Passau Research Colloquium on Southeast Asia
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**Self-organization and transition: A polycentric institutional analysis using the example of the development of agro-ecological movements and organic farming in Tunisia**

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The lecture is devoted to the question what self-organization looks like in the transition of the agricultural sector in Tunisia. The main research interests are the basic conditions and institutions, and how they are to be evaluated regarding whether they are beneficial for self-organization in the context of transition. After a brief introduction to the debate about agricultural transition and Tunisia as a country context, we will present two case studies, studying the basic conditions of agro-ecological movements; as well as the institutional design of organic farming in Tunisia. Both case studies apply Ostrom's polycentricity approach and try to clarify to what extent principles and institutions correspond with this approach, and whether it is suitable as a framework for researching self-organization in the context of sustainability transformation.