

these property cases were settled by adopting typical criminal trial procedures, not by mediating. These statistics also show that the confession and pardon procedure – often evoked to stress the restorative, at times quasi-religious qualities of the court system – was only partially used: most defendants did not confess but were nevertheless convicted. This alone already points to more frictional ‘conversations’ and an adversarial logic animating the space of the *gacaca* courts.

That said, this book moves well beyond a first generation of overtly legalistic, theoretical and normative studies analysing the legal responses to the Rwandan genocide. This literature often made assumptions about law-in-reality with little understanding of the Rwandan socio-cultural universe and insights regarding the ‘smaller-scale interpersonal interactions that make up ordinary life’ (p. 21). It is the careful attention to these micro-empirical dynamics that sets *Remediation in Rwanda* apart from earlier studies. Indeed, the book presents vivid evidence of what it means to settle disputes and how these things get done in practice, not only *de jure*. And the work makes an important call to stop romanticising the ‘local’ and acknowledge the inherent violence of social repair, at the grassroots as well.

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**Transboundary Cooperations in Rwanda: Organisation Patterns of Companies, Projects, and Foreign Aid Compared** by ROBIN POHL  
Bielefeld: Transcript Verlag, 2016. Pp 246. \$45 (pbk).

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Robin Phol’s PhD thesis book aims to provide an in-depth anthropological account of transboundary actors in Rwanda. The aim of the book is to contribute to the literature on globalisation and transboundary interactions, coining the term ‘transboundary cooperation’ to describe relationships between the ‘local’ and ‘boundary-crossing’ actors in the private sector, government and development agencies. It is an investigation of instances where ‘the global’ meets ‘the local’, that are the essence of globalisation, but often less studied from this angle, particularly in Africa. Seven case studies are delved into and are well integrated into anthropology and transboundary theory. Dissecting these elements of globalisation in a developing country context, and through detailed case studies, is the key interest-point of the book. Of added significance is the contribution of the thesis to the Rwandan-focused Africanist literature. Providing detailed cases of the workings of a variety of private-sector initiatives and development aid projects adds to the recent political economy literature about Rwanda (cf. Goodfellow & Behuria 2016) and is important given the centrality of international actors to the country’s post-genocide success story.

The seven case studies interrogate the workings of development agencies, government secondment programmes and notably, the private sector, including multinational business, an Indian diaspora businessman and Rwandan-focused transnational businesses. Particular attention is given to the energy sector, complementing recent literature (cf. Dye 2016), with the ministerial

department, the energy utility and a micro-hydro PPP programme investigated. The thesis then categorises these transboundary cooperations in an attempt to analyse their substance, considering factors like their responsiveness to Rwandan agendas, transfer of knowledge and engagement with local contexts.

The complexity of the projects becomes apparent, as do the divergences between transboundary and Rwandan actors' agendas. For instance, one development programme had to bend with the realities of working in the Rwandan government rather than stick to the on-paper agenda. Other cases show how cooperation projects responded to such complexity by operating in enclaves that isolate the transboundary actors and attempt to exclusively impose their priorities. In contrast, the private sector examples appeared best adapted to the realities of Rwanda 'on the ground' and involved more knowledge transfer.

The book could have benefited from relating such aid industry insights to the development studies literature that has reported similar findings. Another notable absence was any Rwandan-ist literature. This was somewhat problematic as the significant role played by the Rwandan state in development and private sector activities was overlooked, and the Rwandan elite described in the cases was left un-contextualised. The thesis' analysis could also have made an interesting contribution to the lively academic debate over the country. Additionally, Rwandan-ist literature could have helped to update the book's substance, primarily drawn from 2006–2007 fieldwork. Moreover, reference to the Rwandan-focused literature would have provided opportunities to appreciate the country's exceptionality. Rather, the book's discussion labels the context as 'African' with the categories of 'Africa' and the 'West' problematically left unpicked.

This book is therefore more useful to those seeking detailed cases of the anthropology of globalisation.

## REFERENCES

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**The Spirit of Marikana: The Rise of Insurgent Trade Unionism in South Africa**

by LUKE SINWELL with SIPHIWE MBATHA

London: Pluto Press, 2016. Pp. 224. £18.99 (pbk).

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This book is an ethnographic account of the 'micro politics of resistance' of mine-workers in Marikana. It draws extensively from the experiences of mineworkers and strike leaders to answer some questions that remain unanswered about what triggered the unprotected Lonmin and Amplats strikes in 2012, how the Lonmin strike was resuscitated and sustained after the massacre and how these