

**From Methodological Nationalism
to Methodological Transculturalism.
Counterpoint considerations**

Introductory ideas

Theoretical ideas as powerful instruments of knowledge

Transculturality - a contrapuntal view

Biographies - a transcultural view


Conclusion: Visions for the future

Briefly summarised: What is this presentation about?

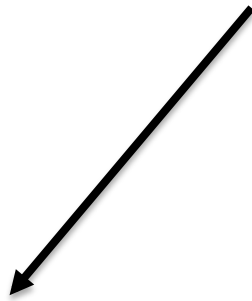
- ➡ To create an **OTHER GENEALOGY OF THE PRESENT** by telling different stories about society, the world, identity, migration.
- ➡ A **CONTROPUNCTUAL PERSPECTIVE** is favoured.
- ➡ Contrapuntal thinking means questioning the **HEGEMONIAL INTERPRETATIONS**.
- ➡ Questioning goes hand in hand with marginalised, invisibilised and minoritised histories and perspectives that allow for new **THOUGHTNATIVES** and **FUTURE VISIONS**
- ➡ A new **CARTOGRAPHY OF THE INVISIBLE** and thus a new **TOPOGRAPHY OF THE POSSIBLE**

THE TRANSCULTURAL is considered in counterpoint:

 Diverse lifestyles(transcultural social capital, transcultural competences).

 Transcultural thinking makes new connections visible, translates different (cultural) elements into everyday practice, creates new spaces (transtopias)

Theoretical approaches



Serve as cognitive tools in research

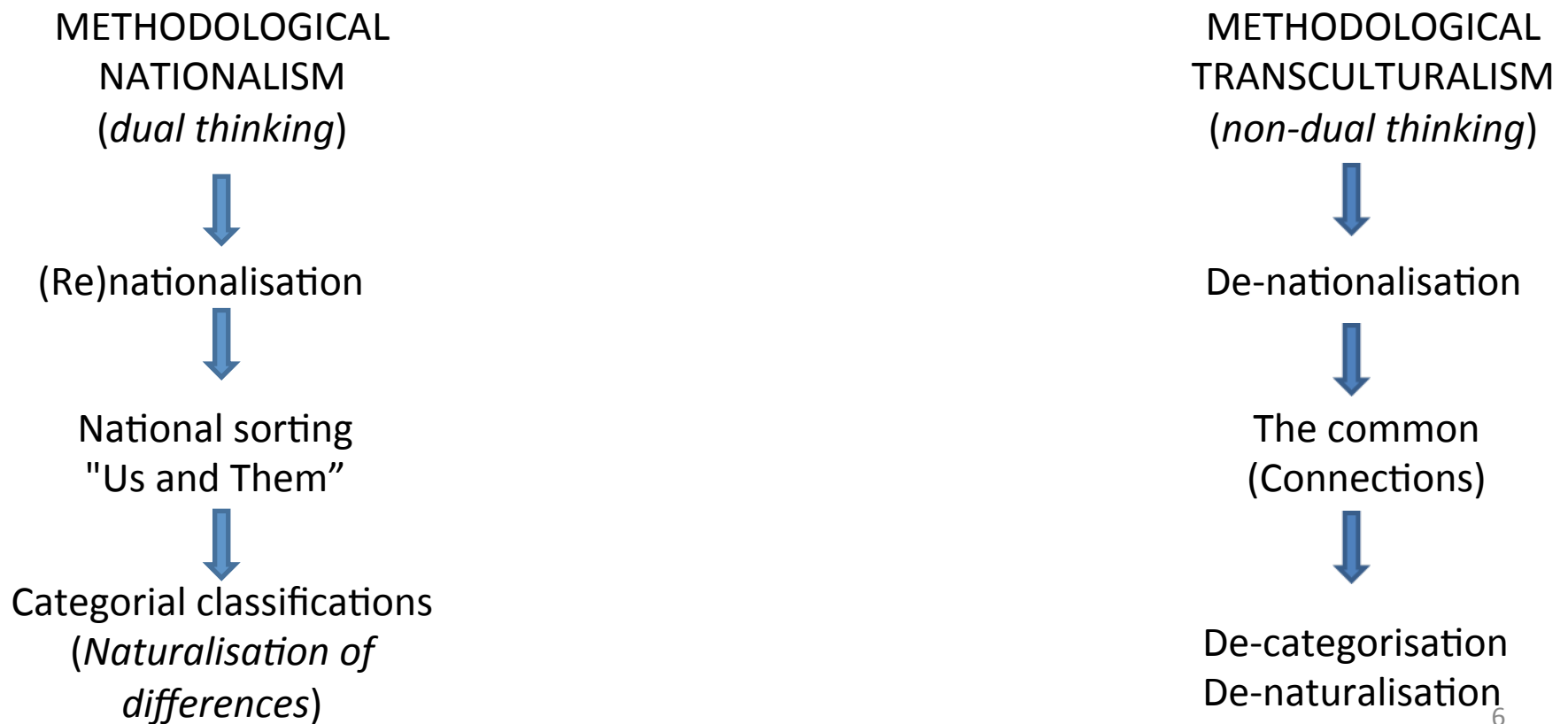


Determine institutional/
political perception

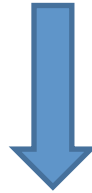


Are signposts of
perception in everyday life

TWO DIFFERENT DISCOURSES



METHODOLOGICAL MIGRANTISM (SPECIAL RESEARCH)

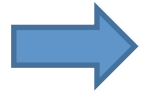


OBJECTIFICATION
OF THE OTHERS

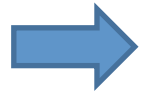


MIGRANT BECOMES AN OBJECT
OF KNOWLEDGE

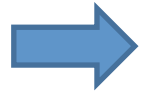
EXAMPLE:



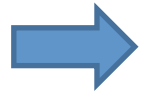
Migration discourse as discourse of foreignness and not as discourse of mobility or transculturalism.



Dramatisation and scandalisation



"In Austria in the morning - in Turkey in the evening".



THEREBETWEEN as a pathological case

WURZELDISKURS

Fast Jeder Fünfte hat ausländische Wurzeln

Veröffentlicht am 19.09.2012



SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN

Erster Polizeischüler mit afrikanischen Wurzeln: Ewane Makias besondere Geschichte

www.nst. Schleswig-holstein.nst.de

Wie der Wachmann der Polizeischule in Schleswig-Holstein

OSTERZEITUNG

Deutsche Promis mit türkischen Wurzeln



ROOT DISCOURSE

Almost one in five has foreign roots

First police pupil with African roots

German celebrities with foreign roots

Epistemological and methodological turn
in the context of migration
(counter-hegemonic knowledge production)

"People don't have roots, they have legs."

Nicolò

Degiorgis



Transculturality - a contrapuntal view

SPIEGEL Talk. A visit with the writer Ralf Rothman

"Our roots
lie in the air"

"(...) Anyone who needs something like a place, a homeland, a nation, is not right in this world. There are other roots. (...) Our roots are in the air."



DER SPIEGEL NR. 18 /28.4.2018

Living with migration and diversity is
not an option, but a historically
evolved reality

Transculturality - a contrapuntal view



Telling other stories



Making other images / interpretations visible

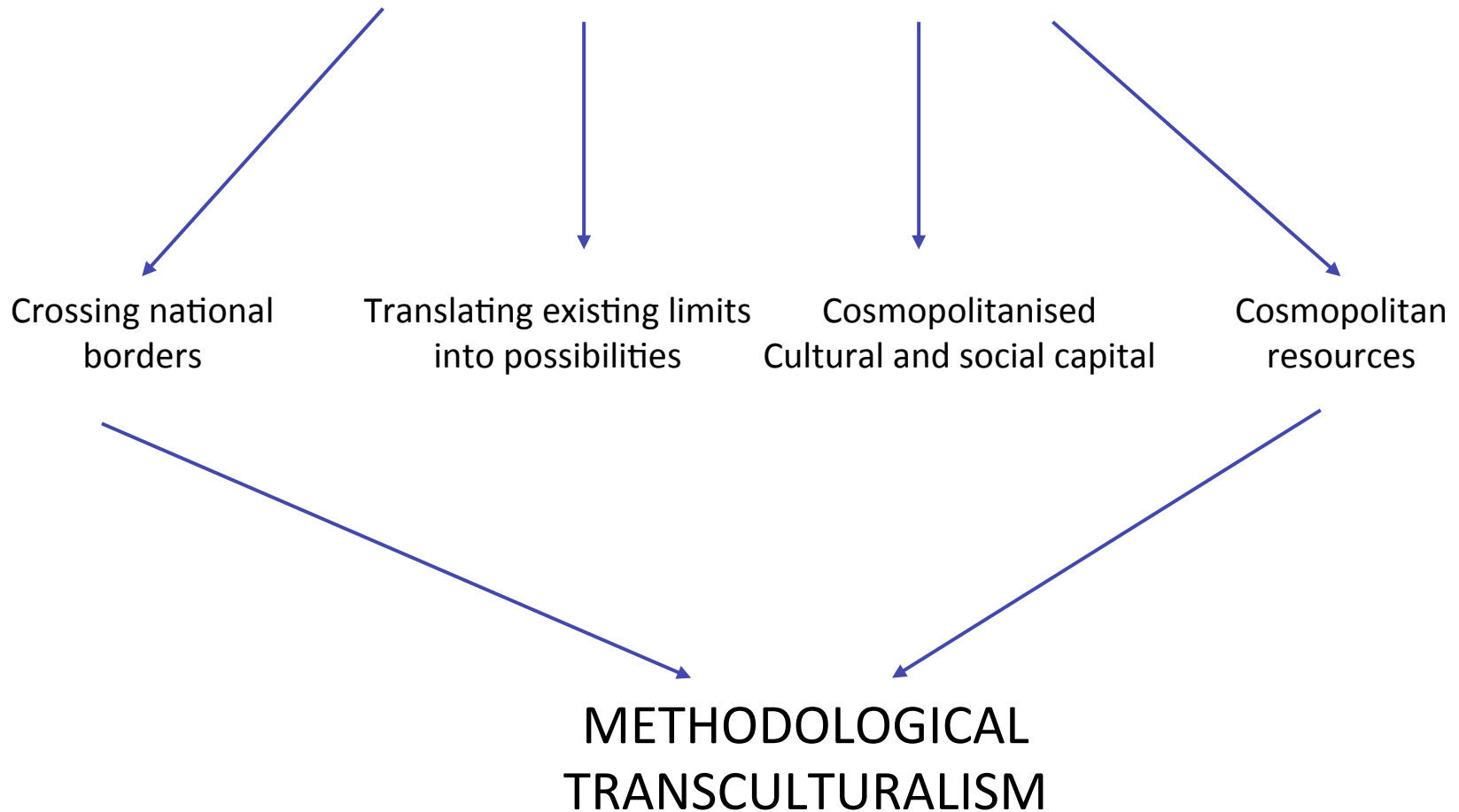


Thinking together what is nationally separate



Making visible what is unsaid, rethought, invisible, marginalised

TRANSCULTURAL THINKING



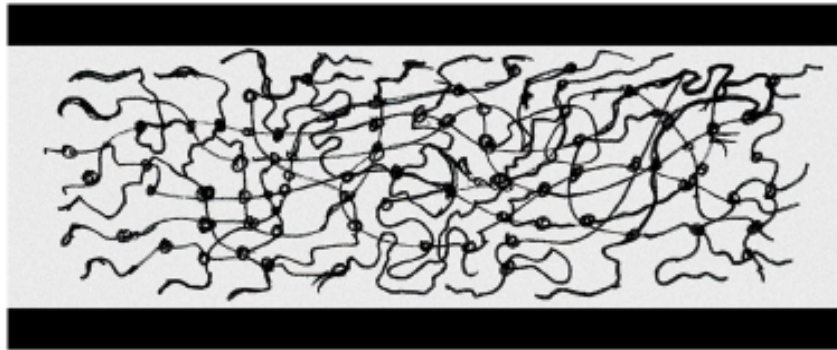
A NEW CARTOGRAPHY OF THE INVISIBLE

A NEW TOPOGRAPHY OF THE POSSIBLE

RHIZOM.: Gilles Deleuze und Félix Guattari (Root network)

Rhizome instead of root?

Rhizom statt Wurzel? Verbindungen / Verflechtungen



Transculturality - a contrapuntal view

It is about different mental maps shaped by mobility/
migration, multiple biographies or, as Martin Albrow
(1997) says, diverse "sociospheres".



TRANSTOPIES

Much of what we perceive today as national or homogeneous is a result of mixing, a part of interwoven histories

EXAMPLES:

In the context of mobility and migration movements, classifications and affiliations are becoming more and more complicated.

The number of those who (have to) leave their places of origin for various reasons, cross national borders for a shorter or longer period of time, or even for good, is constantly growing. To be born here, to grow up there, to work and live there and to spend one's twilight years elsewhere is part of everyday life.



Multiple assignments / diverse affiliations
have become normal and commonplace

FRANCESCO was born in 1964 in Slovenia, then still a constituent republic of Yugoslavia, and grew up in Ljubljana. His mother is Czech and his father Italian. His maternal grandparents emigrated from the Czech Republic to Ljubljana, where they traded in Bohemian crystal. Shortly before the outbreak of the war, he fell in love with a nurse from Ljubljana, who soon emigrated to Austria for professional reasons. He also decided to emigrate to Austria in 1993. Since then he has been living in Carinthia.

For Francesco, the Alps-Adriatic region is comparable to an Italian pasta dish 'Pasta monti e mare' (pasta with mushrooms and prawns). Monti, the mountains, and Mare, the sea. "For me, home is everywhere. Wherever I am, regardless of country, city or language," says Francesco.

JOZO was born in 1979 in the Yugoslav republic of Slovenia, where he spent his early childhood between several borders and languages. He completed his studies in Ljubljana, where he lived for over a decade. He learned the German language at school. He has often migrated between several state borders. He came to Carinthia in 2011 for professional reasons. Part of his kinship connects him to Carinthia. His grandfather lived there until 1920 and emigrated to Yugoslavia. Part of the family remained in Carinthia. He has many acquaintances and relatives in Italy and Croatia. He does not know how long he will stay in Carinthia. For him, home is an ideological matter. For him, life is his home

A SCHOOGIRL FROM CARINTHIA "My father is from Albania and my mother is Serbo-Croatian. Because my father has relatives in Switzerland, he has always travelled a lot. He also worked there even before I was born. When I was one year old, we came to Klagenfurt. My family is quite international. We have relatives almost everywhere, in Switzerland, in Bulgaria, in Croatia, in Italy, in New York. One aunt is Turkish, another is Bosnian, the next is Bulgarian. It's a big mishmash, scattered all over the world. [...]

Many people in Kosovo grew up speaking several languages. If I started speaking Turkish in my hometown, I would be answered in Turkish, if I spoke Croatian, I would be answered in Croatian. [...]"

Schoolgirl in Carinthia, In: "We... From around the world. Hermagoras 2012, p. 25

What becomes visible in the biographies?

- Border biographies
- Multiple spatial references
- Multiple biographical references
- Different family backgrounds
- Multilingualism
- Transcultural and translocal connections
- Transcultural competences
- Cosmopolitanised spaces of action

Counterpoint perspective:

- Focus on people who are there
- Discovering ideas, resources, visions
- Making interstices visible

Thinking in counterpoint

- A look at the unthought
- Access to the common
- Unlearning/ unlearning one's own knowledge
- Valuing individual diversity (fairness, respect and equal opportunities)

"Instead of trying to compensate for the deficits of the 'problem persons', the institutions, organisations and facilities of our society must enter into a learning process. And by examining their own preconditions and questioning the existing structures, they can at the same time 'get to know' the plural society."

(Terkessidis 2017: 37)

Thank you for your attention