



DISRUPTING TERRITORIES

NEW SPACES OF AGRICULTURE AND SOCIAL REPRODUCTION SYSTEMS

11.-12. December 2008, Oriental Institute, Leipzig, Schillerstraße 6



The colloquium addresses the interrelations between changing agri-food systems and the insecurities of social reproduction with regard to their territorial manifestations in a globalizing world.

Today, two thirds of developing countries are net importers of food. The rush to liberalize agricultural markets has left poorer producers widely deprived of governmental support. Deregulated trade, furthered by large gaps in competition law, has fostered speculation on the international food markets and given enormous market power to trans-national agribusiness. The actual food crisis of 2008 reveals a conjunction of these processes. They are further compounded by high oil prices, poor climatic conditions in

major food producing areas and stress on resources, particularly on water and soil. The results have been low stocks of staple foods, widespread food insecurity and hunger. Thus, foreign interests and private speculation have increasingly shaped local spaces of reproduction. Given the restructuring of producer-consumer relations in agri-food complexes, the colloquium will focus upon human security in the context of socially and territorially disembedded interactions.

