

## **Die Übung eines gesellschaftlichen Imaginären.**

**Eine Untersuchung der Beteiligung der deutschen Bundesregierung an dem NATO-Manöver Fallex 66 (1966) hinsichtlich ihrer Modalität, Fiktionalität und Immersivität.**

„How do imaginaries claim normativity? A society can only function if enough people envision the same imaginary, says Castoriadis. I claim, that new imaginaries need to be exercised, if they are to claim normative power. This paper investigates a homogenization process of a social imaginary: In the 1966 German civil defense exercise Fallex 66, 33 members of the West German parliament simulated the at this point intensely disputed Emergency Laws. This paper argues that the fusion of fictional and real elements in the exercised scenario, combined with a bodily and affective immersion in a bunker setting had the power to shift a social imaginary. By presenting the Emergency Laws in a conservative patriarchal imaginary landscape, the exercise induces a normative shift in the social perception of the Laws. This paper sheds a leftist light on the struggle, highlighting the political bias of the exercise, as well as giving a new vocabulary to the left critique of that time. With a unique conceptual set-up, this paper investigates the imaginaries transported by and the means of their production in the civil defense exercise. Hereby, I suggest a methodical set for the analysis of social imaginaries at the cutting surface of aesthetics, affect theory, contemporary history, and social philosophy.”

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