

Research Questions

Project Team

The B9 project takes a prescriptive approach and examines the possibility of *legitimate governance* under conditions of limited statehood. For the third funding period, we have determined two core areas of research:

1. First, starting from the idea of a moral division of labor we ask what **human rights obligations** should be ascribed to the different governance actors operating in areas of limited statehood.

2. Second, we ask how the right to **collective self-determination** can be realized in the context of new forms of governance.



Implementation

Our normative starting points are human rights and the right to collective self-determination – despite or even because they often stand in tension to each other.

Methodologically, we focus on the ambivalence of state governance. By analyzing this ambivalence, we hope to arrive at a principled account of the normative status of non-state governance under conditions of limited statehood.

ad 1)

To allocate human rights obligations under conditions of limited statehood, we first need to develop a differentiated understanding of the relevant dimensions of obligation.

It is common to distinguish duties to “respect, help, and fulfill” human rights. On a *first level*, these duties directly relate to basic human rights. We argue, however, that on a *second level* these duties can also create obligations to build and support institutions capable of providing basic goods and services securely and without discrimination.

In the third funding period we will focus on this second level, i.e. on the obligation to build institutions that guarantee human rights securely, inclusively, and without discrimination.

ad 2)

To discuss how the right to collective self-determination can be realized under conditions of limited statehood, we proceed in two steps:

First we discuss which institutions are necessary to enable collective self-determination in the first place. This includes the question of whether morally acceptable governance in areas of limited statehood depends on a certain level or a certain minimal form of statehood.

Second, we will ask what standards of democratic legitimacy can usefully be applied to governance institutions in areas of limited statehood. To this end, we differentiate among four dimensions of democratic legitimacy: (1) accountability, (2) effective appeals system, (3) participation, and (4) deliberation. This distinction allows for a nuanced evaluation of governance in areas of limited statehood.



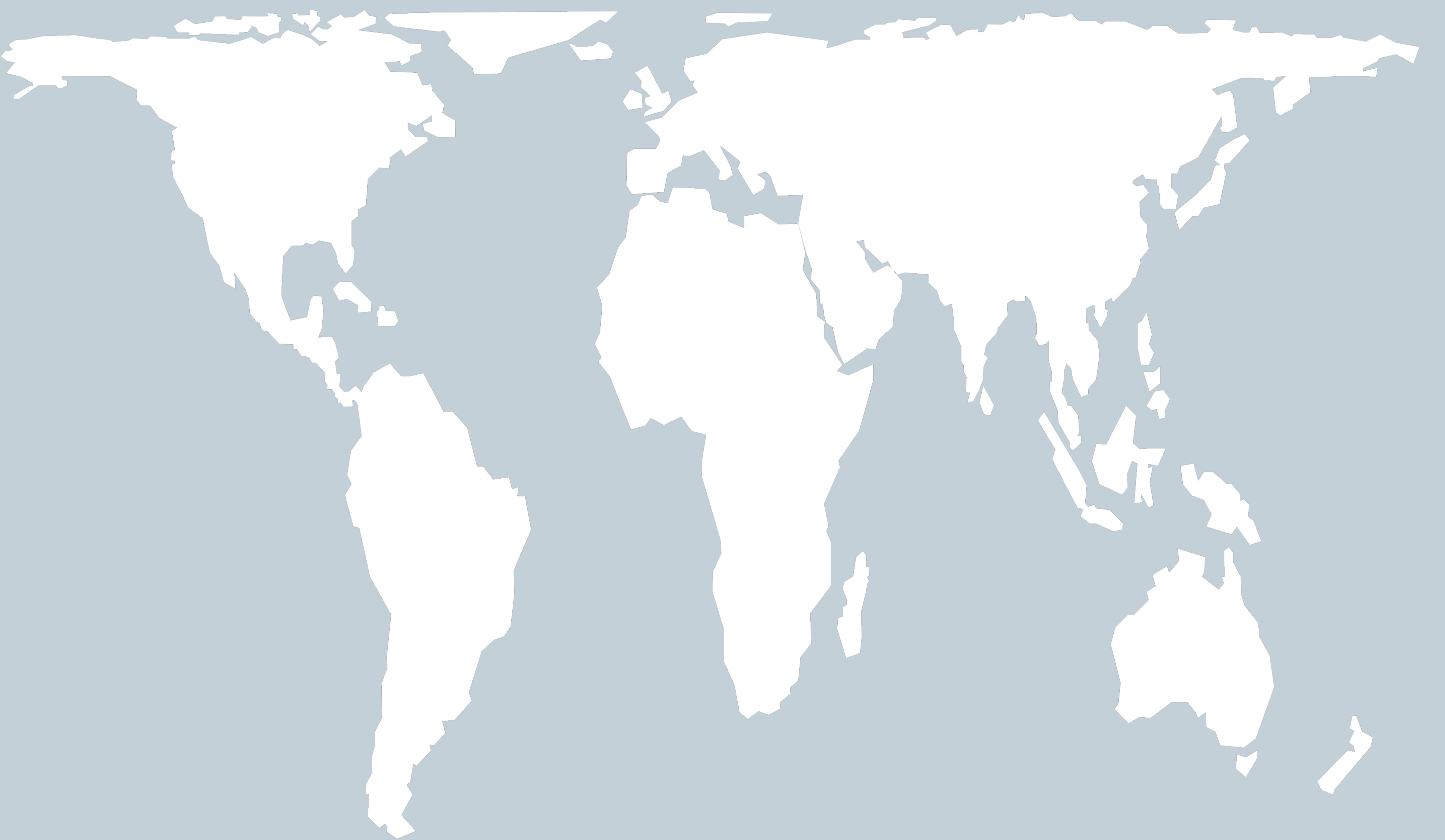
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Contribution to the SFB 700

B9 fulfills an **interdisciplinary function** within the normative dimension of the entire SFB 700. While exchanging with and complementing the research center’s empirical theory building, the B9 project assumes an explicitly prescriptive perspective.



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