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Editors' Introduction

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Editors' Introduction

In keeping with GSP's ambition to promote innovative scholarship, a diversity of source material, and fledgling approaches to the study of genocide and mass atrocities, this issue features a collection of articles that address several aspects related to genocide and the legacy of genocidal processes.

Murphy examines the place of the arts in the prevention of genocide. Woolford, June, and Um broaden our understanding of the Cambodian genocide by revealing the "sybiogenetic destruction" experienced under the Khmer Rouge. Turning to the case of Rwanda, Fox, Nyseth Brehm, and Gasana Gasasira examine the rescue-religion nexus and, specifically, how religion's social dimensions are linked to rescue during genocide. And finally, Koh not only reminds us of the importance of addressing historical collective trauma but also that the legacy of this trauma can be long-lasting and profound, as in the case of First Nations people and other Indigenous and Aboriginal peoples around the world.

For years, we have received articles with extremely interesting and compelling content that examine events about which little is known, due to the lack of source availability. Often, the authors are not established researchers, are unfamiliar with the literature, and draw on sources, including primary data, that are difficult to verify. Therefore, it has never been possible to publish such contributions as peer reviewed articles. Concurrently, it is clear genocide scholars have concentrated their research efforts on a narrow set of cases; here, access to materials and research participants is often facilitated and controlled by institutions—sometimes with the help of translators. With that said, however, international researchers can also lack the relevant linguistic and cultural skills, which can increase the risk of data misinterpretation.

On the one hand, access to other cases, such as the persecution of various groups in the People's Republic of China, is severely limited; and on the other, state organs exert extreme control over and pressure on those affected and their families. At the same time, there is often a lack of contacts and the necessary language skills. Compounding this challenge is that there is virtually no access to state documents and sources.

Consequently, there is a dramatic lack of academic publications on, for example, China's genocidal policies. GSP has published exactly one article on this topic in the last seven years since CG became Editor-in-Chief.¹ Fortunately, there are a number of individuals and institutions that examine such cases and provide information about their dynamics in newspapers, blogs, or in the form of reports. With regards to violence in the Uyghur territories, for example, a report has been available since March 2021.²

¹ Maria Cheung, Torsten Trey, David Matas, and Richard An, "Cold Genocide: Falun Gong in China," *Genocide Studies and Prevention* 12, no. 1 (2018), 38–62, accessed May 18, 2021, <https://doi.org/10.5038/1911-9933.12.1.1513>. As of May 18, 2021, this article has been downloaded exactly 6,846 times since its publication in 2018, making it one of GSP's most popular papers amongst readers.

² The Newlines Institute for Strategy and Polics and Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, ed., *The Uyghur Genocide: An Examination of China's Breaches of the 1948 Genocide Convention* (March 2021), accessed May 18, 2021, <https://newlinesinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/Chinas-Breaches-of-the-GC3.pdf>.

Christian Gudehus, Fiza Lee-Winter, Laura Collins, Daniel Bultmann, JoAnn DiGeorgio-Lutz, Georgina Holmes, Roland Moerland, Diana I. Popescu, Sabah Carrim, Bablu Chakma, and Emma Thorpe. "Editors' Introduction." *Genocide Studies and Prevention* 15, no. 1, 1–4. <https://doi.org/10.5038/1911-9933.15.1.1836>.

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The GSP editorial team believes it is urgent that such cases, and others that are under-researched, are given space in scientific publications in order to provide information to the community. This goes hand in hand with the use of “new” and only partially verifiable sources, such as communications in messaging services. GSP has created the new *Dossier* section for these types of texts. The articles published under this new section are not double-blind peer reviewed and contain information that is only conditionally verifiable. The first dossier by Rukiye Turdush and Magnus Fiskesjö focuses on the Chinese government’s systematic violence against Uyghur Women.

Together with this new *Dossier* section—along with the recently formed *Arts & Literature* section—the GSP editorial team wants to create a space dedicated to unconventional, unfinished, and politically risky contributions with the hope that more authors will come forward with similar types of submissions in the coming years.

Christian Gudehus
Fiza Lee-Winter
Laura Collins
Daniel Bultmann
JoAnn DiGeorgio-Lutz
Georgina Holmes
Roland Moerland
Diana I. Popescu
Sabah Carrim
Bablu Chakma
Emma Thorpe

Meet the GSP Team: Featured Profiles

JoAnn DiGeorgio-Lutz, PhD, *GSP Book Review Editor* for the social sciences and humanities since 2015, is a Professor of Political Science and Department Head of Liberal Studies at Texas A&M University at Galveston. She is co-editor of *Women and Genocide: Gendered Experiences of Violence, Survival, and Resistance*. In 2008, JoAnn was a Fulbright Scholar to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and in 2010, a Fulbright Specialist to Cambodia. She was also a Fellow in the Jack and Anita Hess Faculty Seminar on the Holocaust and other Genocides with the United States Holocaust Museum and Memorial. JoAnn's research focuses on gender and memorialization in the aftermath of mass atrocities.

E-mail: digeorgj@tamug.edu

Roland Moerland, PhD, *GSP Editor* since 2016, is an Assistant Professor of Criminology at Maastricht University, The Netherlands. His expertise lies in the fields of supranational and organizational criminology. In his courses and research, Roland focuses on the causes of gross human rights violations and their aftermath. His areas of interest include the role of language in conflict, genocide denial and corporate involvement in human rights violations.

E-mail: roland.moerland@maastrichtuniversity.nl