## ANTI-LGBTQI BACKLASH IN AFRICA: SOME CRITICAL REFLECTIONS

Prof Melanie Judge (University of Cape Town, Südafrika) in conversation with Dr Alex Müller (Charité Centre for Global Health)

27 June 2024, 15:30 – 17:00 Raum 1.308, Dorotheenstr. 24

Prof Judge's presentation will interrogate the recent hardening of anti-LGBTQI laws and political discourse in parts of Africa as manifestations of an organised gender backlash to further criminalize and regulate sexual and gendered Others. With a particular focus on recent legal developments in Kenya, Uganda and Ghana, the presentation will explore these backlash dynamics and their implications for the health rights and inclusion of LGBTI people and related policy advocacy. It will also consider how LGBTQI identities, politics, and activism are critical to the queering of democratic struggles in the face of past, present and imminent dangers.

After the presentation, Prof Judge will be in conversation with Dr Müller and the audience.

## About the speaker

Prof Melanie Judge (PhD) is a queer and feminist activist and scholar. She is adjunct associate professor in public law at the University of Cape Town and senior policy advisor on LGBTI Inclusion in Africa for the United National Development Programme. Prof Judge is co-editor of 'Unsettling Apologies: Critical Writings on Apology from South Africa' (Bristol University Press, 2022), author of 'Blackwashing Homophobia: Violence and the Politics of Sexuality, Gender and Race' (Routledge, 2018), and lead editor of 'To Have and to Hold: The Making of Same-Sex Marriage in South Africa' (Fanele, 2008). For over two decades, she has been involved in law and policy reform, advocacy, and research on sexual and gender rights. She is the recipient of the 2016 Psychology and Social Change Award, granted by Rhodes University in recognition of her activism and scholarship on sexuality.

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