

PIA HERZAN, M.A., M.SC.

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Website: [DFG-Research Unit "Voluntariness"](#) | [Academia](#)

MAIN RESEARCH INTERESTS

Early Republic · History of Philadelphia · Voluntariness / Voluntary Political Practices · U.S. Foreign and Security Policy in the late 20th and 21st Century · Organizational Theory · Democracy Research · Liberalism

EDUCATION

Since 12/2020	University of Erfurt Doctoral Candidate: North American History Advisor: Prof. Dr. Jürgen Martschukat Thesis: "Governed by Voluntariness: Voluntary Civic Engagement and Political Practices during the Yellow Fever Crises in Philadelphia's Early Republic" (<i>Working Title</i>)
09/2012 – 06/2014	International Business School Budapest and Oxford Brookes University Master of Science: International Business
10/2009 – 09/2012	Freie Universität Berlin, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies Master of Arts: North American Studies (History and Politics)
10/2005 – 09/2009	University of Konstanz Bachelor of Arts: Politics and Public Administration

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

12/2020 – 01/2024	Research Associate , University of Erfurt, Chair of North American History and DFG Research Unit "Voluntariness"
04/2020 – 11/2020	Program Manager and Office Manager , Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, State Office Norddeutschland, Hamburg
07/2017 – 03/2020	Deputy Director and Head of Cultural Program Section , German-American Center Stuttgart / James F. Byrnes Institute
11/2015 – 06/2017	Cultural Program Manager and Youth & School Program Manager , German-American Center Stuttgart / James F. Byrnes Institute
07/2015 – 11/2015	Senior Project Manager , Management Forum der Verlagsgruppe Handelsblatt, Frankfurt am Main
10/2013 – 05/2015	Project Manager , Management Circle, Eschborn
07/2011 – 11/2011	Intern , Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Berlin
04/2010 – 03/2012	Student Assistant , History Department, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Freie Universität Berlin and BMBF Research Project "One History – Two Perspectives"
09/2008 – 03/2009	Student Assistant , Chair of Social and Economic History, University of Konstanz
09/2007 – 03/2008	Intern , Goethe-Institut, Washington, D.C.

PUBLICATIONS

Blog Posts

- “Voluntary Urban Art Practices. From Caves, Graffiti & Street Art to Murals”, *Voluntariness: History – Society – Theory*, February 2024, <https://www.voluntariness.org/voluntary-urban-art-practices/>.
- “Committing to Civic Education Voluntarily. A Res Publica in a Liberal U.S. Democracy”, *Voluntariness: History – Society – Theory*, October 2023, <https://www.voluntariness.org/committing-to-civic-education-voluntarily/>.
- “Who dat in Lower Nine? The Role of Voluntariness in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina”, *Voluntariness: History – Society – Theory*, August 2022, <https://www.voluntariness.org/who-dat-in-lower-nine/>.
- “Uncle Sam’s (Post-)9/11 Calling: Serving Voluntarily in the U.S. Army”, *Voluntariness: History - Society - Theory*, September 2021, <https://www.voluntariness.org/uncle-sams-post-9-11-calling/>.
- “Into the (Urban) Wild. Freedom and Voluntariness in Walking”, *Voluntariness: History – Society – Theory*, July 2021, <https://www.voluntariness.org/into-the-urban-wild/>.

Book Reviews

- Review of: Rasmussen, Dennis C.: *Fears of a Setting Sun. The Disillusionment of America's Founders*. Princeton, NJ 2021, In: *H-Soz-Kult*, 09.08.2021, www.hsozkult.de/publicationreview/id/reb-97173.
- Review of: Barnes, David: *Lazaretto. How Philadelphia Used an Unpopular Quarantine Based on Disputed Science to Accommodate Immigrants and Prevent Epidemics*. Baltimore, MD 2023, In: *H-Soz-Kult*, 05.09.2023, www.hsozkult.de/publicationreview/id/reb-133356.

Works in Progress

- “Voluntary and Compulsory Voting Practices,” *Voluntariness: History – Society – Theory*, March 2024 (*forthcoming*).

PRESENTATIONS

- “**Governed by Voluntariness: Voluntary Civic Engagement and Political Practices during the Yellow Fever Crises in Philadelphia’s Early Republic,**” Young Scholar Forum of the Annual Conference of the Historians of the German Association for American Studies, Akademie für politische Bildung Tutzing, May 7, 2023
- “**Governed by Voluntariness: Voluntary Civic Engagement and Political Practices During the Yellow Fever Crises in Philadelphia’s Early Republic,**” Regional Colloquium for American Studies, Leipzig University, April 14, 2023
- “**Governed by Voluntariness: The Waves of Voluntariness During the Yellow Fever Crises in Philadelphia’s Early Republic (1793-1820),**” International Conference: Bodies, Remedies, Policies: From Early Modern Chronicles of the Indies to Covid-19 Narratives, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, February 16, 2023
- “**Governed by Voluntariness: Voluntary Civic Engagement and Political Practices During the Yellow Fever Crises in Philadelphia’s Early Republic,**” Series of Lectures of the Department of History, University of Erfurt, February 2, 2023
- “**Governed by Voluntariness: Voluntary Civic Engagement and Political Practices during the Yellow Fever Crisis in Philadelphia’s Early Republic (1793-1820),**” German Historical Institute (GHI) Colloquium, Washington, D.C. (hybrid), January 19, 2023
- “**Freiwilligkeit und Geschlecht während der Gelbfieber-Epidemie der 1790er Jahre in Philadelphia,**” Tagung “Freiwilligkeit und Geschlecht”, University of Fribourg (hybrid), November 26, 2021

WORKSHOP AND SPEAKER TOUR ORGANIZATION

- “**Dis-Cover Fellow Citizens: Voluntary Civic Engagement in the Early Republic and Antebellum America,**” international workshop, organized together with Prof. Dr. Jürgen Martschukat (University of Erfurt), Begegnungsstätte Kleine Synagoge in Erfurt, June 23-24, 2022

Speaker Tour 2022 of the subproject “Voluntariness as Political Practice: The Emerging United States and American Citizenship” of the DFG unit “Voluntariness,” organized with Carl-Schurz-Haus in Freiburg, DAI Heidelberg, and Amerikahaus NRW, Freiburg, Cologne and Heidelberg, June 21-22, 2022

COMMENTARY AND MODERATION

Scholarly Commentary

“Gehen als widerständige Praxis,” by Prof. Dr. Andreas Hetzel, University of Hildesheim, Workshop “Thinking Voluntariness I: Praxeology & Performativity” (online), April 22, 2021

“Die Rolle von Selbstbestimmtheit und Prosozialität im Kontext der Corona-Pandemie,” by Dr. Prof. Dr. Constanze Rossmann and Dr. Paula Stehr, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Workshop „Freiwilligkeit in Zeiten der Pandemie“ (online), January 13, 2022

Moderation

“Dis-Cover Fellow Citizens: Voluntary Civic Engagement in the Early Republic and Antebellum America,” international workshop, moderated together with Prof. Dr. Jürgen Martschukat (University of Erfurt), Begegnungsstätte Kleine Synagoge in Erfurt, June 23-24, 2022

“Freiwilligkeit als Verpflichtung? Das Ideal der Freiwilligkeit als Bürgertugend im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert,” Talk of Lecture Series “The Politics of Voluntariness“ of University of Erfurt by Prof. Dr. Christine G. Krüger, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, May 4, 2022

ARCHIVAL STAYS & FELLOWSHIP

08/2022 – 10/2022 **Doctoral Research Fellowship of the German Historical Institute (GHI) Washington**

08/2022 – 10/2022 **Archival Stay in Philadelphia, PA and Washington, D.C.** (funded by GHI Washington)

02/2022 – 04/2022 **Archival Stay in Philadelphia, PA** (funded by DFG)

MEMBERSHIPS

German Association for American Studies (since 2012) · lowernine.org (since 2010)