2020 April-December: Leibniz Institute of European History, Mainz, **Doctoral fellowship**
- 2018 **Associate PhD** at Queen Mary University of London as part of the EUmanities mobility phase (12 months)

EDUCATION

- 2004-2010 Deutsche Schule Algarve, Silves, Portugal (international school, German-spoken). Awarded the *Zeugnis der allgemeinen Hochschulreife (Abitur)* degree in June 2010.
- 2010-2013 University of Amsterdam, **Bachelor European Studies**. Graduated *cum laude* 31 October 2013.
- 2011-2014 University of Amsterdam, **Bachelor History**. Graduated *cum laude* 29 August 2014.
- 2014-2016 University of Amsterdam, **History Research Master**. Graduated *cum laude* 31 August 2016.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 1200 Euro granted by the German Institute of Amsterdam (*Duitsland Instituut Amsterdam*) for the purpose of a two-month stay in Cologne, Germany, for further elaboration of a PhD research project, February – March 2017.
- 200 Euro granted by the *Horizonfonds* (Faculty of Humanities, University of Amsterdam) for the purpose of study at the local university and archival research for my Master thesis in Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany, October 2015 - February 2016.

AWARDS

- Winner of the 2017 Otto von der Gablentz Master Thesis Prize. Prize amount: € 2,500.

OTHER RELEVANT ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2015 February-May: internship at the KITLV (Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies), Leiden. Part of the research project ‘Dutch military operations in Indonesia, 1945-1950’. Main tasks: survey and analyse ego-documents of Dutch veterans of the Indonesian decolonisation war, and enter the data into a database.
- 2015-2016 October-February: University of Freiburg, short term student at the History Department and autonomous archival research in German archives for my master thesis.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

“‘Press the thumb onto the eye’: Moral Effect, Extreme Violence, and the Transimperial Notions of British, German and Dutch Colonial Warfare, c. 1890-1914’, *Itinerario*, published online 2022.

“Of ‘big bags’ and ‘golden bridges’: thinking the colonial massacre in British, German, and Dutch manuals of colonial warfare, 1860-1910,” *European History Yearbook*, to be published 2022.

‘Concealing Colonial Comparability: British Exceptionalism, Imperial Violence, and The Dynamiting of Cave Refuges in Southern Africa, 1879-1897’, accepted for publication by the *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*.

Popular scientific

‘Van *blind spot* tot zwarte pagina. De Herero-Nama genocide en de herontdekking van het Duitse koloniale verleden’ [From blind spot to black page. The Herero-Nama genocide and the rediscovery of the German colonial past], in: Krijn Thijs ed., *Duitsland 1918-1991: twintig vensters op een bewogen eeuw* [Germany 1918-1991: twenty windows onto an eventful century] (Amsterdam 2021)

‘Leidde het Duitse kolonialisme tot de Holocaust? Volkerenmoord in Namibië’ [‘Did German colonialism lead to the Holocaust? Genocide in Namibia’], *Onderzoek Uitgelicht* 7:6 (2018): <https://www.tweedewereldoorlog.nl/onderzoekuitgelicht/omgaan-met-zwarte-bladzijden/leidde-het-duitse-kolonialisme-tot-de-holocaust/>

Book reviews

‘Review of: Stefan Ihrig, *Justifying genocide: Germany and the Armenians from Bismarck to Hitler*’, *Skript Historisch Tijdschrift* 39 (2017) 85-87.

‘Dekolonisatie als keuzeprocess. Review of: Martin Thomas, *Fight or flight. Britain, France, and their roads from Empire*’, *Tijdschrift voor Geschiedenis* 129 (2016) 683-685.

Newspaper articles and blogs

‘Routes of violence: Transimperial Mobility and Colonial War in the British, German, and Dutch Empires, c. 1880-1914’, *Transimperial History Blog*, 28 February 2022, <https://www.transimperialhistory.com/routes-of-violence/>.

‘Avec Abdulrazak Gurnah, plongée dans les séquelles du colonialisme allemand’, *Afrique XXI*, 18 February 2022, <https://afriquexxi.info/article4924.html> [French translation of the *AIAC* version, see below].

‘Abdulrazak Gurnah and the afterlives of German colonialism’, *Africa is a Country*, 13 January 2022, <https://africasacountry.com/2022/01/abdulrazak-gurnah-and-the-afterlives-of-german-colonialism-in-east-africa>.

‘Gewalt ohne Grund’, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 20 October 2021.

Conference reports

Conference report/ Tagungsbericht: Comparing Colonialism: Beyond European Exceptionalism, 26.09.2019 – 28.09.2019 Basel, in: H-Soz-Kult, 30.10.2019, www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-8495.

With Pierre Nobi, Conference report/Tagungsbericht: The Production of Imperial Space. Empire and Circulations (18th-20th Centuries), 23.11.2017 – 24.11.2017 Paris, in: H-Soz-Kult, 16.03.2018, www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-7608

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

‘Understanding colonial war and violence beyond national-imperial borders’, 9 February 2022, lecture in the ‘New directions in the history of war and violence’ lecture series, Sir Michael Howard Centre for the Study of War, King’s College London (online).

‘*Fin-de-siècle* thinking on colonial warfare and the enemy encounter: cases from the British, German and Dutch Empires’, 20 July 2021, paper given at the ‘Enemy Encounters’ conference, University of Cardiff/Imperial War Museum (online).

‘The Colonial Way of War – Understanding *fin-de-siècle* colonial warfare in the British, German and Dutch Empires as a transimperial phenomenon’, 25 March 2021, paper given to the Modern International History Group, University of Sheffield.

‘A Colonial Way of War. Extreme violence, knowledge, practice and the practitioners of colonial warfare in the British, German and Dutch empires, c. 1890-1914’, 18 November 2020, project presentation given at the Oberseminar ‘Probleme historischer Forschung’, Johannes-Gutenberg University Mainz.

‘Knowledge on violence: the British Empire in an age of global colonial warfare, c. 1890-1910’, 27 February 2020, paper given at the conference ‘Colonial Knowledges: Environment and Logistics in the Creation of Knowledge in British Colonies from 1750 to 1950’, University of Manchester.

‘Shared expertise. Knowledge, practice, and the European practitioners of extreme violence in the British, German and Dutch colonial wars, c. 1890-1914’, 30 April 2019, presentation given at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS) to the Theme Group ‘Comparing the Wars of Decolonization’, Amsterdam.

‘The production and transfer of knowledge on extreme violence in the German, British and Dutch colonial wars of the *fin de siècle*’, 25/27 February 2019, project presentations given at

the Netherlands Institute for Military History (NIMH), The Hague, and at the University of Amsterdam (Seminar of the Modern History Research Group), Amsterdam.

‘Practices of comparing in British and German manuals of colonial warfare around 1900’, 30 November 2018, paper given at the workshop ‘Comparing Militaries in the Long Nineteenth Century’, University of Bielefeld.

“‘Not very uplifting work’”. German officers first encountering and practising colonial violence in East Africa, c. 1890-1907’, 11 September 2018, paper given at the workshop ‘Exploring the (post)colonial encounter. Performance, language, and violence’, co-organised by the University of Southampton and German Historical Institute London, University of Southampton.

‘Learning processes of extreme violence in colonial warfare in the British, German and Dutch Empires, c. 1890-1914’, 8 June 2018, project presentation at the GRAINES summer school, Sciences Po Reims.

‘Junior colonial officers in German East Africa as pawns and producers of imperial space and imperial circulations, c. 1890-1914’, 22 November 2017, presentation given at the workshop ‘The production of imperial space. Empire and circulations’, Centre d’histoire de Sciences Po, Paris.

“‘Räuber, Mörder, Brandstifter, Saatenvernichter und Sklavenhändler (...)’”. Daders van Duits koloniaal geweld in Oost-Afrika 1890-1908 [Perpetrators of German colonial violence in East Africa 1890-1908]’, 11 October 2017, presentation given at the DIA/Jonge Historici anthology ‘Duitsland in de wereld [Germany in the world]’, SPUI25, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

‘Extreme violence in colonial warfare: a study of European perpetrators in East Africa, Rhodesia and the Dutch East Indies, c. 1890-1914’, 7 September 2017, paper given at the annual conference of the International Commission of Military History, Douala, Cameroon.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

	Writing/reading	Spoken
Dutch	Mother tongue	Mother tongue
German	Native speaker level	Native speaker level
English	Very good	Very good
French	Good	Average
Portuguese	Good	Good

