In recent discussions on transnationalism, there has been increasing focus on the principle of cosmopolitanism as hope for ‘solidarity across borders’. In the face of growing global interdependence, the project of cosmopolitanism promises to facilitate a transnational citizens movement, which could potentially galvanize the establishment of democratic global institutions, creating space for transnational political discourse. Cosmopolitan democracy holds the promise of enabling world citizens to participate more directly in global political life. The representatives and protagonists of international civil society become indispensable in the implementation of cosmopolitan values and initiators of a more just alter-globalization. Our talk will critically engage with the discourses of cosmopolitanism from a feminist-postcolonial perspective. Addressing issues like global gender justice, development politics, human rights, decolonisation and democratisation, we propose to explore the potential and limits of ‘solidarity across borders’ in a postcolonial world.

**Cornelia Goethe Colloquium**

Wintersemester 2009/2010

**Gender and "the Political" in a Postcolonial World:**

**Negotiating Normativity**

13. Januar 2010

Prof. Dr. Maria do Mar Castro Varela (Alice Salomon University Berlin)

Prof. Dr. Nikita Dhawan (Goethe-University Frankfurt am Main):

„’Solidarity across borders?’: Rethinking ‘the political’ in a postcolonial World“

(Political Science/Philosophy)

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Anti-discrimination and Intersectionality” is in preparation (LIT: forthcoming) (both publications are in German).