

K-Peritia



Funded by the
European Union

K-Peritia
CA 22101

WG1

THEORY

REPORT
2023-2024

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This is an activity of K-Peritia CA22101
funded by COST and the European Union



K-Peritia Working Group 1 - Theory 2023-2024 Report

Introduction

This report provides an overview of the activities, outputs, and dissemination efforts of the K-Peritia working groups for the reporting period October 2023/October 2024. The report is structured chronologically, detailing the contributions of WG 1, including meetings, surveys, brainstorming sessions, webinars, publications, and outreach efforts.

1. Working Group Activities

The central activity of WG 1 during the first year of K-Peritia was the «Theory Seminar Series», a cycle of online seminars aimed at articulating the theory of cultural expertise from an interdisciplinary perspective and extending its application to various fields and domains. Hosted monthly, each seminar focused on a different domain where cultural expertise is relevant, seeking to identify and explore the praxis and theoretical frameworks of cultural expertise, as well as intersections with other fields. This approach promoted a deeper and broader understanding of cultural expertise.

The Theory Seminar Series built upon initial activities from the inaugural conference held in Oxford in January 2024. During this conference, WG 1 members participated in various sessions, including a round table titled “Cartography of cultural expertise”. This roundtable aimed to map and outline different frameworks or approaches to the overarching concept of cultural expertise within the K-Peritia network, providing a panoramic view of the potentialities of cultural expertise to be further explored in subsequent seminars and publications.

Additionally, WG 1 members engaged in the K-Peritia training courses “How to Publish in Cultural Expertise” and “How to introduce Cultural Expertise to an interdisciplinary audience?”, held in Istanbul on 16-17 May 2024; and in the publications, including the special issue “Cultural Expertise and Litigation: Practices in South Asia and Europe”, edited by Livia Holden, Malvika Seth, Ashwin Mishra & Max Steuer.

WG 1 convened several times throughout the year to deliberate on proposals for future activities. These meetings provided members with the opportunity to familiarise themselves with each other, reflect on the proposed initiatives, assess their feasibility and relevance, and collaboratively refine the action plan to ensure it effectively addresses the WG's objectives and interests.



1.1 Chronological Summary of Activities

Date	Activity Type	Description	Link to Details
19 September 2023	K-Peritia Preliminary meeting	Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation and description of K-Peritia (objectives and goals);- Discussion on deadlines and preliminary milestones;- Questions and suggestions.	n.a.
10 October 2023	Preliminary meeting for K-Peritia MC meeting	Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introduction of MC Committee Members: presentation of members, including backgrounds and roles;- Overview of K-Peritia: detailed understanding of the project's objectives and scope;- Discussion on upcoming decisions and key points for consideration.	n.a.
19 October 2023	Management Committee Meeting	Agenda of the WG 1 parallel session: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Overview of main goals of WG 1;- Available resources and means;- Discussion of action plan.	n.a.
25 October 2023	WG 1 Coordination Meeting	Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introduction of WG 1 coordination: scope, structure and objectives;- Overview of 4-Year Planned Outputs: main milestones; expected outputs (e.g., reports, publications, collaborations); key deliverables for each year;- Plan of Activities for the first year: Oxford Conference; Seminar Series (topics and themes for seminars);	n.a.

		<p>format; proposed schedule); Written Symposium (purpose and targeted outcomes);</p> <p>- Planning and Next Steps: roles and responsibilities for each activity; communication strategy; scheduling next meetings; discussion of potential challenges and support needs.</p>	
27 November 2023	WGs Coordination meeting	<p>Agenda:</p> <p>Oxford Conference preparation: logistic questions (travel, lodging, reimbursements); sessions planning (session topics and formats, speakers and panellists); and WG 1 coordination (roles and responsibilities, internal communication).</p>	
13 December 2023	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 1	<p>“Cultural Expertise: Towards Praxis in the Middle East”, led by Dina Hadad. Moderation: Ana Oliveira.</p> <p>The seminar discussed the challenges of achieving a just society, especially within the legal context of the Arab Middle East. It highlighted the ongoing debates about redistributing power and rights through law, particularly in a region characterised by transition, interventionism, and efforts to decolonise and localise legal practices. The concept of cultural expertise, which involves understanding the social and cultural background of claimants and litigants for legal purposes, is emphasised as essential but remains inconsistently applied. The seminar also stressed the need to move beyond theoretical legal frameworks to examine law in its practical, social, and historical context.</p>	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Screenshot-2024-01-16-at-19.40.58.png
3-6 January 2024	WG 1 sessions within the K-Peritia Plenary Conference	<p>Session 1: Introduction of WG 1 (disciplinary and institutional context and trajectory, research interests, expectations and contributions to WG 1) and Planning (action plan, timeline, and mapping of outputs);</p> <p>Session 2: Action Overview and WG 1 Presentation;</p> <p>Session 3: Interactive session on cultural expertise and related concepts;</p> <p>Session 4: Cartography of cultural expertise;</p>	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/K-Peritia-Oxford-Conference-programme-2024.pdf

		Session 5: WG 1 Presentation of the first outputs	
22 January 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 2	<p>“Cultural Expertise: Theories and practises”, led by Livia Holden. Moderation: Ana Oliveira.</p> <p>This seminar offered a brief overview of the theoretical foundations of cultural expertise, followed by an analysis of the ethics and positioning adopted by cultural experts. Additionally, it delved into the various formats of cultural expertise through an exploration of data and publications relating to the prevalence, frequency and methodologies associated with cultural expertise in selected countries around the world.</p>	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/WG1-seminar-2-Holden.jpeg
26 January 2024	WG 1 Coordination meeting	<p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reflection on the coordination of WG 1: experiences, expectations and challenges; - Communication strategies for WG 1 coordination; - Overview and feedback on past and ongoing activities of WG1 (Oxford Conference; Seminar Series); - Other information. 	n.a.
5 February 2024	WGs coordination meeting	<p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update on WG Deliverables (current status of deliverables; progress, challenges, and proposed timelines); - Selection of Venue for the Meeting in May; - Organising Meeting + 2 Days of Training. 	n.a.
29 February 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 3	<p>“Cultural Expertise and Litigation in Extreme Speech Cases: An Introduction”, led by Max Steuer. Moderation: Ana Oliveira.</p> <p>The seminar explored the role of cultural expertise in extreme speech cases, highlighting the need for context-sensitive analysis to avoid oversimplification. It discussed challenges, particularly when high-profile figures are involved, and emphasised the importance</p>	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Seminar3_WG1_Theory_29Feb24_MaxS.pdf

		of media and public involvement beyond state-focused narratives.	
13 March 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 4	<p>“Bridging Disciplines: The Role of Cultural Expertise in Social Sciences Today”, led by Helena Belchior-Rocha and Serdar Yener. Moderation: Ana Oliveira.</p> <p>This seminar explored the role of cultural competence in bridging disciplines within the realm of social sciences. It explored how a nuanced understanding of subtle cultural differences enables researchers to construct more comprehensive frameworks for studying phenomena such as identity, social behaviour, and power dynamics. In addition, examples were presented to illustrate interdisciplinary collaborations that have harnessed cultural expertise to address pressing social issues.</p>	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Seminar4-.pdf
19 April 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 5	<p>“Cultural Expertise and Disabilities Rights Between National and International”, led by Sahar Khan. Moderation: Dina Hadad.</p> <p>The seminar explored cultural expertise within the context of human rights in particular disability rights. Choices over legal language and normative processes were highlighted between national and international practices.</p>	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SaharKhan.pdf
7 May 2024	WG leaders meeting (Preparation of the MC meeting)	<p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key achievements; - Major challenges; - Future steps. 	n.a.
15 May 2024	2nd K-PERITIA Managem	<p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview the WGs activities; 	n.a.

	ent Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of Action Plan (Theory Seminar Series; Ongoing and upcoming publications on cultural expertise); - Deliverables; - Challenges and Solutions; - Reflections on Co-leadership experience. 	
28 May 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 6	<p>“Exploring Cultural Expertise in Digital Innovation: Insights from Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, Blockchain, and AI”, led by Luís Teixeira. Moderation: Ana Oliveira.</p> <p>This seminar delved into the intricate relationship between cultural expertise and digital innovation, focusing on key technologies such as augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), blockchain, and artificial intelligence (AI). As digital technologies continue to reshape various industries, understanding the cultural dimensions becomes imperative for effective implementation and ethical practice. Through a series of discussions and case studies, the seminar explored how cultural expertise intersects with digital innovation, addressing challenges, opportunities, and ethical considerations.</p>	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Theory-seminar-series-6.jpg
26 June 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Wrap up Theory Seminar Series.	<p>The Wrap-Up seminar concluded the Theory Seminar Series with a comprehensive overview of the theoretical discussions held throughout the cycle. It sought to reflect on the key themes explored in its articulation with the concept and framework of cultural expertise, aiming to consolidate the understanding on these complex issues. The seminar also served as a platform for participants to share their key insights and discuss potential areas for future research and activities.</p>	
3 July 2024	WG 1 meeting on	Agenda:	n.a.

	publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publication Strategy: Review ongoing and upcoming publications; identify target journals and publishers; spot collaborative writing opportunities; - Events Planning: Discuss venues, dates, and thematic frameworks. - Visibility and Impact: Evaluate the visibility and impact of WG 1's research contributions. 	
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2. Outputs

2.1 Chronological Summary of Outputs

Date	Activity Type	Description	Link to Details
13/12/2023	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 1	"Cultural Expertise: Towards Praxis in the Middle East", led by Dina Hadad.	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Screenshot-2024-01-16-at-19.40.58.png
22 J/01/2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 2	"Cultural Expertise: Theories and practises", led by Livia Holden.	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/WG1-seminar-2-Holden.jpeg
29/02/ 2024	Theory Seminar	"Cultural Expertise and Litigation in Extreme Speech Cases: An Introduction", led by Max Steuer.	https://k-peritia.com/wp-

	Series: Seminar 3		content/uploads/2024/02/Seminar3_WG1_Theory_29Feb24_MaxS.pdf
13/03/2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 4	“Bridging Disciplines: The Role of Cultural Expertise in Social Sciences Today”, led by Helena Belchior-Rocha and Serdar Yener.	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Seminar4-.pdf
19/04/ 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 5	“Cultural Expertise and Disabilities Rights Between National and International”, led by Sahar Khan and Dina Hadad.	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SaharKhan.pdf
28/05/ 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Seminar 6	“Exploring Cultural Expertise in Digital Innovation: Insights from Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, Blockchain, and AI”, led by Luís Teixeira.	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Theory-seminar-series-6.jpg
26/06/ 2024	Theory Seminar Series: Wrap up Theory Seminar Series.	The Wrap-Up seminar concluded the Theory Seminar Series with a comprehensive overview of the theoretical discussions held throughout the cycle.	na

13/06/2024	Blog Post	Dina Hadad Shared her experience as an Acting Vice Chair and Co Leader of the theory group	https://k-peritia.com/elementor-1037/
27/06/2024	Blog Post	Max Steuer provided a report on a discussion on expert witnessing and cultural expertise in the social sciences in Czechia and Slovakia	https://k-peritia.com/elementor-1059/

3. Dissemination

3.1 Chronological Summary of Dissemination Activities

4. Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis

Date	Dissemination Channel	Activity	Link to Post/Details
13/12/2023	LinkedIn Post	Theory Seminar Series; Seminar 1 “Cultural Expertise: Towards Praxis in the Middle East”, led by Dina Hadad.	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Screenshot-2024-01-16-at-19.40.58.png
22 /01/2024	LinkedIn Post	Theory Seminar Series; Seminar 2 “Cultural Expertise: Theories and practises”, led by Livia Holden.	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/cultural-expertise_22

			ndjanuary-2024-5pm-cet-please-register-activity-7151535550108221440-zmHt?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop
29/02/ 2024	LinkedIn Post	Theory Seminar Series; Seminar 3 “Cultural Expertise and Litigation in Extreme Speech Cases: An Introduction”, led by Max Steuer.	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/cultural-expertise_register-httpslnkdine_zzerj6r-activity-7167110416895066112-vTus?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop
13/03/2024	LinkedIn Post	Theory Seminar Series; Seminar 4 “Bridging Disciplines: The Role of Cultural Expertise in Social Sciences Today”, led by Helena Belchior-Rocha and Serdar Yener.	https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7171652240556834817

03/04/2024	Email to the mailing list about the seminar on 19 April		Screenshot of the activity is available in appendix B
19/04/ 2024	LinkedIn Post	Theory Seminar Series; Seminar 5, “Cultural Expertise and Disabilities Rights Between National and International”, led by Sahar Khan and Dina Hadad.	https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7181193636208934913
28/05/ 2024	LinkedIn Post	Theory Seminar Series; Seminar 6 “Exploring Cultural Expertise in Digital Innovation: Insights from Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, Blockchain, and AI”, led by Luís Teixeira.	https://k-peritia.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Theory-seminar-series-6.jpg
13 July 2024	LinkedIn Post	Blog Post Dina Hadad Shared her experience as an Acting Vice Chair and Co Leader of the theory group	https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7226491142576435200

4.1 Qualitative Analysis

WG 1’s activities in the first year of K-Peritia were marked by the launch of the «Theory Seminar Series», a cycle of monthly online seminars designed to advance the theory of cultural expertise from an interdisciplinary perspective. Key themes included the exploration of cultural expertise across



various domains (e.g., eextreme speech cases; ddisabilities rights; digital platforms) and geographical contexts (e.g., Middle East, Slovakia, Turkey). The series facilitated in-depth discussions and enhanced understanding through its structured format and diverse expert contributions.

Successful strategies included: i) the interdisciplinary approach, providing a platform for collaborative dialogues; and ii) structured format. The monthly schedule allowed for sustained engagement and iterative learning, giving participants the opportunity to build on previous discussions and refine their understanding progressively.

The main challenge relates to maintain engagement over multiple sessions, particularly in an online format. Strategies to keep discussions dynamic and interactive were essential to sustain interest and participation.

- Key Insights: Overall, WG 1's activities in the first year successfully advanced the understanding of cultural expertise, leveraging interdisciplinary collaboration and structured discussions. The experience provided valuable insights into managing remote academic events and highlighted the benefits of diverse and flexible approaches to complex theoretical issues.

The WG 1 activities had a positive impact on K-Peritia network, improving its understanding of cultural competences and promoting interdisciplinary dialogue. The seminars and publications provided valuable information for ongoing research and contributed to a wider debate especially within the academic community. Although the direct impact may be incremental, WG1's work has helped raise awareness of cultural expertise and promoted a basis for future exploration and collaboration.

4.2 Quantitative Analysis

Engagement Metrics

Metric	Value
Number of attendees at the Theory Seminar Series	Around 8 participants in each seminar (a total of around 56)
Outputs	1 blog + 7 Seminars = Total of 8
LinkedIn Posts	7
Mailing list e-mails sent	7



5. Conclusion

The main achievement of WG 1 during the first year was the successful launch of the «Theory Seminar Series», which built on the inaugural K-Peritia conference in Oxford. This series of monthly online seminars fostered an interdisciplinary dialogue on cultural expertise across various domains, theoretical frameworks and geographical contexts. At the same time, it cultivated a sense of collaboration and shared purpose within WG 1, which significantly enhanced group cohesion but also improved the overall effectiveness of the working group.

Alongside this activity, WG 1 members contributed to publications such as the special issue on “Cultural Expertise and Litigation: Practices in South Asia and Europe”, and participated in training sessions on publishing and presenting cultural expertise in interdisciplinary settings. These activities helped expand the network’s research base and facilitated knowledge sharing.

No less important for a productive working group dynamic, throughout the year, WG 1 convened multiple times to reflect on their progress and plan future activities. These meetings were crucial for refining action plans and ensuring alignment with the group’s objectives.

WG 1 convened multiple times throughout the year to reflect on progress and plan future activities. These meetings were crucial for refining action plans and ensuring alignment with the group’s objectives, and were highly important for a productive working group dynamic. The main challenge remains sustaining participation and engagement in WG 1 activities, such as the Theory Seminar Series. To address this, structured, well-paced discussions and active participation were encouraged to maintain interest. The interdisciplinary nature of the discussions is expected to further support engagement in future seminars and activities. Another challenge is extending theoretical discussions around cultural expertise beyond K-Peritia network. To mitigate this, the idea is to continue to facilitating cross-network collaborations by organising and participating in interdisciplinary workshops, seminars, and conferences, as well as encouraging joint publications and special issue journals. Lastly, fostering stronger engagement with the work of the other WGs will be a key objective for the second year of K-Peritia. This will involve prioritising joint initiatives that expand participation and engagement, strengthen synergies, and enhance the collective impact of the WGs’ contributions.

It is essential to highlight that all the activities conducted by WG 1 produced outputs that also constitute milestones for future activities and outputs to be produced next year—for example, selected webinars will be edited and transformed into online recordings that will be uploaded as part of the training materials. Additionally, the Theory Seminar Series will be edited to provide a collection of contributions that have laid the groundwork for a rich theoretical discussion.

It is our perception that WG 1's activities have contributed to advancing the understanding of cultural expertise within and beyond the K-Peritia network, supporting interdisciplinary collaboration, and offering insights for ongoing research. While the immediate impact may be limited, the seminars, events, and publications have provided a foundation for future exploration and collaboration.



6. Appendices

- Appendix A: Detailed meeting minutes-

- Appendix B:

From: Dina Haddad <haddad1720@gmail.com>
To: CULTURALEXPERTISE@jiscmail.ac.uk
Date: 3 Apr 2024 at 11:58

Dear Members of the Cultural Expertise Community,

I would like to invite you to the fifth seminar in the Seminar Series of our working group WG1 Theory. A cutting edge cross discipline research that reflects on each of the theory and practice of Cultural Expertise - "Cultural Expertise and Disability Rights" By Sahar Khan.

Please register via the following link
<https://us06web.zoom.us/joining/register?ZJDocOpuzqkGNCOWIwAK77N9DteyalHDdnUss>

