

## EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

after a special issue in collaboration with the Austrian South Pacific Society (OSPG), we are pleased to announce the 56<sup>th</sup> volume of Pacific Geographies issued together with the German Pacific Network.

The three scientific papers deal with current issues in the Pacific Island countries and Australia: Ghostnet Art and Environmental Activism; Fijian immigration in Japan; the withdrawal of the Micronesian states from the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF).

The first contribution by Stephanie Walda-Mandel (Übersee-Museum Bremen) analyzes the ghostnet art movement, the impressive artistic design and the environmental activism of Australian Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders. Wandel-Mandel presents the art movement through a special exhibition at Übersee-Museum (Overseas Museum) Bremen (Germany).

The second paper explores Pacific Islander trans-border mobility within the Pacific region. The contribution by Dominik Schieder (University of Siegen) discusses the reasons and aims, which characterizes Fijian immigration in Japan.

The third article by Oliver Hasenkamp (Pacific Network) analyzes the withdrawal of the five Micronesian states from the most important regional organization in the Pacific Islands region, the Pacific Islands Forum. Hasenkamp investigates the complex reasons resulting in the withdrawal and discusses potential impacts, on the regional and also the international scale.

In addition to the three articles, Hermann Mückler (University of Vienna) critically reviews the book "Das Prachtbook" recently published by the German historian Götz Aly. The book that deals with the capture of an outrigger boat on Luv island (Papua New Guinea) in 1902 got great media attention. While the popular press praised the book, scientific colleagues are mostly critical.

Please enjoy the articles and the book review and do not hesitate to give us feedback. Besides, all contributions are open access and can be downloaded on our homepage. Authors retain copyright, and opinions and views expressed in the contributions are those of the authors.

The editors of this special issue, Oliver Hasenkamp & Matthias Kowasch

# Pacific Geographies



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The PG provides an interdisciplinary academic platform to discuss social, cultural, environmental and economic issues and developments in the Asia-Pacific region.

In order to uphold scientific standards, PG is implementing a peer-review process. Articles marked as „scientific papers“ have been peer-reviewed by two external reviewers. Articles marked as „research notes“ have been peer-reviewed by one external reviewer and a member of the editorial team. All other articles have been reviewed by the editorial team.

The Association for Pacific Studies (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Pazifische Studien e.V., APSA) was founded at the Department of Geography of the University of Technology in Aachen in 1987. Activities include workshops, conferences, public lectures and poster exhibitions. The book series PAZIFIK FORUM was initiated in 1990. In 1992, it was complemented by the journal PACIFIC NEWS (now PACIFIC GEOGRAPHIES). APSA-Members receive this journal at no cost as a membership benefit.

The APSA sees itself as one of the largest scientific networks in Germany for academics and practitioners with an interest in the Asia-Pacific region as well as academic exchange.

## IMPRINT

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## COVER PICTURE

'Rupert' by the artist Ellarose Savage  
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