

# Jella Laura Fink (M.A.)

ခင်ဖြူဝင်း

Cultural Anthropologist & Doctoral Candidate

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## EDUCATION

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- 07/2014 – Now **PhD Candidate at the Department of the Cultural Anthropology of Textiles Technical University Dortmund, Germany**  
Doctoral thesis: "Hand-woven Textiles: Craftsmanship, Identity, and the Transmission of Ideas in Contemporary Myanmar", Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Gabriele Mentges.  
Received DAAD fieldwork grant: Mandalay area & Kengtung 2015–2016 (12 months)
- 10/2006 – 06/2013 **Magistra Artium (M.A.) Cultural Anthropology and History of Arts (Grade A) Christian-Albrechts University, Kiel & Goethe University, Frankfurt a. M.**  
Conducted field research in Burkina Faso for Master's thesis: "Digital Civil Society – Mobile Technologies, New Media and Changing Societies in West Africa"
- 07/2010 – 12/2010 **Certificate in Corporate Social Responsibility (Grade B) Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
Studied forms of corporate social responsibility and how to implement sustainability in company's core strategy and decision-making
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## WORK EXPERIENCE

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- 07/2014 – 03/2018 **Researcher**  
**Dep. Cultural Anthropology of Textiles, TU Dortmund, Germany**  
Teaching and international outreach via conference participation & establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with Mandalay University, Myanmar
- 04/2014 – 07/2014 **Research Intern**  
**Think Tank 'Betterplace Lab', Gut.org AG, Berlin, Germany**  
Comparative studies on "Digital Health" and "Digital for Social"
- 09/2012 – 09/2013 **Research Assistant**  
**Prof. Dr. Hans Peter Hahn, Goethe University Frankfurt a.M., Germany**  
Supported conference organization and live-blogged in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

- 08/2012 – 10/2014 **Project Assistant**  
**ECPAT Germany e.V., Freiburg, Germany**  
 Translated the "Shadow Report to the United Nations OPSC" and represented the organization at the Federal Criminal Agency's Open Doors 2013 and ITB 2014
- 06/2012 – 08/2012 **Intern**  
**ECPAT Germany e.V., Freiburg, Germany**  
 Assisted the management and PR department with administrative and editorial tasks

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## EXTRACURRICULAR ENGAGEMENTS

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- 2017 – Now **Certificate Child Rights**  
 University of Geneva
- 2016 – Now **Co-founder & board member – Myanmar-Institut e.V. , Germany, Switzerland & Austria**  
 Network of Myanmar researchers in German-speaking countries  
<http://www.myanmar-institut.org> and  MyanmarInstitut
- 2014 – Now **Member – Myanmar Study Group Berlin, Germany**  
 Network of Myanmar researchers with monthly meet-ups in Berlin  
[www.myanmarstudygroup.com](http://www.myanmarstudygroup.com)
- 2016 – Now **Co-Founder – Three Ma Mas Projects , Myanmar**  
 Consultancy and support for local initiatives in Myanmar  
[www.threemamasprojects.com](http://www.threemamasprojects.com)
- 2015 – Now **Blogger – Research Blog "A Wild Compilation"**  
 Increasing transparency of anthropological fieldwork  
[www.awildcompilation.wordpress.com](http://www.awildcompilation.wordpress.com)
- 2009 – 2013 **Honorary Post – "Wellcome Team", University Frankfurt, Germany**  
 Mentoring and cultural introduction for immigrated and exchange students

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## LANGUAGE AND IT SKILLS

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German	Native	Microsoft Office	Proficient
English	Fluent	WordPress	Proficient
French	Fluent	Social Media	Expert
Myanmar Sa (Burmese)	Intermediate		
Spanish	Basic knowledge		
Latin			

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Digitalization in Extractive Industries. Transparency and Accountability?* (forthcoming) Betterplace lab (ed.), Berlin: Gut.org AG.
- Fink, J. (forthcoming): *Reproduction Required – Textile production as a Floor of Negotiating Ethnic Identity in Contemporary Myanmar*. Oxford Press.
- Fink, J. (forthcoming): „Weaving and Knowledge. The Creation of Hand-woven Fabrics in Contemporary Myanmar“ [German: *Weben und Wissen. Zur Entstehung von Handgewebtem im zeitgenössischen Myanmar*], in Hahn, H.P. (Hrsg.): *Dinge als Herausforderung*. Bielefeld: transcript.
- Fink, J. (2015): Recension: *Myanmar/Burma erzählt: 25 zeitgenössische Kurzgeschichten*. Klaus R. Schröder & Georg Noack (eds). Westerstede: Reise Know-How 2013, in: *Südostasien* 3/2015: 58f.
- Trendreport* (2014), Betterplace lab (ed.), Berlin: Gut.org AG.
- Digital Health. How mobile communication technologies improve life* (2014) [German: *Wie Kommunikationstechnologien Leben verbessern – Schwerpunkt Gesundheit, Innovationsreport*] Betterplace lab (ed.), Berlin: Gut.org AG.
- Fink, J. (2013): *Digital Civil Society – Mobile Technologies, New Media and Changing Societies in West Africa*. Saarbrücken: LAP.
- Fink, J. (2010): Recension: *Josef Drexler (2009): Öko-Kosmologie. Die vielstimmige Widersprüchlichkeit Indioamerikas. Ressourcenkrisenmanagement am Beispiel der Nasa (Páez) von Tierradentro, Kolumbien*. Münster: LIT, in: *Paideuma – Mitteilungen zur Kulturkunde* 56/2010, pp. 279–280.

## PRESENTATIONS

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- AMI Conference, University of Yangon, Myanmar, December 2017  
*Along the Periphery: Female Change-Makers from Ethnic Minority Communities and the Quest for Sustainable Development*
- German Anthropological Association, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, October 2017  
*Reproduction and/or change? – Textiles as space for negotiating identities in contemporary Myanmar*
- Interdisciplinary Myanmar Conference 2017, University of Bonn, Germany, June 2017  
*Reproduction Required – Textile production as a Floor of Negotiating Ethnic Identity in Contemporary Myanmar*.
- Anthrop. Field Research Symposium, University of Arts Essen, Germany, January 2017  
*Insecurity and Improvisation. Field Research in Myanmar 2015 – 2016*.

Workshop on Material Culture, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany, December 2016  
*Weaving, Knowledge & Secrecy. A Field Research Report on the Creation of Hand-woven Fabrics in Myanmar.*

Myanmar – International Burma Studies Conference, NIU DeKalb, USA, October 2016  
*Threads running through a nation: Negotiations of Past & Present in Contemporary Textile Craftsmanship in Myanmar.*

Interdisciplinary Conference Myanmar, Zürich University, Switzerland, July 2015  
*Cultural Heritage in a Transforming State. Myanmar's Textiles between the Quest for Identity & Development in Past, Present & Future.*

Myanmar Symposium, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany, June 2015  
*Textiles as part of the Cultural Heritage of Myanmar. Presentation of Field Research Plan & Methodical Approach.*

VAD Conference, Bayreuth University, Germany, June 2014  
*Panel organizer with Prof. Hans Peter Hahn & Presentation: Forms of political participation via new technologies in West Africa*