
About the Authors

Sigrid Baringhorst, Ph.D. in political science, is professor of political science at the University of Siegen, Germany. Her research interests lie in the area of migration politics and political communication. Recently, she has broached the issue of political campaigns on the Internet in an extensive research project financed by the German Research Foundation.

Menderes Candan is a Ph.D. student at the Institute for Political Science at the University of Muenster, Germany, and scholarship holder of the German National Academic Foundation. In his master's thesis he has focused on the role of the internet for nation building processes of Diaspora communities.

Uwe Hunger, Ph.D. in political science, is research associate at the department for political science at the University of Münster, Germany. He was head of the research project „Political Potential of the Internet. The virtual Diaspora of migrants from Russia and Turkey in Germany” (funded by the Fritz-Thyssen-Trust). His research refers to topics such as migration and development, integration as well as migrant associations.

Kathrin Kissau, M.A. in communication science and Ph.D. in political science, is a research associate at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. She was research assistant within the research project “Political Potential of the Internet” at the institute for political science at the University of Muenster, Germany. In her work she has focussed on internet use of immigrants and its effects on political participation, integration as well as on development of the countries of origin.

Susanne In der Smitten, M.A. in communication science and Ph.D. in political science, is currently working as research associate at the Higher Education Information System in Hannover, Germany. In the past years she has been monitoring the development of different kinds of political community structures on the Internet. In her PhD thesis she analysed the political potential of these networks and groups as well as problems arising that constrain the evolution of effective political grass root movements online.

Inna Weiskopf is Ph.D. student at the department of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at the University of Haifa, Israel. Her research deals with cultural aspects of internet uses by immigrants from the Former Soviet Union in Israel. She thereby especially focuses on female migrants' role in the development and adaptation processes in their country of residence and their instrumentalisation of the new media for these purposes.