



## PRESS RELEASE

Essen, 19.10.2021

### **Without God and without Hell: Hannah Arendt and the Principle of Beginning** Lecture by Facundo Vega

**Tuesday, 26 Oct., 16:00 (CET) via ZOOM**

**What can and should be the promise of politics today? How does politics begin anew? In his talk, political philosopher Facundo Vega examines the strengths and limitations of Hannah Arendt's account of "beginnings".**

Vega shows how Arendt's reflections on "the beginning" attempt to avoid theories of pure spontaneity, great-event history, and historical contingency, arguing instead that, for Arendt, beginnings are ultimately dependent on what she calls "**the principle of beginning**". The talk excavates this principle of beginning in Arendt's work, showing its curious an-archic features and revealing how it can be a powerful tool for calling into question certain myths of contemporary politics, such as the charismatic populist leader.

#### **SPEAKER**

Facundo Vega, ICI Berlin / Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez

#### **MODERATOR**

Bécquer Seguí, Johns Hopkins University and former KWI International Fellow

#### **COORDINATORS**

Ricarda Menn, Coordinator KWI International Fellowships

#### **PARTICIPATION**

Participants can register for the lecture via e-mail to "Emily Beyer" ("[emily.beyer@kwi-nrw.de](mailto:emily.beyer@kwi-nrw.de)") by Monday, 25 October. Participants will then receive the Zoom link.

#### **ORGANISATION**

The lecture is organised by the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities Essen (KWI)

#### PRESS CONTACT

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## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

[Event on the KWI website](#)

**We would appreciate the circulation of this press release.**

### **About the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI):**

The Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) Essen, Germany, is an interdisciplinary research centre following the tradition of international Institutes for Advanced Study. In its role as an inter-university institution connecting the Ruhr-University Bochum, the Technological University Dortmund and the University of Duisburg-Essen, the institute works together with researchers and scientists from its neighbouring universities as well as other partners from the federal state NRW and places in- and outside of Germany. Within the Ruhr area, the KWI is a place to share and discuss the questions and results of ambitious research with interested parties from the city and the greater region. Currently, work at the KWI focusses on the following areas: "cultural studies of science and science policy making", "sociology of literature and culture", "science communication", and a "teaching lab". Projects in the established research field "culture of communication", as well as individual projects, will be continued.

[www.kulturwissenschaften.de](http://www.kulturwissenschaften.de)

**Please note:** If you do not wish to receive any further press releases from the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI), please send a short message to [presse@kwi-nrw.de](mailto:presse@kwi-nrw.de). Many thanks.

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