

**Urban Studies Seminar
2015 - 2016****Chaired by Prof Ulrike Freitag and Dr Nora Lafi****Monday, November 30th, 2015, 5 pm****Peruvian Amazonian Indigenous Peoples as Refugees in their Own Country: The Urban Condition in Lima****Lecture by Maija Susarina (ZMO)****Twice a month,
Mondays 5 pm - 7 pm****Venue:**Conference Hall
Zentrum Moderner Orient
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The Shipibo are an indigenous group from the Peruvian Amazon that have migrated to Lima, the capital, and established their own community called Cantagallo on the outskirts of the historical city center. Utilizing the example of the Shipibo, Maija Susarina will elaborate on the definitions of modern-day refugees and internally displaced people in order to show the exclusionary mechanisms and vagueness of such categories. These categories are not just mere historical products, they produce and reproduce spaces for action as well as their denial. This talk investigates the influence which the Shipibo exercised on the urban centers of Lima and the impact the Peruvian capital has left on the Shipibo who experience a type of othering comparable to the refugees coming to Europe in recent times. Being associated with backwardness, pollution, and criminality, the Shipibo appear to be the prototype of the "foreigner" – only that they are not. This lecture shows how external categories of classification such as refugee, migrant or indigenous operate as highly politicized processes.

Maija Susarina is MA Social and Cultural Anthropology student at the Free University of Berlin. She conducted her first research in Lima, Peru, and concentrated on the vulnerability of the women of the Shipibo indigenous group from Ucayali. Maija is currently preparing her second research in Sri Lanka that will also remain in the tradition of Disaster Research.