

Katharina Döring

Katharina Döring spent her undergraduate studying Africa-related area studies and political science at the universities in Leipzig and Dar es Salaam. In her graduate education, within the Erasmus Mundus MA programme “Global Studies – A European Perspective”, her focus shifted towards international studies, new political geography, and global history, studying at Leipzig, Addis Ababa, and Roskilde. Afterwards, she started working on African-led military deployments and the development of the African Standby Force (ASF). Since 2016, Katharina Döring is a researcher at the Collaborative Research Centre (SFB 1199) “Processes of Spatialization under the Global Condition” at Leipzig University. Taking the 2013 joint AU-ECOWAS peace support operation in Mali (AFISMA) as point of departure, her PhD project traces the attempts of these regional organisations to defend their member state’s territorial sovereignty. She analyses the different spaces that were mobilized to exercise force in Mali by different international actors: from the ECOWAS Standby Force, AFISMA and Operation Serval, to the UN Mission MINUSMA. These deployments are juxtaposed with subsequent regional initiatives, such as the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises (ACIRC), the Nouakchott Process and the G5 Sahel to understand the rationale behind the changing spaces for intervention in Mali and the Sahel.

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