

## **DIDIER FASSIN**

### **Contacts :**

IAS, Institute for Advanced Study  
School of Social Science  
Einstein Drive  
Princeton, NJ 08530 United States  
Iris, Institut de recherche interdisciplinaire sur les enjeux sociaux  
*Sciences sociales, politique, santé*  
96, boulevard Raspail  
75 006 Paris France  
dfassin@ias.edu  
*Website* : <http://iris.ehess.fr>

**Anthropologist, sociologist and physician. MD, MPH, PhD**

### **MAIN POSITION**

**James Wolfensohn Professor of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton**

### **OTHER POSITIONS**

Director of Studies at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris (1999-)  
Visiting Professor at Princeton University and the University of Hong Kong (2010-2013)

### **CAREER**

Junior Doctor in Internal Medicine – “Interne des Hôpitaux de Paris” (1979-1984 and 1986-1987).  
Junior Researcher for INSERM, National Institute for Health Research – Senegal (1984-1986)  
Assistant Professor in Infectious Diseases and Public Health – Hospital Pitié-Salpêtrière (1987-1989).  
Senior Researcher for the IFEA, French Institute for Research in the Andes – Ecuador (1989-1991).  
Assistant Professor, then Professor (“exceptional class”) at the University of Paris North (1991-2009)  
Director of studies “Political and Moral Anthropology” at the EHESS (1999-)  
James Wolfensohn Professor of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study of Princeton (2009-)

### **DIPLOMAS**

Doctorate in Medicine (University of Paris 6, 1982).  
Master in Public Health (University of Paris 11, 1986).  
PhD in Social Science - Advisor: Georges Balandier (EHESS, 1988).  
Accreditation as Research Advisor in Public Health (University of Paris 6, 1994).  
Accreditation as Research Advisor in Social Sciences (EHESS, 1995).

### **SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### ***Present***

Member of the Scientific Council of the City of Paris since 2007  
Member of the Scientific Council of the University Alliance of Paris Cité since 2010  
Member of the Scientific and Strategic International Committee of the Collège de France since 2010  
Member of the Committee on World Anthropologies, American Anthropological Association, since 2010  
Member of the Scientific Committee of the UNAIDS High Level Commission on HIV Prevention 2010

### ***Previous***

Director and founder of Iris, Institut de recherche interdisciplinaire sur les enjeux sociaux (CNRS-Inserm-EHESS-University Paris 13) from 2007 to 2010  
Director and founder of Cresp, Center for Research on Contemporary Health Issues (1995-2006)  
Member of the Administration Board of the Faculty of Medicine of Bobigny (1998-2002)  
Chair of the Sociology and Anthropology Committee at the University of Paris North (2004-2008)  
Member of the Scientific Council of Inserm, National Institute for Health Research (2001-2003)  
Member of the Administration Board of the Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (2001-2005)  
Member of the French Group for the Study and Prevention of Racial Discrimination (1999-2002)  
President of the Social Science Committee of the ANRS, French Agency for AIDS Research (2003-2006)  
Vice-President of the French National Council on AIDS (2004-2006)  
President of the Committee for the Evaluation of French University Cooperation Programmes (2005)  
Vice-President then President of the Human and Social Sciences Committee of the ANR (2005-2006)  
Deputy director and co-founder of the Maison des sciences de l'homme Paris Nord (2001-2009)  
Member of the Ethics Committee of INRA, National Institute for Research on Agronomy (2007-2010)

## **OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES**

### ***Academic***

Coordinator of the Social Science Courses at the Faculty of Medicine of Bobigny (2001-2009)  
Coordinator of the Master Health-Populations-Social Policy, EHESS-University of Paris North (2006-2009)  
Member of the Doctorate Committee for Social Sciences, EHESS-Ecole normale supérieure (2008-2009)

### ***Edition***

Director of the series "Bibliothèque de l'Iris" at La Découverte Publishers, Paris  
Codirector of the series "Sociologiques" at Anthropos/Economica Publishers  
Corresponding editor of *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* since 2005  
Associate Editor *Medical Anthropology* since 2009  
Member of the Editorial Committee *International Journal of Migration, Health and Social Care* since 2005  
Member of the Scientific Committee of the international journal *Humanity* since 2010  
Former member of the International Committee of *Social Science and Medicine* (2000-2006)

### ***Medicine***

Founder and director of the Villermé Unit (social and medical department for sick persons without social protection), Hospital Avicenne, Assistance publique-Hôpitaux de Paris, Bobigny (1996-2003)

### ***Organizations***

Administrator then Vice-President of Médecins sans frontières, Doctors Without Borders (1999-2003)  
President of the Comede, Medical Committee for the Exiled since 2006

## **COORDINATION OF FUNDED RESEARCH PROGRAMMES**

The social condition of undocumented immigrants (CNRS, 1996-1998)  
The management of poor patients in emergency departments (RNSP, 1997-1999)  
The politics of suffering and the places of listening (Inserm, 1998-2000)  
The history and sociology of lead-poisoning in France (Ministry of Research, 1999-2001)  
The political anthropology of AIDS in South Africa (ANRS, 2000-2003)  
The biopolitics of a natural disaster in Venezuela (Ecos, 2001-2002)  
The social signification of racial discrimination in France (Ministry of Social Affairs, 2003-2005)  
The social and racial inequalities in Colombia (with Mara Viveros, Ecos, 2004-2005)  
The social uses of psychic trauma in France (with Richard Rechtman, CNRS-Inserm-MiRe, 2002-2005)  
The body of victims, the spaces of subjects (with Michel Agier, Ministry of Research, 2005-2007)  
Moral sentiments and local justice in health care in South Africa (with Helen Schneider, ANRS, 2006-2008)  
Beyond the question of immigration. The new frontiers of French society (ANR, 2006-2009)  
Towards a critical moral anthropology (European Research Council, 2009-2012)

## PUBLICATIONS (SELECTION)

### **Books as author**

- Pouvoir et maladie en Afrique. Anthropologie sociale de la banlieue de Dakar*, PUF, Paris, 1992
- Antropologia y salud*, Abya Yala-IFEA, Quito, 1992
- L'espace politique de la santé. Essai de généalogie*, PUF, Paris, 1996
- Les enjeux politiques de la santé. Etudes sénégalaises, équatoriennes et françaises*, Karthala, Paris, 2000
- Des maux indicibles. Sociologie des lieux écoute*, La Découverte, Paris, 2004
- Faire de la santé publique*, Editions de l'Ecole nationale de santé publique, Rennes, 2005 (2<sup>nd</sup> édition 2008)
- Quand les corps se souviennent. Expérience et politique du sida après l'apartheid*, La Découverte, series « Armillaire », Paris, 2006. Translation (2007): *When Bodies Remember. Experience and Politics of AIDS in Post-apartheid South Africa*, University of California Press, Berkeley, series « Public anthropology ».
- L'empire du traumatisme. Enquête sur la condition de victime* (with R. Rechtman), series « La bibliothèque des savoirs », Flammarion, Paris, 2007. Translation (2009): *The Empire of Trauma. Inquiry into the Condition of Victims*, Princeton University Press, Princeton.
- La raison humanitaire. Une histoire morale du temps présent*, Hautes Etudes – Gallimard – Seuil, Paris, 2010. Translation (2011): *Humanitarian Reason. A Moral History of the Present*, University of California Press, Berkeley.
- La Force de l'ordre. Anthropologie de la police des quartiers*, Seuil, Paris, 2011.

### **Books as editor**

- Santé publique* (with G. Brücker), Ellipses-AUPELF, Paris, 1989
- Sociétés, développement et santé* (with Y. Jaffré), Ellipses-AUPELF, Paris, 1992
- Mujeres de los Andes* (with AC Defossez and M. Viveros), Un. Nacional de Colombia-IFEA, Bogota, 1992
- Les métiers de la santé. Enjeux de pouvoir et quête de légitimité*, Anthropos, Paris, 1994 (with P. Aïach)
- Les lois de l'inhospitalité* (with A. Morice et C. Quiminal), La Découverte, Paris, 1997
- Les figures urbaines de la santé publique. Enquête sur des expériences locales*, La Découverte, Paris, 1998
- Les inégalités sociales de santé* (with A. Leclerc et al.), La Découverte, Paris, 2000
- Critique de la santé publique* (with J.P. Dozon), Balland, Paris, 2001
- Le gouvernement des corps* (with D. Memmi) Editions de l'EHESS, Paris, 2004
- Afflictions. L'Afrique du sud, de l'apartheid au sida*, Karthala, Paris, 2004
- Les constructions de l'intolérable. Etudes d'anthropologie et d'histoire sur les frontières de l'espace moral* (with P. Bourdelais), La Découverte, Paris, 2005
- De la question sociale à la question raciale ?* (with E. Fassin), La Découverte, Paris, 2006
- Les politiques de l'enquête. Epreuves ethnographiques* (with A. Bensa), La Découverte, Paris, 2008
- Les nouvelles frontières de la société française*, La Découverte, series Bibliothèque de l'Iris, Paris, 2010.
- Contemporary States of Emergency. The Politics of Military and Humanitarian Intervention* (with M. Pandolfi), Zone Books, New York, 2010.
- Etat des savoirs de la santé publique* (with Boris Hauray), La Découverte, Paris, 2010.

### **Selection of recent articles**

- La supplique. Stratégies rhétoriques et constructions identitaires dans les demandes d'aide d'urgence, *Annales. Histoire, Sciences sociales*, 2000, 55 (5), 955-981.
- The biopolitics of otherness. Undocumented immigrants and racial discrimination in the French public debate, *Anthropology Today. Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 2001, 17, 1, 3-7.
- Une double peine. La condition sociale des immigrés malades du sida, *L'Homme. Revue française d'anthropologie*, 2001, 160, 137-162.
- Le capital social, de la sociologie à l'épidémiologie. Analyse critique d'une migration transdisciplinaire, *Revue d'épidémiologie et de santé publique*, 2003, 51, 403-413.
- Justice Principles and Judgment Practices in Allotting Emergency State Financial Aid, *Revue française de sociologie* (annual English selection), 2003, 44, 109-146.
- The South African Politics of AIDS. Beyond the Controversies (cover article, with H. Schneider), *British Medical Journal*, 2003, 326, 495-497.

La cause des victimes, *Les Temps modernes*, Special issue L'humanitaire, 2004, 59, 627 : 73-91.

Plumbism Reinvented. The Early Times of Childhood Lead Poisoning in France 1985-1990 (with A.J. Naudé), *American Journal of Public Health*, 2004, 94, 11, 1854-1862.

Et la souffrance devint sociale, *Critique*, Special issue Frontières de l'anthropologie, 2004, 680-681, 16-29.

Compassion and Repression. The Moral Economy of Immigration Policies in France, *Cultural Anthropology*, 2005, 20 (3), 362-387.

Humanitarian Exception as the Rule. The Political Theology of the 1999 'Tragedia' in Venezuela (with P. Vasquez), *American Ethnologist*, 2005, 32 (3): 389-405.

The Truth from the Body. Medical Certificates as Ultimate Evidence for Asylum-seekers (with E. d'Halluin), *American Anthropologist*, 2005, 107 (4), 597-608.

Riots in France and Silent Anthropologists (guest editor), *Anthropology Today. Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 2006, 22 (1), 1-3.

Souffrir par le social, gouverner par l'écoute. Une configuration sémantique de l'action publique, *Politix*, numéro spécial Expérience et critique du monde psy, 2006, 19 (73) : 137-158.

Humanitarianism as a Politics of Life, *Public Culture. Society for Transnational Cultural Studies*, 2007, 19 (3): 499-520.

La biopolitique n'est pas la politique de la vie, *Sociologie et sociétés*, Special Issue Michel Foucault et la sociologie, 2007, 38 (2), 32-47 : 35-48.

The Elementary Forms of Care. An Empirical Approach of Ethics in a South African Hospital, *Social Science and Medicine*, 2008, 67: 262-270.

La politique des anthropologues. Une histoire française, *L'Homme. Revue française d'anthropologie*, 2008, 185-186 : 165-186.

Life and Times of Magda A. Biography of Violence in South Africa (with F. Le Marcis and T. Lethata), *Current Anthropology*, 2008, 49 (2): 225-246.

Beyond Good and Evil ? Questioning Anthropological Discomfort with Morals, *Anthropological Theory*, 2008, 8 (4): 333-344.

The Embodied Past. From Paranoid Style to Politics of Memory, *Social Anthropology*, spécial issue on The Past as it Lives Now, 2008, 16 (3) : 312-328.

What Is it to Become French? Naturalization as a Republican Rite of Institution, *Revue Française de Sociologie (English Selection)*, 2009), 37-64.

Les économies morales revisitées. Etude critique suivie de quelques propositions, *Annales. Histoire, sciences sociales*, 2009, 6, 1237-1266.

Another Politics of Life is Possible, *Theory, Culture and Society*, 2009, 26 (5): 44-60.

Ethics of Survival. A Democratic Approach to the Politics of Life. *Humanity*. 2010, 1 (1) : 81-96.

***And more than 100 articles as only or first author in scientific journals including Public Culture, Cultural anthropology, American ethnologist, American anthropologist, Current anthropology, Anthropological Theory, Social Anthropology, Anthropology Today, Ethos, Social Science and Medicine, L'Homme, Anthropologie et sociétés, Theory, Culture and Society, Revue française de sociologie, Cahiers internationaux de sociologie, Sociologie et sociétés, Sociétés contemporaines, Annales, Genèses, Enquête, Revue française de science politique, Politix, Revue Tiers Monde, Critique internationale, Cahiers d'études africaines, Cahiers des Amériques latines, Sciences sociales et santé, Revue européenne des migrations internationales, Critique, Les temps modernes, Esprit, Mouvements, Antropologia (Italie), Revista de Antropologia Social (Spain), Biograf (Czech Republic), Tempo Social (Brazil), Palimpsestus (Colombia) ; Cuadernos de Antropologia Social (Argentina) ; and medical journals : The Lancet, British Medical Journal, AIDS, EMBO Reports, British Medical Bulletin, American Journal of Public Health, International Journal of Epidemiology, Transcultural Psychiatry, Revue d'épidémiologie et de santé publique, L'Evolution Psychiatrique.***

#### **INVITED LECTURES (SELECTION)**

Global Health and Social Sciences in Africa, *Symposium Social Science and Globalization in Africa*, Wits University, Johannesburg, 14-18 September 1998.

The Political Anthropology of AIDS in Southern Africa, *Keynote Speech, 3<sup>rd</sup> EMBL/EMBO Conference on Science and Society*, Heidelberg, 8-9 November 2002.

The Moral Construction of Childhood in Post-Apartheid South Africa, *Conference Comparative approaches to child health in the 20<sup>th</sup> century*, Montréal, 29 October 2004.

The Embodied Past. Reconciliation and Resentment in Postapartheid South Africa, *Introductory Plenary, 9<sup>th</sup> Conference European Association of Social Anthropology*, Bristol, 18 September 2006.

A Violence of History. Accounting for AIDS in Post-apartheid South Africa, *Global Health in the Time of Violence, School of Advanced Research*, Santa Fe, 13-17 March 2006.

The Humanitarian Politics of Testimony, *Conference on Culture and Mental Health Power, Affect and Subjectivity*, Harvard University, 22-23 February 2007.

Local Worlds, Private Lives, Public Engagements. Ethnography of an Anti-Crime Squad in France, *Conference Reinhabiting the Local*, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, 15-16 May 2007.

That Obscure Object of Life, *Conference The State of Governmentality. Current Issues and Future Challenges*, University of Leipzig, 14-15 September 2007

When Critique Goes Critical. The Morals of Humanitarianism and the Politics of Anthropology, *Between Politics and Ethics, School of Advanced Research*, Santa Fe, 8-14 March 2008.

Conspiracy Theories and Nationalist Ideologies. The Global Politics of Infections, *Keynote Speech, 18<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases*, Barcelona, 19-20 April 2008.

Humanitarianism as Value, *Conference on Global Values for Global Health*, University of California, Berkeley, 5-6 May 2008.

Global Health, Conference “*Medical Anthropology at the Intersections*”, Yale University, New Haven, 25 September 2009.

The Trace: Violence, Truth and the Politics of the Body, Keynote Address, *Conference The Body and The State*, the New School for Social Research, 10 February 2011.

Humanitarian Reason: A Moral Economy of our Time, *Munro Lecture*, School of Social & Political Science, the University of Edinburgh, 17 March 2011.

Invitations for lectures in the Universities of Berkeley, Stanford, Harvard, Princeton, Brown, Columbia, New York University, New School, Duke, Michigan, Montreal, McGill, Quebec, Cambridge, Essex, Sussex, Berlin, Leipzig, Geneva, Fribourg, Siena, Madrid, Barcelona, Brussels, Warsaw, Moscow, Bir Zeit, Beijing, Shanghai, Sydney, Bogotá, Caracas, Buenos Aires, Santiago, Montevideo, Johannesburg.

### **ORGANIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES (SELECTION)**

Principal Organizer, *Conference Politiques des villes et gouvernement des corps*, CNRS, Paris, 21-22 January 1998.

Principal Organizer, *Symposium Life and death in the time of AIDS*, Wits University and EHESS, ANRS, Johannesburg, 18-19 October 2004.

Principal Organizer, *Conference Les économies morales des sociétés contemporaines*, EHESS, Paris, 8 juin 2005.

Scientific Committee, *8<sup>th</sup> International Conference AIDS Impact. Biological and Psychosocial Aspects*, Marseille, 1-4 July 2007.

Scientific Committee, *Conference Terrains d’asile. Corps, espaces, politiques*, EHESS, Ministry of Research, Paris, 18-20 September 2008.

Scientific Committee, *Conference Santé et Mondialisation*, Cité des Sciences et des Techniques, Paris, 21-22 October 2008.

Principal Organizer *Borders and Boundaries I*, Columbia University, New York, and II, Paris, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, May and October 2009.

Principal Organizer *Secularism, Religion and Politics*, Collège de France, Paris, June 2011.

### **DISTINCTIONS**

« Professeur de Classe Exceptionnelle » (French highest distinction for professorship) 2007

« Chevalier des Palmes Académiques » ((French distinction for academic involvement) 2007

« Advanced Grant – Programme IDEAS » (European Research Council) 2008

Douglass Prize for the Best Book in the Anthropology of Europe of 2010 for *The Empire of Trauma*

France Culture Prize of the Best Essay of 2010 for *Les Nouvelles Frontières de la Société Française*