

# Forum Trans Studien

**Programm und Fellows  
Program and Fellows  
2020/2021**

Forum  
Transregionale  
Studien





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# Inhaltsverzeichnis / Contents

<b>Forum Transregionale Studien</b>	4
Forschungsprogramme und Initiativen / Research Programs and Initiatives	5
Programme am Forum / Programs at the Forum	6
Verbundene Programme / Connected Programs	7
Initiativen / Initiatives	8
Formate und Veranstaltungen / Formats and Events	10
Wissenschaftskommunikation / Communication	13
Leitung, Kooperation und Förderung / Direction, Cooperation, and Support	19
Vorstand / Board of Directors	21
<b>EUROPA IM NAHEN OSTEN - DER NAHE OSTEN IN EUROPA / EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE EAST—THE MIDDLE EAST IN EUROPE (EUME)</b>	24
EUME Fellows 2020/2021	29
<b>PRISMA UKRAÏNA - Research Network Eastern Europe</b>	62
PRISMA UKRAÏNA Fellows 2020/2021	65
<b>re:constitution - Exchange and Analysis on Democracy and the Rule of Law in Europe</b>	69
re:constitution Fellows 2020/2021	72
<b>4A Laboratory (4A_Lab)</b>	92
<b>ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE: Revisiting the Canons of Textual Scholarship</b>	95
<b>Merian Centre For Advanced Studies In The Maghreb (MECAM)</b>	97
<b>AKADEMIE IM EXIL / ACADEMY IN EXILE</b>	100

# Das Forum Transregionale Studien

Das Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin ist eine Plattform zur Förderung der inhaltlichen Internationalisierung der Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften. Es eröffnet Freiräume für die grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit von Wissenschaftler\*innen. Es bietet die Möglichkeit, Forschungsideen und -vorhaben in transregionaler Verknüpfung zu erproben und zu entwickeln. Im Sinne des Grundsatzes »Forschen mit, statt Forschen über« beruft das Forum Wissenschaftler\*innen aus aller Welt als Fellows, engagiert sich mit Partnern aus Universitäten und Forschungseinrichtungen in und außerhalb Berlins in Forschungsprogrammen und -Initiativen und entwickelt Formate transregionaler Wissenschaftskommunikation.

Transregionale Studien verfolgen einen offenen Ansatz: Sie konfrontieren, verbinden und übersetzen verschiedene Perspektiven zu aktuellen Forschungsfragen. Wissensproduktion erfolgt in der Regel in Disziplinen, in verschiedenen nationalen und regionalen Wissenssystemen, unter unterschiedlichen Bedingungen, in verschiedenen Sprachen und wird in jeweils spezifische Öffentlichkeiten vermittelt. Transregionale Studien reagieren auf die zunehmende Komplexität, Spezialisierung und Vernetzung mit dem Versuch, Möglichkeiten der themenspezifischen Zusammenarbeit von Wissenschaftler\*innen mit unterschiedlichen Expertisen und Perspektiven für die Forschung und Debatte zu gemeinsamen Fragen und Anliegen zu schaffen. Das Forum verfügt über Erfahrungen, Netzwerke und eine Infrastruktur für die Organisation von internationalen Forscher\*innengruppen und Forschungsprogrammen. Darüber hinaus unterstützt die Wissenschaftskommunikation des Forums die Zusammenarbeit von Wissenschaftler\*innen dabei, Forschungsfragen und -ergebnisse zu übersetzen und in verschiedene Öffentlichkeiten zu vermitteln.

The Berlin-based Forum Transregionale Studien is a platform that promotes the internationalization of the humanities and social sciences. It is dedicated to a research agenda that systematically links disciplinary approaches and the expertise of area studies by providing the scope for exchange, debate and communication across national, cultural or regional borderlines. In keeping with the principle "Research with, not research about", the Forum appoints scholars from all over the world as Fellows, engages in research programs and initiatives with partners from universities and research institutions in and outside Berlin, and develops formats for transregional communication.

Transregional studies follow an open approach: they confront, connect and translate different perspectives on current research questions. Knowledge production usually takes place in disciplines, in different national and regional knowledge systems, under different conditions, in different languages and is conveyed to specific audiences. Transregional studies respond to the increasing complexity and specialization by trying to create opportunities for topic-specific cooperation among scholars with different expertise and perspectives for research and debate on common questions and concerns. The Forum has experience, networks and an infrastructure for the organization of international research groups and research programs. In addition, the Forum's academic communication supports the collaboration of researchers to translate research questions and results and to communicate them to different publics.

Mit seiner Arbeit trägt das Forum zu einer Neubestimmung der Sozial- und Geisteswissenschaften unter den Bedingungen des 21. Jahrhunderts bei. Seine Programme und Initiativen reagieren auf weltweite Verflechtungen und Fragmentierungen, die gestiegene Mobilität von Menschen und Ideen, aber auch auf neue Grenzziehungen und die wachsende Bedeutung regionenspezifischen Wissens für eine Reorientierung in der Welt sowie für die Pluralisierung nationaler Kanons und Curricula.

Im Bereich der Wissenschaftskommunikation kooperiert das Forum eng mit der Max Weber Stiftung – Deutsche Geisteswissenschaftliche Institute im Ausland.

## Forschungsprogramme und Initiativen

Mit seinen Forschungsprogrammen setzt das Forum längerfristige inhaltliche Schwerpunkte. Sie sind ein zentrales Format des Forums, mit dem kollegartige internationale Forscher\*innengruppen gebildet werden, um ein Themenfeld über einen Zeitraum von drei und mehr Jahren zu verfolgen. Programme werden in der Regel von Kollegien geleitet, die sich aus Wissenschaftler\*innen unterschiedlicher Institutionen und Länder zusammensetzen. Im Rahmen der Forschungsprogramme beruft das Forum Postdoktorand\*innen aus aller Welt als Fellows. Die Fellowships eröffnen den Wissenschaftler\*innen Freiräume zur Arbeit an ihren selbstbestimmten Forschungsprojekten. Die Einbettung der Fellowships in Forschungsprogramme ermöglicht den Austausch und die gemeinsame Forschung in interdisziplinären Gruppen. Wesentliche Elemente des wissenschaftlichen Programms werden durch die Fellows gestaltet. Entsprechend ihres fachlichen Hintergrunds werden sie an Universitäten und Forschungseinrichtungen in Berlin oder anderen europäischen Städten angebunden.

With its work, the Forum contributes to a new definition of the social sciences and humanities under the conditions of the 21st century. Its programs and initiatives respond to global interdependencies and fragmentation, the increased mobility of people and ideas, but also to new demarcations and the growing importance of region-specific knowledge for a reorientation in the world and for the pluralization of national canons and curricula.

In the field of academic communication, the Forum cooperates closely with the Max Weber Foundation - German Humanities Institutes Abroad.

## Research Programs and Initiatives

Through its research programs, the Forum pursues long-term research themes and promotes the circulation of transregional approaches by practice. The programs at the Forum create international, collegiate research groups and work closely together with universities, research institutions, and museums. Research programs are usually initiated by individual or groups of scholars and arranged in cooperation with partner and member institutions. Within open frameworks programs address contemporary research issues in a comparative and inclusive manner. Within its programs, the Forum grants research fellowships to postdoctoral scholars and provides for administrative and organizational support. The Fellows work in a stimulating research environment provided by double affiliations to the respective research program, and a university or research institution according to their academic discipline in Berlin and other European cities. Fellowships at the Forum offer an opportunity for scholars to work on their own projects, to engage in the multidisciplinary working groups of our programs, to confront their ideas with scholars of diverse vantage points, and to become part of a growing network.

Seit März 2020 experimentiert das Forum auch mit Sur-Place-Fellowships, bei denen die Fellows ihr gesamtes oder einen Teil ihres Fellowships vor Ort verbringen und über virtuelle Formen der Zusammenarbeit in die gemeinsame Arbeit der Programme eingebunden sind. Forschungsprogramme werden von der Geschäftsstelle des Forums organisiert. Nach erfolgreicher Arbeit können sie an anderen Einrichtungen weitergeführt werden. Sie können dem Forum verbunden bleiben, etwa über den Zugang zu seinen Formaten, Infrastrukturen und Netzwerken.

Das Forum entwickelt und beteiligt sich an Initiativen, die auf neue Herausforderungen in der Forschung reagieren. Initiativen sind zumeist in institutionellen Partnerschaften konstituiert, in denen spezifische Kompetenzen und Erfahrungen für ein Projekt gebündelt werden. Initiativen können zu Forschungsprogrammen oder mittel- bis längerfristigen Kooperationen oder auch neuen Institutionen führen. Eine Initiative aus dem Jahr 2015 war die Berlin-Brandenburg Ukraine Initiative, die sich zu dem Forschungsprogramm PRISMA UKRAÏNA - Research Network Eastern Europe entwickelt hat. Eine andere ist die gemeinsam mit der Universität Duisburg-Essen und dem KWI Essen im Jahr 2017 begründete AKADEMIE IM EXIL, zu deren Trägerkreis seit 2019 auch die Freie Universität Berlin gehört. Seit 2020 ist das Forum gemeinsam mit sieben Universitäten und Forschungseinrichtungen aus Deutschland und Tunesien am Aufbau und der Entwicklung des Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb (MECAM) an der Université de Tunis beteiligt.

## Programme am Forum

Aus unterschiedlichen disziplinären Perspektiven erforscht **EUROPA IM NAHEN OSTEN - DER NAHE OSTEN IN EUROPA (EUME)** die Verflechtungen und Grenzziehungen zwischen und in Europa und dem Nahen Osten. Einem Denken in Gegensätzen und Dichotomien hält

Since March 2020, the Forum has also been experimenting with Sur Place Fellowships, in which Fellows are integrated into programs through virtual forms of collaboration, while staying in their home location. Research programs are organised by the Forum's office. Programs can end after a few years, or be continued in another form at another institution, and may stay connected to the Forum, for example, through access to its formats, infrastructures, and networks.

The Forum develops and joins initiatives that respond to new questions and challenges. Initiatives are usually constituted in institutional partnerships that combine specific and complementary competencies and experiences into a project. Initiatives can lead to research programs or to medium- to long-term cooperation or even new institutions. One initiative from 2015 was the Berlin-Brandenburg Ukraine Initiative, which has evolved into the research program PRISMA UKRAÏNA - Research Network Eastern Europe. Another is ACADEMY IN EXILE, which was founded in 2017 together with the University of Duisburg-Essen and KWI Essen in response to the attacks on or crisis of academic and civil freedoms in many countries. In 2019, the Freie Universität Berlin joined as an institutional partner of the ACADEMY. In 2020, the Forum, together with seven universities and research institutions from Germany and Tunisia, participates in establishing the Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb (MECAM) at Université de Tunis.

## Programs at the Forum

**EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE EAST—THE MIDDLE EAST IN EUROPE (EUME)** addresses key-concepts, premises, and issues that link and divide Europe and the Middle East. The program provides space for open debates on processes of reception and translation, as well as on frag-

EUME die offene Debatte um Rezeptions- und Übersetzungsprozesse, geteilte historische Vermächtnisse, sowie die Mobilität von Personen und Ideen entgegen. EUME bietet Wissenschaftler\*innen aus dem Nahen Osten einen Diskussionsraum zur Neubestimmung grundlegender Fragen von Politik, Gesellschaft und Staatsbürgerschaft.

**PRISMA UKRAÏNA – Research Network Eastern Europe** adressiert aktuelle Entwicklungen in der Ukraine und Osteuropa in ihren historischen, kulturellen und sozialen Kontexten. Es vernetzt Forschungsexpertise in Berlin, Brandenburg und darüber hinaus und vergibt Fellowships an Wissenschaftler\*innen aus Osteuropa.

**re:constitution – Exchange and Analysis on Democracy and the Rule of Law in Europe** ist ein Programm zu Rechtsstaatlichkeit und Demokratie in Europa, das gemeinsam mit Democracy Reporting International durchgeführt und von der Stiftung Mercator finanziert wird. Es fördert den europaweiten, kollegialen, grenzen- und lagerüberschreitenden Austausch von Rechtspraktiker\*innen und -wissenschaftler\*innen über das Verfassungsrecht und seine Werte.

## Verbundene Programme

**ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE: Revisiting the Canons of Textual Scholarship** wurde von 2010 bis 2013 als Forschungsprogramm mit einem Fellowship-Programm, Winterakademien und Seminaren am Forum entwickelt. Es will zu einer Neubewertung des Kanons textbezogener Wissenschaft beitragen und bisher marginalisierte präkoloniale Philologien und Wissenschaft aus Asien, Afrika, dem Nahen Osten und Europa neu in den Blick nehmen. Seit 2014 wird ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE an der Freien Universität Berlin weitergeführt. Das Programm bleibt dem Netzwerk des Forums verbunden und nutzt einige seiner Formate und Infrastrukturen. Im Zentrum der Aktivitäten des Programms steht seit 2014 die Zeitschrift *Philological Encounters*.

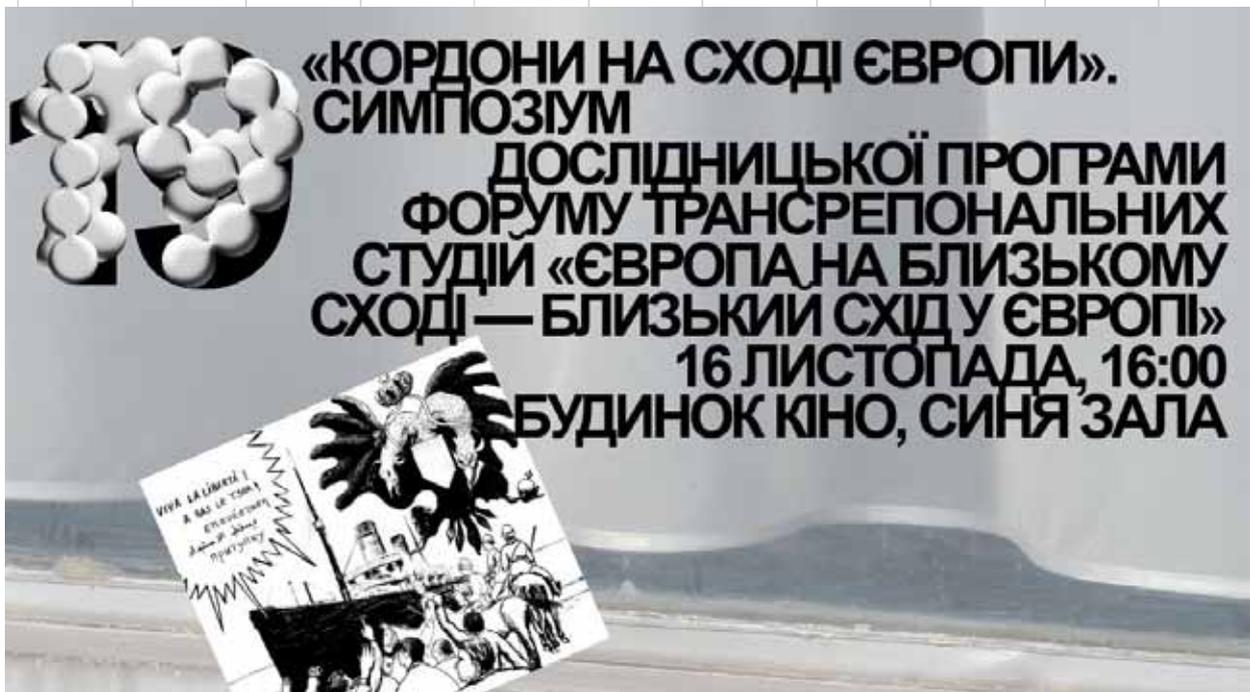
mented and shared historical legacies, on the mobility of people and ideas between Europe and the Middle East. EUME offers space for researchers from and of the Middle East to redefine questions of politics, society and citizenship in times of upheaval.

**PRISMA UKRAÏNA – Research Network Eastern Europe** opens up new horizons for researching current developments in Ukraine and Eastern Europe and their historical, cultural, and social conditions. The program promotes a concept of entangled area studies and creates a network of research expertise in Berlin, Brandenburg, and beyond and invites researchers from Eastern Europe for fellowships.

**re:constitution – Exchange and Analysis on Democracy and the Rule of Law in Europe** is a joint programme of the Forum and Democracy Reporting International, supported by Stiftung Mercator. re:constitution is concerned with the rule of law and democracy in the European Union. It promotes an exchange between jurists and law practitioners about constitutional law and values.

## Connected Programs

**ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE: Revisiting the Canons of Textual Scholarship** was a research program at the Forum from 2010 to 2013 that included a fellowship program, winter academies and seminars. It aims to contribute to a reevaluation of the canon of text-related research and to take a new look at precolonial philologies and research from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe that have been marginalized until now. At the center of the program's activities is the periodical *Philological Encounters*. Since 2014, ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE has continued its work at the Freie Universität Berlin and remains connected to the Forum.



Kyiv Biennial 2019 »Black Clouds«

EUME Symposium »Borderlines in the East of Europe«, 16 Nov 2019

**4A Laboratory (4A\_Lab)** ist das Nachfolgeprogramm des am Forum entwickelten Forschungsprogramms **ART HISTORIES AND AESTHETIC PRACTICES** und CAHIM (Connecting Art Histories in the Museum). 4A\_Lab möchte einen Dialog zwischen Kunstgeschichte, Archäologie, Anthropologie/Ethnologie und Ästhetik bzw. ästhetischen Praktiken initiieren. Es erforscht transkulturelle Dynamiken im Bereich materieller Kulturen bzw. musealer und sozialer Praktiken und Repräsentationen. Das Programm ist eine Kooperation des Kunsthistorischen Instituts in Florenz und der Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz und in Partnerschaft mit der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin und dem Forum Transregionale Studien verbunden.

## Initiativen

Die **AKADEMIE IM EXIL** ist eine gemeinsame Initiative des Forums, der Universität Duisburg-Essen und des Kulturwissenschaftlichen Instituts in Essen. Die **AKADEMIE** wurde mit Mitteln der VolkswagenStiftung begründet, um gefährdeten Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaftler\*innen aus dem Umfeld der »Academics for Peace« aus der Türkei eine Plattform zu bieten, um ihre Forschungen im Exil fortzusetzen.

**4A Laboratory (4A\_Lab)** is the follow-up program of the former research program **ART HISTORIES AND AESTHETIC PRACTICES** that was developed at and remains connected to the Forum. 4A\_Lab seeks to initiate a dialogue between art history, archaeology, anthropology/ethnology and aesthetics/aesthetic practices. It explores transcultural dynamics in aesthetic practices and material cultures, as well as in social practices and their representations in museums and elsewhere. The program is designed in cooperation with the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz and the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz. Further partners are the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the Forum Transregionale Studien.

## Initiatives

**ACADEMY IN EXILE** is a joint initiative of the Universität Duisburg-Essen, the Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut in Essen (KWI) and the Forum Transregionale Studien. The **ACADEMY** was founded in 2017 with the support of the VolkswagenStiftung to offer researchers in the humanities and social sciences from Turkey a platform to continue their research in exile.



**Transregionale Akademie** *Fragment – Power – Public: Narrative, Authority, and Circulation in Archival Work*  
26.8.-6.9.2019, American University Beirut

[academies.hypotheses.org/fragment-power-public-beirut-2019](http://academies.hypotheses.org/fragment-power-public-beirut-2019)

*From the exhibition »How to Reappear Through the Quivering Leaves of Independent Publishing«* curated by kayfa-ta (Maha Maamoun & Ala Younis) at Beirut Art Center, 17 July – 21 September 2019. Photo: Georges Khalil

2018 ist die Freie Universität Berlin in den Kreis der Trägereinrichtungen der AKADEMIE hinzugekommen. In der Zwischenzeit hat sie sich für Wissenschaftler\*innen aus anderen Ländern geöffnet, die von massiven Einschränkungen bürgerlicher und akademischer Freiheiten betroffen sind. Die AKADEMIE IM EXIL ermöglicht nicht nur, die sich wandelnden Grundlagen pluraler und demokratischer Gesellschaften und autoritärer Ideologien und Praxen zu erforschen und zu debattieren, sondern strebt auch an, die spezifischen Expertisen der Wissenschaftler\*innen im Exil in die deutsche Forschungslandschaft einzubringen.

2020 entsteht mit dem **Merian Centre For Advanced Studies In The Maghreb (MECAM)** in Tunesien ein neues Institut für die regionale und transregionale Forschung. Unter dem Leitthema »Imagining Futures: Dealing with Disparity« widmet sich das MECAM in fünf Interdisziplinären Fellowgruppen (IFGs) der Erforschung von Fragen zu ästhetischen und kulturellen Praktiken, Ungleichheit und Mobilität, Erinnerung und Gerechtigkeit, Ressourcen und Nachhaltigkeit, Identitäten und Überzeugungen. Das Zentrum ist an der Universität de Tunis angesiedelt. Neben dem Forum zählen zu den Partnern des MECAM-Konsortiums in Deutsch-

In 2018, the Freie Universität has joined the circle of institutions that support the ACADEMY. Since its founding, the program has extended its target group of researchers from Turkey to other countries that are also affected by massive restraints to civil and academic freedom. ACADEMY IN EXILE not only makes it possible to explore and discuss the changing foundations of plural and democratic societies and authoritarian ideologies and practices, but also strives to bring the particular expertise of scholars in exile into the German research landscape.

The **Merian Centre For Advanced Studies In The Maghreb (MECAM)**, founded in April 2020, is a new institutional initiative that intends to be a hub for interdisciplinary, transregional, and intergenerational research. MECAM will be established at the Université de Tunis to strengthen cooperation in the Humanities and Social Sciences in and across the Maghreb, the Middle East, and Europe. The overall theme "Imagining Futures: Dealing with Disparity" guides MECAM's research agenda on questions of Aesthetics & Cultural Practice, Inequality & Mobility, Memory & Justice, Resources & Sustainability, and Identities & Beliefs. These issues constitute the core issues of MECAM's five thematic research clusters and Interdisciplinary



### #DossierCorona: #religiousmatters

Initiated by Birgit Meyer and the research project "Religious Matters in an Entangled World" ([religiousmatters.nl](http://religiousmatters.nl))  
[trafo.hypotheses.org/category/dossier-corona/religiousmatters](http://trafo.hypotheses.org/category/dossier-corona/religiousmatters)

land die Philipps-Universität Marburg, die Universität Leipzig und das GIGA - German Institute for Global and Area Studies in Hamburg; alle sind Mitgliedseinrichtungen des Forums. Als regionale Partner fungieren neben der Université de Tunis die Université de Sfax und das Institut Tunisien des Études Stratégiques (ITES) in Tunesien sowie weitere Partner aus Marokko und dem Libanon. Die erste Interdisziplinäre Fellowgruppe (IFG) zum Thema »Aesthetics & Cultural Practice« wird von April bis Juli 2021 am MECAM arbeiten. MECAM wird vom Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF) gefördert.

## Formate und Veranstaltungen

Wissenschaftler\*innen brauchen Freiräume und soziale Infrastrukturen, die ihnen Zugänge zu Forschungsressourcen und den freien Austausch von Argumenten, Ideen, Expertise und Standpunkten ermöglichen. Das Forum bietet ihnen die Möglichkeit, ihre Forschungsfragen im Rahmen von Forschungsprogrammen, Transregionalen Akademien, Workshops und Seminaren in transregionalen Verbindungen zu diskutieren, weiterzuentwickeln und sich zu vernetzen.

Fellow Groups (IFG). MECAM is a joint endeavour of a consortium of seven Tunisian and German research institutions: It is coordinated by the Philipps-Universität Marburg and the Université de Tunis and supported by the Universität Leipzig, the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) in Hamburg, the Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin, the Institut Tunisien des Études Stratégiques (ITES) in Tunis, and the Université de Sfax. The first Interdisciplinary Fellow Group (IFG), "Aesthetics & Cultural Practice", will work at MECAM from April to July 2021. MECAM is supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

## Formats and Academic Events

Scholars need freedom and social infrastructures, that offer access to arguments, exchange, expertise, ideas, and resources. Through its Programs, Transregional Academies, Workshops and Seminars the Forum provides them with opportunities to discuss and develop their research questions.



### Prisma Ukraïna Workshop

*The Cossack Myth in Eastern Europe, 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries*

12-13 December 2019, Berlin  
[trafo.hypotheses.org/21007](http://trafo.hypotheses.org/21007)

Infolge der Ausbreitung des Coronavirus hat das Forum seit Frühjahr 2020 seine Formate modifiziert und durch eine engere Verknüpfung der Wissenschaftskommunikation mit dem Veranstaltungsbereich persönliche Formen des wissenschaftlichen Austauschs durch virtuelle und hybride Formen ergänzt, um seine Arbeit auch unter sich verändernden Rahmenbedingungen fortführen zu können.

**Workshops und Seminare** des Forums dienen Wissenschaftler\*innen zur Diskussion spezifischer Fragestellungen und der Entwicklung neuer Projektideen. Sie regen innerwissenschaftliche Debatten an, erproben Konstellationen, die zwischen die Zuständigkeiten unserer Wissenschaftsordnung fallen. Die Veranstaltungsformate sollen zur nachhaltigen Etablierung innovativer und themenbezogener Lehr- und Forschungsansätze beitragen, indem Anregungen zur Weiterentwicklung von Forschungsfragen, Curricula oder Bezüge zu aktuellen gesellschaftspolitischen Fragen aufgegriffen und vermittelt werden. Sie können virtuell, hybrid oder in Präsenz stattfinden. Seit April 2020 erprobt das Forum **Writing Workshops** als virtuelle Alternative zu konventionellen Workshops.

As a result of the spread of the coronavirus, the Forum has modified its formats since spring 2020 and, by linking the communication division more closely with the academic events, has supplemented personal forms of scholarly exchange with virtual and hybrid forms in order to be able to continue its work even under changing conditions.

**Workshops and Seminars** are designed to stimulate discussions on particular topics and questions and the development of new project ideas. They stimulate academic debates, test constellations between the disciplinary, regional and institutional realms of our research, and contribute to the transfer of transregional debates and learning processes to various publics. These formats aim to establish sustainable, innovative and topic-orientated approaches to teaching and research by taking up and mediating suggestions for the future development of research questions, curricula, and also exploring relations to current sociopolitical issues. They can take place virtually, hybrid or in presence. Since April 2020, **Writing Workshops** are a virtual alternative to conventional workshops.

Wissenschaftler\*innen werden dabei zu einem gemeinsamen Diskussions- und Schreibprozess eingeladen, der über eine interne und geschützte Plattform ermöglicht wird. Die Autor\*innen können ihre Texte in ein kollektives Peer-Review-Verfahren einbringen und sie über die neu konzipierten Publikationsformate des Forums barrierefrei und Open Access veröffentlichen, zunächst in einer Beitragsserie auf dem TRAFO-Blog, später in überarbeiteter Form als Essay oder Working Paper und gebündelt als Dossier.

**Transregionale Akademien** erschließen neue Netzwerke und schaffen Lerngemeinschaften auf Zeit, die es ermöglichen, Forschungsthemen und Fragestellungen in einem frühen Entwicklungsstadium in einem internationalen Rahmen zu testen. Bis zu 24 Promovierende oder Postdocs und eine Lenkungsgruppe (Steering Group) von bis zu sechs jüngeren und/oder etablierten Wissenschaftler\*innen aus unterschiedlichen regionalen und disziplinären Kontexten erhalten über einen Zeitraum von etwa zehn bis zwölf Tagen die Gelegenheit zur persönlichen Diskussion ihrer laufenden Forschungsarbeiten und spezifischer Forschungsfragen. Die Akademien folgen einem Peer-to-Peer-Prinzip; das jeweilige Akademieprogramm wird im Austausch mit allen Teilnehmenden über eine interne Kommunikationsplattform des Forums entwickelt. Wissenschaftler\*innen können hier ihre Erfahrungen austauschen, indem sie laufende Forschungsprojekte und -fragen in einem transregionalen Zusammenhang diskutieren.

Das Forum und seine Programme arrangieren regelmäßig mit verschiedenen Partnern thematische **Konferenzen, Seminare, Filmreihen, öffentliche Debatten oder Vorlesungsreihen**, die sich an die breitere Öffentlichkeit richten. In den Veranstaltungen werden aktuelle Forschungsthemen adressiert, in den letzten Jahren etwa die Auswirkungen schrumpfender bürgerlicher und akademischer Freiheiten, Fragen von Demokratie und Rechtsstaatlichkeit, Formen des Exils, regionale Ansichten auf Modernismen, Populismus, Postkolonialismus, die

Scholars are invited to a collective writing project in a collective discussion and peer-review process on an internal and safe collaborative platform. The authors can contribute their texts to a collective discussion and peer review process and publish them via the Forum's newly conceived publication formats barrier-free and open access, initially in a series of contributions on the TRAFO Blog, later in revised form as an Essay or Working Paper and bundled as a Dossier.

**Transregional Academies** are a format in which project ideas, research questions, or thematic fields are intensely discussed and tested in their early stages of development in an international setting. Up to 24 doctoral candidates and postdocs from all over the world and a steering group of early-career and/or established researchers from different regional and disciplinary contexts have the opportunity to discuss ongoing projects and particular research questions over a period of 10 to 12 days. The academies are characterized by a peer-to-peer principle that lets conveners and participants engage equally in planning and shaping the program. Academies are supported by an internal communication platform sustained by the Forum, which also serves, alongside the Forum's academic blogs, as a means for discussion as well as for internal and academic communication. The format gives participating scholars the opportunity to define the position of their own research in a transregional context.

The Forum and its programs regularly arrange with various partners thematic **conferences, seminars, film series, public debates or lecture series** aimed at the wider public. The events address current research topics, such as the effects of shrinking civil and academic freedoms, questions of democracy and the rule of law, forms of exile, regional views on modernism, populism, postcolonialism and the importance of the humanities and cultural studies, the effects of the Arab revolutions, developments in Ukraine, the historiography of the Armenian genocide, the Middle East conflict, the historical

Auswirkungen der arabischen Revolutionen, die Entwicklungen in der Ukraine, die Historiografie des armenischen Genozids, der Nahostkonflikt, die Geschichtspolitik autoritärer Bewegungen und Regime oder neuere gesellschaftspolitische Entwicklungen in der Türkei.

Eine gemeinsame **Konferenz** des Forums und der Max Weber Stiftung wird sich im kommenden Jahr mit dem Thema Transregionaler Wissenschaftskommunikation befassen.

## Wissenschaftskommunikation

Die Wissenschaftskommunikation des Forums soll den offenen und inklusiven Charakter transregionaler Studien widerspiegeln. Sie ist vermittlungs- und übersetzungsorientiert und entwickelt Formate, die unterschiedliche Ansätze und Standpunkte zu spezifischen Fragen profilieren und verbinden. Durch eine verstärkte Verknüpfung von Veranstaltungs- und Kommunikationsformaten dient sie dem wissenschaftlichen Austausch und der Kommunikation mit unterschiedlichen Öffentlichkeiten. Die Formate des Forums sind modular strukturiert und sie stehen allen Wissenschaftler\*innen der Programme und Initiativen am Forum wie seiner Mitglieds- und Partnereinrichtungen offen.

Das Forum Transregionale Studien unterstützt den kostenfreien öffentlichen Zugang zu wissenschaftlichen Ergebnissen und ist Unterzeichner der Berliner Erklärung über den offenen Zugang zu Wissen in den Wissenschaften. Um die Potenziale der Digitalisierung auszuschöpfen, entwickelt das Forum neue Publikationsformate und ermutigt Wissenschaftler\*innen dazu, ihre Forschungen Open Access zu publizieren und eine breitere Öffentlichkeit zu erreichen. Dies geschieht in Kooperation mit der digitalen Publikationsplattform *perspectiva.net* der Max Weber Stiftung.

politics of authoritarian movements and regimes, or more recent sociopolitical developments in Turkey.

This year, a joint **conference** of the Forum and the Max Weber Stiftung will deal with the topic of academic communication.

## Communication

The academic communication of the Forum reflects the open and inclusive character of transregional studies. It is mediation- and translation-oriented and develops formats that profile and connect different approaches and viewpoints on specific issues. Through a stronger linkage of event and communication formats, it serves the scholarly exchange and communication with different publics. The formats of the Forum's communication are modularly structured and are open to all researchers in the programs and initiatives of the Forum and its member and partner institutions.

The Forum supports free and public access to research findings. It is a signatory of the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities. In order to benefit from digitization, the Forum develops new publication formats and encourages scholars to publish open access and make their research accessible to a broader public. This is done in cooperation with the digital publication platform *perspectiva.net* of the Max Weber Foundation.

Die Arbeit des Forums wird von mehreren wissenschaftlichen Blogs begleitet. Das Blog **TRAFO – Blog for Transregional Research (TRAFO-Blog)** ist eine mehrsprachige Diskussions- und Informationsplattform, die in Kooperation mit der Max Weber Stiftung in Bonn und dem Verein CrossArea in Leipzig kuratiert wird.

Der TRAFO-Blog macht Forschungsfragen und -ergebnisse verfügbar und bietet ein breites Spektrum an Formaten und Informationen: **kuratierte Themenreihen, wissenschaftliche Aufsätze, Beiträge aus der Forschung der Fellows, Tagungsberichte, Interviews mit Forschenden zu ihrer Arbeit, Tagungsberichte und aktuelle Calls for Papers.** Fachwissenschaftler\*innen werden einbezogen, um die Qualität der Beiträge zu sichern. Jede Woche werden zwei bis drei neue Beiträge veröffentlicht. Die Zugriffszahl lag im Jahr 2019 bei über 127.000.

Das Forum bietet Wissenschaftler\*innen an, Sequenzen von Beiträgen zu geeigneten Forschungsthemen auf dem TRAFO-Blog zu veröffentlichen. Seit Mai 2020 läuft mit dem **#DossierCorona** die bisher vielfältigste Beitragsreihe. Die Blogposts diskutieren Themen aus den Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften, die im Kontext der Corona-Pandemie neue Bedeutung erlangt haben, unter veränderten Voraussetzungen betrachtet werden müssen bzw. in Zeiten der Krise neue Aufmerksamkeit auf sich gezogen haben. Im Mittelpunkt steht dabei weniger die Pandemie selbst, sondern neue Perspektiven, die sich daraus ergeben.

Das **#DossierCorona** besteht aus verschiedenen Threads, die von Wissenschaftler\*innen am Forum oder von mit ihm verbundenen Einrichtungen kuratiert werden: **#religiousmatters** ist eine Initiative des Forschungsprojekts »Religious Matters in an Entangled World« an der Universität Utrecht und wird von der Anthropologin und Religionswissenschaftlerin Birgit Meyer kuratiert. **#workingfutures** wurde vom Forschungsnetzwerk »Working Futures« des Wissen-

The work of the Forum is accompanied by academic blogs. **TRAFO – Blog for Transregional Research (TRAFO Blog)** is a multilingual discussion and information platform curated in cooperation with the Max Weber Stiftung in Bonn and the association CrossArea in Leipzig.

The TRAFO Blog makes research outcomes accessible and offers a broad spectrum of formats and information: **curated thematic series, academic essays, contributions from the Fellows' research, conference reports, interviews with researchers on their work, and current calls for papers.** Experts from respective fields of research are involved to secure the quality of the contributions. Each week, two or three new contributions are published. The number of visitors on the blog was over 127.000 in 2019.

The forum offers researchers to publish sequences of contributions on suitable research topics on the TRAFO Blog. In May 2020, the **#DossierCorona** series was launched. It addresses matters in the social sciences and humanities that were on the agenda before the Covid-19 pandemic, matters that deserve new attention or a different perspective, issues that gain a new urgency in times of crisis. The focus is thus not the pandemic itself, but rather how the virus, its spread, and its effects disrupt the ways we look at those issues that will persist and that will determine the way people will live.

The **#DossierCorona** consists of several thematic threads that are curated by scholars from the Forum or from associated institutions. The thread **#religiousmatters** is an initiative of the research project "Religious Matters in an Entangled World" at Utrecht University and is edited by the anthropologist and religion scholar Birgit Meyer. **#workingfutures** was initiated by the research network "Working Futures" at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin and the International Research Center "Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History (re:work)" at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

schaftskollegs zu Berlin und des Internationalen Geisteswissenschaftlichen Kollegs »Arbeit und Lebenslauf in globalgeschichtlicher Perspektive« (re:work) initiiert. Der Thread *#transnationalfeminisms* ist aus einer Diskussionsreihe zum Thema »Transnational Feminist in Times of Corona« hervorgegangen, die vom Margherita-von-Brentano-Zentrum für Geschlechterforschung an der Freien Universität Berlin in Kooperation mit dem Masterstudiengang »Gender, Intersektionalität und Politik« der FU, der AKADEMIE IM EXIL und Academics for Peace Germany arrangiert wurde. Die Serie ist offen für Beiträge zu bestehenden Threads, aber auch für neue thematische Unterreihen und Einzelbeiträge.

Die Reihe »**40 Years After Orientalism**« diskutiert die Bedeutung und Wirkung von Edward Saids »Orientalismus« für Forschung und Theoriebildung. Sie wird von der Islamwissenschaftlerin Schirin Amir-Moazami kuratiert und geht auf eine öffentliche Vorlesungsreihe zum Thema »40 Years After Orientalism - Configurations of Knowledge/Power Today« zurück.

Seit 2018 läuft die Serie »**The '1979 Moment' in the Middle East**«, die von dem Literaturwissenschaftler Amir Moosavi herausgegeben wird. Die Beiträge sind zum Teil aus einem am Forum veranstalteten Workshop hervorgegangen, zum Teil durch die Anregung der Serie neu hinzugekommen.

2019/20 lief die Themenreihe »**Reconstructing Neighborhoods of War**«, in der Papers aus einem Symposium des Orient-Instituts Beirut veröffentlicht wurden. Sie wurde von Birgit Schäbler, Direktorin des OIB, kuratiert.

Das Beitragsformat »**Emerging Topics**« bietet Forschenden die Möglichkeit, anstehende Workshops und Konferenzen mit transregionalen Bezügen zu präsentieren. Auf diese Weise gibt der TRAFO-Blog Einblicke in aktuell diskutierte Forschungsthemen mit transregionaler Perspektive.

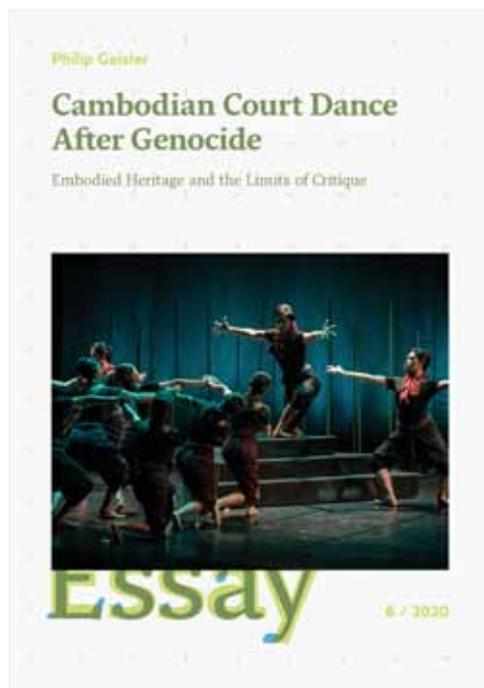
The thread *#transnationalfeminisms* emerges from the online discussion series "Transnational Feminist in Times of Corona" that was arranged by the Margherita-von-Brentano-Zentrum for Gender Studies at Freie Universität Berlin, in cooperation with the M.A. Gender, Intersectionality, Politics at FU Berlin, ACADEMY IN EXILE and Academics for Peace Germany. Suggestions for new threads, single matters and contributions to existing threads by scholars, artists and practitioners of any discipline are welcome.

The series "**40 Years After Orientalism**" examines the persistence of Said's groundbreaking contribution to postcolonial scholarship. The series articles discuss the conversations, excavations and critiques triggered by Said's work, and what it can teach us today. It is curated by the Islamic Studies scholar Schirin Amir-Moazami and is based on a public lecture series on "40 Years After Orientalism - Configurations of Knowledge/Power Today".

In 2018, the series "**The '1979 Moment' in the Middle East**" was released, containing contributions from a workshop held in June 2016 at the Forum and others were newly added through the inspiration of the series. Editor is the literary scholar Amir Moosavi.

The thematic series "**Reconstructing Neighborhoods of War**" assembles papers that were held at a symposium at the Orient Institute Beirut. It was curated by Birgit Schäbler, director of the OIB.

The format "**Emerging Topics**" provides researchers the opportunity to present their upcoming workshops and conferences related to transregional studies. In this way, the TRAFO Blog provides insights into research topics currently being discussed from a transregional perspective.



### Essays, Forum Transregionale Studien

Sonam Kachru / Claire Davies / Yuval Evri / Nahrain Al-Moussawi / Pascale Ghazaleh / Philip Geisler / Andrii Portnov

Im Format »**New Books**« stellen Wissenschaftler\*innen aus dem Umfeld des Forums, der Max Weber Stiftung und ihrer Mitgliedseinrichtungen ihre jüngst erschienenen Monographien und Sammelpublikationen zu transregionalen Fragestellungen vor. Die Autor\*innen erklären dabei die Relevanz ihres Themas, diskutieren die Methodik und die Thesen sowie die Befunde ihrer Veröffentlichung.

**Blogformate** sind auch integraler Bestandteil der Zusammenarbeit von Veranstaltungsmanagement und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit. Sie werden zur Vor- und Nachbereitung wissenschaftlicher Konferenzen und Workshops eingesetzt. Seit 2015 ist das **Blog »Transregional Academies«** die Plattform für die gebündelte Darstellung der Akademien des Forums. Sie dient zum einen der besseren Vernetzung der Teilnehmenden, zum anderen der Kommunikation nach außen. Das Blog macht die Veranstaltungsdokumentation dauerhaft verfügbar.

Mit **Büchern, Dossiers, Essays, Working Papers** und einer **wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift** bietet das Forum weitere Publikationsformate für die Veröffentlichung von Forschungsergebnissen an. Um die Potentiale

In the “**New Books**” format, scholars from the network of the Max Weber Foundation, the Forum and their member institutions present their most recently published monographs and anthologies on transregional issues. The authors explain the relevance of their topic, discuss the methodology and the theses as well as the findings of their publication.

**Blogs formats** are also an integral part of the cooperation between event management and public outreach. They are used to prepare and follow-up academic conferences and workshops. Since 2015, the blog “**Transregional Academies**” has been the platform for the bundled online presentation of the Forum’s academies. It serves, first, to encourage better networking among the participants and, second, external communication. The blog makes the documentation of events lastingly available.

With **Books, Dossiers, Essays, Working Papers**, and an **Academic Journal**, the Forum offers formats for the publication of research results. To make full use of the potential of digitization, open access publications are particularly supported and fostered. This is done in



**Schriftenreihe des Forum Transregionale Studien** in der Reihe »Fröhliche Wissenschaft«, Matthes & Seitz Berlin  
 Neil MacGregor, 2015: *Globale Sammlungen für globalisierte Städte* / Sheldon Pollock, 2016: *Philologie und Freiheit*  
 Susannah Heschel, 2018: *Jüdischer Islam* / Yassin Al-Haj Saleh, 2020: *Freiheit*

der Digitalisierung auszuschöpfen, werden Open-Access-Publikationen besonders unterstützt. Dies geschieht in Kooperation mit der Max Weber Stiftung auf der Open-Access-Plattform *perspectiva.net*.

Die **Essays des Forum Transregionale Studien** sind ein Open-Access-Format, in dem zeitgenössische Fragen von einem persönlichen Standpunkt, einer bestimmten Position und Disziplin ausgehend diskutiert werden. Sie erscheinen auf der Open-Access-Plattform *perspectiva.net* und in einer kleinen gedruckten Auflage. Die Ausgaben können kostenlos beim Forum bezogen werden und sind auch über die Webseite des Forums zugänglich.

2020 sind bislang folgende Essays erschienen:

**Philip Geisler**, »Cambodian Court Dance After Genocide: Embodied Heritage and the Limits of Critique« (4A\_Lab, 6/2020);

**Andrii Portnov**, »Poland and Ukraine: Entangled Histories, Asymmetric Memories« (PRISMA UKRAÏNA, 7/2020).

cooperation with the Max Weber Stiftung on the open access platform *perspectiva.net*.

The **Essays of the Forum Transregionale Studien** are an open access format that address contemporary issues from a personal standpoint, a particular position, and discipline in a way that is accessible to readers elsewhere. They are published on the open access platform *perspectiva.net* and in a small print run. The editions can be obtained free of charge from the Forum and are also accessible via the Forum's website.

The following Essays have been published so far in 2020:

**Philip Geisler**, "Cambodian Court Dance After Genocide: Embodied Heritage and the Limits of Critique" (4A\_Lab, 6/2020);

**Andrii Portnov**, "Poland and Ukraine: Entangled Histories, Asymmetric Memories" (PRISMA UKRAÏNA, 7/2020).

**Working Papers** sind ein Format des Forum Transregionale Studien, in dem vorläufige Analysen und Ideen zu aktuellen Problemen und Entwicklungen vorgestellt und im Open Access verfügbar gemacht werden.

2020 sind bislang zwei Working Papers erschienen:

**Stoyan Panov**, »To Derogate (and Notify), or Not to Derogate (and Not to Notify), that is the Question! An Analysis of the Legal Framework of the COVID-19 State of Emergency in the Republic of Bulgaria and ECHR Practice« (re:constitution, 1/2020);

**Linda Schneider**, »Responses by the CJEU to the European Crisis of Democracy and the Rule of Law« (re:constitution, 2/2020).

**Dossiers** des Forum Transregionale Studien sind gebündelte Essays, Texte, Audio- oder visuelle Beiträge, die sich mit einem gemeinsamen Thema oder Projekt befassen. 2019 ist ein Dossier aus der Interviewreihe »All Things Transregional?« hervorgegangen, die zunächst als Serie in Einzelbeiträgen auf dem TRAF0-Blog erschienen sind, dann für die gebündelte Veröffentlichung als Dossier noch einmal von den Autor\*innen bearbeitet wurden. Die Beiträge diskutieren, was transregionale Forschung ist, wem sie nützt und wo ihre Grenzen liegen. 2020 erscheint als Ergebnis eines Workshops aus dem Jahr 2019 ein Dossier mit Beiträgen zum Thema »Social Disappearance. Explorations Around a Travelling Concept from Latin America to Eastern Europe«.

Die **Schriftenreihe des Forum Transregionale Studien** in der Reihe »Fröhliche Wissenschaft« des Verlags Matthes & Seitz Berlin versammelt Texte, die die Anliegen des Forums in besonderer Weise repräsentieren in deutscher Übersetzung. Die Reihe umfasst essayistische Texte zu aktuellen philosophischen und gesellschaftlichen Debatten und erscheint in einem ansprechenden Taschenbuchformat.

**Working Papers** share analysis and ideas on recent problems and developments at a preliminary stage. They are provided open access on [perspectivia.net](http://perspectivia.net) and on the Website of the Forum and its programs.

The following issues have been published so far in 2020:

**Stoyan Panov**, "To Derogate (and Notify), or Not to Derogate (and Not to Notify), that is the Question! An Analysis of the Legal Framework of the COVID-19 State of Emergency in the Republic of Bulgaria and ECHR Practice" (re:constitution, 1/2020);

**Linda Schneider**, "Responses by the CJEU to the European Crisis of Democracy and the Rule of Law" (re:constitution, 2/2020).

**Dossiers** are bundles of essays, texts, audio- or visual contributions that address a common theme or project. In 2019, a dossier emerged from the interview series "All Things Transregional?", which was first published as a series of individual contributions on the TRAF0 Blog, then edited again by the authors for the bundled publication as a dossier. The contributions discuss what transregional research is, who benefits from it and where its limits lie. In 2020, as a result of a workshop in 2019, a dossier with contributions on the topic "Social Disappearance. Explorations Around a Travelling Concept from Latin America to Eastern Europe" will be published.

The **Schriftenreihe des Forum Transregionale Studien** in the series "Fröhliche Wissenschaft", published by Matthes & Seitz Berlin, provides essays in German translation that are exemplary for the work of the Forum. The series comprises essays on current philosophical and societal debates and appears in an attractive paperback format. The books appear open access on [perspectivia.net](http://perspectivia.net) six months after their publication.

Die Bücher erscheinen nach 6 Monaten auf *perspectivia.net* im Open-Access-Format. 2020 ist der Essay von **Yassin Al-Haj Saleh**, »Freiheit: Heimat, Gefängnis, Exil und die Welt« erschienen.

Darüber hinaus macht das Forum **Audioformat** verfügbar, die Vorträge, Diskussionen oder Gespräche mit Wissenschaftler\*innen dokumentieren. Seit 2013 wurden über 160 Beiträge veröffentlicht.

Wer regelmäßig über Neuigkeiten aus dem Forum informiert werden will, findet uns auf Facebook und Twitter. Es gibt zudem auf unserer Webseite die Möglichkeit, unseren Newsletter zu abonnieren.

Koordination: Moritz Buchner  
Kontakt: [presse@trafo-berlin.de](mailto:presse@trafo-berlin.de)

## Leitung, Kooperation und Förderung

Der Vorstand des Forums besteht aus der auf Lateinamerika spezialisierten Politikwissenschaftlerin Marianne Braig, dem Globalhistoriker Sebastian Conrad (beide Freie Universität Berlin), dem Afrika-Historiker Andreas Eckert (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), der Sinologin Barbara Mittler (Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg) sowie der Arabistin Friederike Pannewick (Philipps-Universität Marburg). In wissenschaftlichen Angelegenheiten, insbesondere bei der Entscheidung über neue Programme und der Berufung von Fellows, berät sich der Vorstand mit einem international zusammengesetzten Wissenschaftlichen Beirat.

Das Forum wurde im Oktober 2009 im Amtssitz der Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz in Form eines eingetragenen Vereins gegründet. Mitglieder des Forums sind Universitäten und außeruniversitäre Forschungseinrichtungen aus dem

In 2020 the essay "Freedom: Home, Prison, Exile and the World" by **Yassin Al-Haj Saleh** has been published in this series.

Beyond that, the Forum also publishes **audio formats** documenting lectures, discussions, and talks with researchers. Since 2013, more than 160 talks have been published so far. Since September 2018, the Forum has published these audio recordings through SoundCloud.

Those who want to be informed regularly about news of the Forum can find us on Facebook and Twitter. You can also register for the newsletter on our homepage.

[trafo.hypotheses.org](http://trafo.hypotheses.org)  
[academies.hypotheses.org](http://academies.hypotheses.org)  
[facebook.com/forumtransregionalestudien](https://facebook.com/forumtransregionalestudien)  
[twitter.com/transregionalis](https://twitter.com/transregionalis)  
[soundcloud.com/user-555442334](https://soundcloud.com/user-555442334)

## Direction, Cooperation, and Support

The Executive Board of the Forum consists of the Latin American Studies scholar Marianne Braig, the global historian Sebastian Conrad (both Freie Universität Berlin), the Africa historian Andreas Eckert (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), the Sinologist Barbara Mittler (Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg), and the Arabic Studies scholar Friederike Pannewick (Philipps-Universität Marburg). In scholarly matters, especially when deciding on new programs and appointing Fellows, the executive board confers with an internationally staffed Academic Advisory Committee.

The Forum was founded in October 2009 as an official seat of the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz in the form of a registered association. Members of the Forum are universities and non-university research institutions from all over Germany. Hermann Parzinger, President of the

gesamten Bundesgebiet. Hermann Parzinger, Präsident der Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, ist Vorsitzender der Mitgliederversammlung.

Die Geschäftsstelle wird von Georges Khalil, dem Wissenschaftlichen Koordinator des Forums, geleitet. In Fragen der allgemeinen Verwaltung arbeitet das Forum eng mit dem Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin zusammen. Das Forum Transregionale Studien wird vom Regierenden Bürgermeister von Berlin – Senatskanzlei für Wissenschaft und Forschung gefördert.

Die Wissenschaftskommunikation wird im Rahmen eines Verbundprojekts mit der Max Weber Stiftung aus Mitteln des Bundesministeriums für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF) finanziert. EUME wird für weitere drei Jahre durch eine private Stiftung gefördert. PRISMA UKRAÏNA wird durch Mittel des Landes Berlin gefördert. Das Programm re:constitution wird durch die Stiftung Mercator finanziert. Die AKADEMIE IM EXIL wird von der VolkswagenStiftung gefördert; einige ihrer Fellowships werden durch die Freudenberg-Stiftung oder den Scholar Rescue Fund und die Residenz Akademie an der Freien Universität durch Mittel der Mellon Foundation finanziert. MECAM wird durch das BMBF gefördert.

Mittel der Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung, der Fritz Thyssen Stiftung, der Gerda Henkel Stiftung, der Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, der Marga und Kurt Möllgaard-Stiftung, des Schweizer Nationalfonds, der VolkswagenStiftung, der ZEIT-Stiftung Gerd und Ebelin Bucerius sowie des Doha Centers und der Philipp-Schwartz-Initiative werden weitere Wissenschaftler\*innen aus den südlichen oder östlichen Nachbarländern der Europäischen Union ans Forum und seine Programme EUME und PRISMA UKRAÏNA führen. In den letzten zwei Jahren haben zwei EUME-Fellows ERC Starting Grants gewonnen, von denen einer an der Freien Universität Berlin und ein zweiter am Forum durchgeführt wird.

Ausführliche Informationen über das Forum und seine Forschungsprogramme finden Sie unter [www.forum-transregionale-studien.de](http://www.forum-transregionale-studien.de).

Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, is the Chairperson of the Members' Assembly.

Georges Khalil, Academic Coordinator, heads the Forum's office. On issues of general administration, the Forum cooperates closely with the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. The Forum is supported by the Governing Mayor of Berlin – Senate Chancellery for Science and Research.

The academic communication department closely collaborates with the Max Weber Foundation, with the financial support of Germany's Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF). EUME is supported by a private foundation for the next three years. PRISMA UKRAÏNA is supported with funds from the State of Berlin. The program re:constitution is funded by Stiftung Mercator. AKADEMIE IM EXILE has been funded by the VolkswagenStiftung since fall 2017. Some fellowships are supported by the Freudenberg-Stiftung and the Scholar Rescue Fund. The Residential Academy at the Freie Universität Berlin is funded by the Mellon Foundation. MECAM is supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

Through the support of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Gerda Henkel Foundation, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Irmgard Coninx Foundation, Marga und Kurt Möllgaard Foundation, the Swiss National Fond, VolkswagenStiftung, ZEIT-Stiftung Gerd und Ebelin Bucerius, the Doha Center and the Philipp Schwartz Initiative, researchers from Southern and Eastern neighbouring countries of the European Union have the opportunity to come to the Forum and take part in its programs EUME and PRISMA UKRAÏNA. In the last two years, two EUME Fellows have been assigned an ERC Starting Grant: one for a project at the Freie Universität Berlin and one for a project at the Forum.

Detailed information on the Forum and its research programs can be found at [www.forum-transregionale-studien.de](http://www.forum-transregionale-studien.de).



## Andreas Eckert

ist Professor für die Geschichte Afrikas an der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (seit 2007) und leitet seit 2009 das Internationale Geisteswissenschaftliche Kolleg »Arbeit und Lebenslauf in globalgeschichtlicher Perspektive (re:work)«. Zuvor war er Professor für Neuere Geschichte, Schwerpunkt Geschichte Afrikas (2002-2007). Gastprofessuren und Fellowships führten ihn u.a. an die School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London, Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris, Indiana University in Bloomington und Harvard University. Andreas Eckert schreibt regelmäßig als freier Autor für die Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung und DIE ZEIT. Er ist seit der Gründung des Forums im Jahr 2009 Vorsitzender des Vorstands.

is Professor of African History at Humboldt University Berlin (since 2007) and has been leading the International Research Center "Work and Human Life Cycle in Global History (re:work)" since 2009. Before that, he was Professor of Modern History with a focus on African History (2002-2007). As Visiting Professor and Fellow, he worked at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London, the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris, Indiana University in Bloomington, and Harvard University. Andreas Eckert also writes for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and DIE ZEIT. He has been Chairman of the Board of Directors ever since the Forum was founded.



## Marianne Braig

ist Professorin für Politikwissenschaft an der Freien Universität Berlin mit dem Schwerpunkt der Politik Lateinamerikas. Außerdem ist sie Mitglied des Vorstands des Center for Area Studies (CAS) an der Freien Universität Berlin. Als Sprecherin repräsentiert sie das internationale Kompetenznetz »desiguALdades.net«, das internationale Graduiertenkolleg »Zwischen Räumen«, sowie das internationale Verbundprojekt »Medidas para la inclusión social y equidad en instituciones de educación superior en América Latina (MISEAL)«. Marianne Braig ist seit der Gründung des Forums im Jahr 2009 im Vorstand.

is Professor of Political Science with a focus on politics of Latin America at the Freie Universität Berlin. She is member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Area Studies (CAS) at the Freie Universität Berlin and spokeswoman of the international competence network "desiguALdades.net", the international graduate school "Zwischen Räumen" and the international joint project "Medidas para la inclusión social y equidad en instituciones de educación superior en América Latina (MISEAL)". Marianne Braig has been a member of the Board since the foundation of the Forum in 2009.



## Sebastian Conrad

ist Historiker und Japanologe. Er hat seit 2010 den Lehrstuhl für Moderne Geschichte an der Freien Universität Berlin inne und leitet dort den Arbeitsbereich »Globalgeschichte«. Von 1999 bis 2005 war er Mitglied der Jungen Akademie an der Berlin-Brandenburgischen Akademie der Wissenschaften und wurde 2007 Professor für Moderne Geschichte am European University Institute in Florenz. 1999/2000 war er Fellow am Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. Sebastian Conrad gehört dem Vorstand des Forums seit dem Jahr 2009 an.

is a Historian and Japanologist. Since 2010, he has been Professor of Modern History and has been leading the research section "Global History" at the Freie Universität Berlin. From 1999 to 2005, he was a member of the Young Academy at the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften and was Professor of Modern History at the European University Institute in Florence. In 1999/2000 he was a Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. Sebastian Conrad has been member of the Board since the Forum was founded in 2009.



## Barbara Mittler

ist Professorin für Sinologie an der Universität Heidelberg. Sie leitet als Direktorin das Exzellenzcluster »Asia and Europe in a Global Context« und das Heidelberger Centrum für Transkulturelle Studien (HCTS). Barbara Mittler hat im Februar 2015 ihr Amt als Vorstandsmitglied des Forum Transregionale Studien angetreten.

is Professor of Sinology at the University of Heidelberg. She is the Co-Director of the Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context" and the Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies (HCTS). Barbara Mittler became a member of the Forum's Board of Directors in February 2015.



## Friederike Pannewick

ist seit 2007 Professorin für Arabistik am Centrum für Nah- und Mitteloststudien (CNMS) an der Philips-Universität Marburg. Sie war von 2001 bis 2011 Projektleiterin am »Arbeitskreis Moderne und Islam (AKMI)« des Wissenschaftskollegs zu Berlin. Sie war außerdem von 2005 bis 2007 Associate Professor for Arabic Studies an der Universität Oslo. Sie ist unter anderem Mitglied des Wissenschaftlichen Beirats des Orient-Instituts Beirut (Institut der Max Weber Stiftung) und der Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School for Literary Studies, Freie Universität Berlin. Seit Oktober 2012 ist sie Mitglied des Vorstands des Forum Transregionale Studien.

has been Professor of Arabic Studies at the Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies (CNMS) at Philips University Marburg since 2007. From 2001 to 2011, she led the projects “Cultural Mobility in Near Eastern Literature” and “Travelling Traditions—Comparative Perspectives on Near Eastern Literatures” of the “Working Group Modernity and Islam (AKMI)” at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. She was Associate Professor of Arabic Studies at the University of Oslo from 2005 to 2007 and she is a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Orient Institute Beirut (Institute of the Max Weber Stiftung) and the Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School for Literary Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin. Since October 2012, she has been a member of the Forum’s Board of Directors.

# EUROPA IM NAHEN OSTEN – DER NAHE OSTEN IN EUROPA / EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE EAST—THE MIDDLE EAST IN EUROPE (EUME)



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Die Leitidee von **EUROPA IM NAHEN OSTEN – DER NAHE OSTEN IN EUROPA (EUME)** ist die Erforschung der historischen, politischen, religiösen, sozialen und kulturellen Verflechtungen und Grenzziehungen in und zwischen Europa und dem Nahen Osten. Gegenüber einem Denken in Gegensätzen und Dichotomien sollen die vielfältigen Rezeptions- und Übersetzungsprozesse, gemeinsame historische Vermächtnisse sowie die Mobilität von Personen und Ideen, eine geteilte Gegenwart und Zukunft ins Blickfeld treten.

**EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE EAST—THE MIDDLE EAST IN EUROPE (EUME)** is a multi-disciplinary research program at the Berlin-based Forum Transregionale Studien. EUME seeks to rethink key concepts and premises that link and divide Europe and the Middle East. Within the framework of five research fields in the disciplines of Literature, Political Philosophy, Urban History, Philology-cum-Late Antiquity, and Islamic Studies, the program attempts to recollect the legacies of Europe in the Middle East and of the Middle East in Europe in an inclusive way that aims to do justice to their entanglements.

EUME wurde 2006 als gemeinsames Forschungsprogramm der Berlin-Brandenburgischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, der Fritz Thyssen Stiftung und des Wissenschaftskollegs zu Berlin begründet und steht in der Tradition des von 1996 bis 2006 vom Land Berlin und dem BMBF geförderten Arbeitskreises Moderne und Islam (AKMI). Seit September 2011 wird EUME als Programm am Forum Transregionale Studien weitergeführt.

EUME integriert Forschungsfelder und -themen, die an Bruchlinien nationaler, religiöser oder kultureller Vorverständnisse ansetzen. Aus unterschiedlichen disziplinären Perspektiven (Anthropologie, Islamwissenschaft, Philologie, Geschichte, Literaturwissenschaft, Politologie) zielt EUME darauf ab, die Bedeutung der Forschung zu außereuropäischen Kulturen und Gesellschaften für die Differenzierung der Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften unter den Bedingungen globaler Verflechtungen und Fragmentierungen deutlich zu machen.

— *Mobile Traditionen: Vergleichende Perspektiven auf die nahöstlichen Literaturen* (Friederike Pannewick und Samah Selim) ist literaturwissenschaftlich ausgerichtet und untersucht nahöstliche Literaturen im Hinblick auf nationalphilologische Kanonbildungen und literarische Verflechtungen mit den Literaturen anderer Regionen.

— *Städtevergleich: Urbaner Wandel im Mittelmeerraum und angrenzenden Regionen* (Ulrike Freitag und Nora Lafi) möchte aus dem Blickwinkel der historischen Erfahrungen soziokultureller, ethnischer und religiöser Differenz in den Städten am Mittelmeer und dem Indischen Ozean zur Debatte über Pluralismus, Migration, Staatsbürgerschaft und Zivilgesellschaft beitragen.

The program creates a platform that rests upon the idea of “learning communities” (Wolf Lepenies) and the principle of “research with rather than research on”. It allows for the invitation of post-doctoral researchers, the organization of regular seminars, lectures, workshops and summer academies, that strengthen and modify existing research groups and contexts in Germany, beyond academic circles.

The program draws on the international expertise of scholars in and outside of Germany and is embedded in university and extra-university research institutions in Berlin. EUME was initiated in 2006 by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, the Fritz Thyssen Foundation and the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin and builds upon the previous work of the Working Group Modernity and Islam (1996-2006) at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. EUME supports and rests upon interconnected research fields and topics:

— *Travelling Traditions: Comparative Perspectives on Near Eastern Literatures* (Friederike Pannewick and Samah Selim) reassesses literary entanglements and processes of translation and canonization between Europe and the Middle East.

— *Cities Compared: Urban Change in the Mediterranean and Adjacent Regions* (Ulrike Freitag and Nora Lafi) contributes to the debate on plurality, citizenship and civil society from the historical experience of conviviality and socio-cultural, ethnic, and religious differences in the cities around the Mediterranean.

— *Tradition and the Critique of Modernity: Secularism, Fundamentalism and Religion from Middle Eastern Perspectives* (Amnon Raz-Krakotzkin) tries to rethink key concepts of modernity like secularity, tradition, and religion in the context of experiences, interpretations, and critiques from the Middle East in order to contribute to a more inclusive language of culture, politics and community.

— *Tradition und die Kritik der Moderne: Säkularismus, Fundamentalismus und Religion aus nahöstlichen Perspektiven* (Amnon Raz-Krakotzkin) ist darauf ausgerichtet, Schlüsselbegriffe der Moderne im Horizont nahöstlicher Erfahrungen zu durchdenken, um zu inklusiven Vorstellungen von Politik und Gesellschaft beizutragen.

— *Politisches Denken, eine Archäologie der Gegenwart, gesellschaftlicher Wandel und die Transformationsprozesse im Nahen Osten* sind weitere Schwerpunkte, die sich in den letzten Jahren herausgebildet haben und von mehreren Kollegiumsmitgliedern und Fellows vertreten werden (u.a. Cilja Harders, Friederike Pannewick, Rachid Ouaisa).

— *The Prison Narratives of Assad's Syria: Voices, Texts, Publics* (SYRASP) ist ein neues Vorhaben, das EUME-Fellow Anne-Marie McManus im Rahmen eines ERC Starting-Grants ab April 2020 für fünf Jahre verfolgen wird. Das Projekt wird sich mit der Analyse syrischer Gefängnisnarrative seit den 1970er-Jahren bis heute beschäftigen, mit oppositionellen und Überlebensnarrativen, die für die politische Kultur Syriens und seiner Diaspora eine besondere Bedeutung haben.

Die Forschungsfelder und -themen bilden den Rahmen von EUME, in dessen Zentrum ein Postdoc-Programm steht, das jedes Jahr Fellows, insbesondere aus dem Nahen Osten, aber auch aus den USA, Afrika, Südasien und anderen europäischen Ländern, in der Regel für die Dauer eines akademischen Jahres, nach Berlin einlädt, um an ihren Forschungsvorhaben zu arbeiten. In den letzten Jahren kommen Wissenschaftler\*innen verstärkt auch für längere Zeiträume als EUME-Fellows an das Forum, durch Stipendien der Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung, der Gulbekian-Stiftung, der Fritz Thyssen Stiftung, des Schweizer Nationalfonds, der Volkswagen-Stiftung oder anderer Förderer.

— *Politics of Change, an Archaeology of the Present, and the Processes of Transformation in the Middle East* are research themes that emerged during the last years and are represented by the work of several members of the Collegium and Fellows (e.g. Cilja Harders, Friederike Pannewick, Rachid Ouaisa).

— *The Prison Narratives of Assad's Syria: Voices, Texts, Publics* (SYRASP) is a new project that EUME Fellow Anne-Marie McManus will pursue in the framework of an ERC Starting-Grant from April 2020 onwards for five years. The project will collect and analyse Syrian prison narratives of the left and the Islamic movement since the 1970s, and thus deal with narratives of resistance and survival that are of particular importance for the political culture of Syria and its diaspora.

These research fields and themes contribute to our knowledge of Middle Eastern cultures and societies and their relations to Europe. At the same time, they attempt to re-center the significance of academic disciplines for the study of non-European contexts, in this case the Middle East. Thus, EUME supports historical-critical philology, rigorous engagement with the literatures of the Middle East and their histories, the social history of cities and the study of Middle Eastern political and philosophical thought (Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and secular) as central fields of research, not only for area or cultural studies, but also for Europe and the academic disciplines. The research fields constitute the framework for the fellowship program that forms the center of EUME.

Since 1997, more than 300 scholars from and of the Middle East have been EUME Fellows, who, by their scholarly projects, their questions, and their commitment engage in the order of knowledge, society and politics, and shape the academic program of EUME.

Die EUME-Fellows sind entsprechend ihrer disziplinären Ausrichtung assoziiert am Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient, der Friedrich Schlegel Graduiertenschule für Literaturwissenschaftliche Studien, der Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies, dem Center for Global History, dem Law and Society Institute der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, den Instituten für Geschichts-, Islam- und Politikwissenschaft und dem Seminar für Semitistik und Arabistik der Freien Universität Berlin oder den Instituten für Europäische Ethnologie und Slawistik der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Ein gemeinsames Berliner Seminar bringt die Interdependenzen der Forschungsfelder sowie die politischen und gesellschaftlichen Fragen zur Geltung, die mit den Bemühungen der Wissenschaftler\*innen verbunden sind, eine neue Sprache für Kultur, Politik und Gesellschaft zu finden, die verbindet und nicht trennt.

In Arbeitsgesprächen, Workshops und Sommerakademien können spezifische Themen vertieft werden.

Seit den Anfängen des Arbeitskreises Moderne und Islam (AKMI) im Jahr 1996 forschten über 300 Postdocs als Fellows des AKMI oder von EUME für mindestens ein Jahr in Berlin. Internationale Workshops trugen zur Erweiterung der wissenschaftlichen Kontakte bei. Komplementär zu den Aktivitäten in Berlin wurden ab 1996 jährlich Sommerakademien und Workshops in der Region abgehalten. So führte das Programm seitdem mit mehr als 2000 Wissenschaftler\*innen aus Deutschland, Europa, den USA und arabisch und muslimisch geprägten Ländern und Israel wissenschaftliche Debatten über Konzepte von Recht und Ordnung, Grenzziehungen in religiösen Traditionen, zum Zusammenleben von Menschen unterschiedlicher sozialer, ethnischer und kultureller Herkunft in den Städten des Mittelmeerraums,

EUME explores modernity as a historical space and conceptual frame – not as a particular national or European realm, but as a reflexive modernity, as an uneven, polyphonic terrain in which people, ideas, and discourses moved and were assimilated, contested, displaced, reshaped, or redeployed in a variety of ways, in Europe as well as in the Middle East. The program puts forward three programmatic ideas:

- support for research that demonstrates the infinitely rich and complex historical legacies between Europe and the Middle East;
- a re-examination of genealogical notions of ‘mythical beginnings’, ‘origins’, and ‘purity’ in relation to culture and society; and

- an attempt to contribute to the rethinking of key concepts of a common modernity in light of today’s perspective on cultural, social, and political entanglements; entanglements that supersede rigid identity discourses, national, cultural, or regional canons, and epistemologies established in the world of the nineteenth century.

EUME is directed by a Collegium that currently consists of: Ulrike Freitag (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient), Cilja Harders (spokesperson of the Collegium; Freie Universität Berlin), Kader Konuk (Universität Duisburg-Essen), Nora Lafi (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient), Rashid Ouaisa (Philipps-Universität Marburg), Friederike Pannewick (Philipps-Universität Marburg), Amnon Raz-Krakotzkin (Ben-Gurion University, Beer Sheva), Samah Selim (Rutgers University), and Stefan Weber (Museum für Islamische Kunst, Berlin).

zu Kanonisierungsprozessen in Literatur und Geschichtsschreibung, zu Fragen der Hermeneutik, Grenzziehungen zwischen Christentum, Judentum und Islam, zur Bedeutung von Exil und Rückkehr im palästinensischen und israelischen Diskurs, der Rolle von Kunst und Kultur im politischen Prozess, dem Zusammenhang von Archiv, Macht und Öffentlichkeit oder der Mobilität von Personen und Ideen zusammen. Nahezu alle ehemaligen Fellows und Sommerakademie-Teilnehmer\*innen erhielten in der Zwischenzeit Assistenzprofessuren oder Professuren an Universitäten. Die Mehrzahl ist an Einrichtungen im Nahen Osten tätig.

EUME wird von einem Kollegium verantwortet, das derzeit aus Ulrike Freitag (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient), Cilja Harders (Sprecherin des Kollegiums; Freie Universität Berlin), Kader Konuk (Universität Duisburg-Essen), Nora Lafi (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient), Rachid Ouaisa (Philipps-Universität Marburg), Friederike Pannewick (Philipps-Universität Marburg), Amnon Raz-Krakotzkin (Ben-Gurion University, Beer Sheva), Samah Selim (Rutgers University) und Stefan Weber (Museum für Islamische Kunst, Berlin) besteht.

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## Diana Abbani

### Technology, Market and Society: A Global History of Music in the Levant (1900-1948)

Diana Abbani received her doctorate in Arabic Studies from Sorbonne University with a thesis entitled “Music and Society in Beirut at the Time of the Nahda”. She holds double masters in History and Political Science from Sorbonne University and the University of Saint Denis in Paris. She is currently preparing a book that focuses on the Levant’s social history in the first half of the 20th century. In her research, she examines the implications of social, political and technological changes, as well as the emergence of the music industry and the entertainment world, on music and Levantine society. In her study, she focuses on alternative narratives, uncovering the forgotten stories of people who were affected by the sound transition and revisiting the experiences of those marginalized by official narratives. Diana was a EUME Fellow during the academic years 2018/19 and 2019/20. In the academic year 2020/21, Diana is a EUME Fellow of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation. She is associated with the Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School of Literary Studies at Freie Universität Berlin.

In this book project, Diana Abbani explores the history of the music industry in the Middle East and North Africa during the first half of the twentieth century (1900-1948). She focuses on the main Levantine cities, Beirut, Tripoli, Damascus, Aleppo, Haifa and Jaffa, to study the arrival of a music technology – the phonograph – to new markets, cultures and societies, and the routes the sound recordings took. The phonograph constitutes a medium through which music was commodified and circulated, thereby creating and shaping public and domestic sites, markets, tastes and social identities. A main drive behind this project is to probe music as a popular genre for rethinking conventional forms and tropes of narrating modern Arab history. Music and the recording industry produced new forms of social relations across borders. In her research, Diana Abbani follows how the circulation of music through the new recording technology and industry in the early twentieth century re-organized European overseas trade, local markets, consumption trends and social relations into the Levant’s publics and domestic spheres, wielding new social dynamics that affected local, regional and global relations. In doing so, she addresses music and the new recording technology and industry as important social factors in determining subject formation, the public and the private, as well as social imaginaries.



## Sadek Abdul Rahman & Samar Abdallah

### Transformations of the LGBTQI Communities in the Syrian Diaspora

Sadek Abdul Rahman is a Syrian writer, journalist and managing Arabic editor for the online journal *Al-Jumhuriya* since 2017. He has published dozens of texts, press reports and research articles in *Al-Jumhuriya* and elsewhere. He holds a master's degree in private law from Damascus University (2010). He is interested in the legal and constitutional structures governing the lives of Syrians, and the way these structures impact and are impacted by the transmutations of Syrian society post-2011. He is now working on a research paper on the transformations of the Syrian LGBTI communities in exile, in partnership with his fellow field researcher Samar Abdallah.

Samar Abdallah is a Syrian journalist and field researcher. She graduated from the Library and Information Department of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Damascus University in 2009. She has worked with a number of Syrian media institutions that emerged after the Syrian revolution of 2011, in addition to conducting field research for the Badael Foundation's report "Syrian Women's Perspective on Life in Turkey", during which she interviewed dozens of Syrian refugee women in Turkey. She is interested in the conditions of the Syrian LGBTI community, its transformations in exile, and is preparing a podcast that sheds light on the stories of Syrian refugees from LGBTI communities. She is currently researching this topic in collaboration with her colleague Sadek Abdul Rahman.

The project will attempt to provide an answer to the question: What changes have affected Syrian LGBTQI communities after 2011 as a result of displacement? From this broad question, several further questions arise: What are the shifting circumstances in which Syrian LGBTQI people found themselves after 2011? What legal and social contexts have they experienced? What are the effects of these new circumstances and contexts on Syrian LGBTQI individuals and on the forms of solidarity that bring them together? Can we really discuss Syrian LGBTQI communities in the diaspora? In other words, do LGBTQI individuals with Syrian nationality maintain ties among themselves that distinguish them from others? Or are they integrated into LGBTQI communities in their countries of asylum? How have these changes affected the general perception among Syrians towards LGBTQI people? This project will be based mainly on interviews with Syrian members of LGBTQI communities. The number of interviews will range from 20 to 25, to be conducted with individuals in Turkey and Germany, more than half of whom were displaced to Turkey and then proceeded to Europe. These interviews aim to monitor the variations of experiences by country of asylum.



## Refqa Abu-Remaileh

### PalREAD – Country of Words: Reading and Reception of Palestinian Literature from 1948 to the Present

Refqa Abu-Remaileh is a Professor of Modern Arabic Literature and Film at Freie Universität Berlin's Arabic Department. She is the Principal Investigator of the ERC project "PalREAD – Country of Words: Reading and Reception of Palestinian Literature from 1948 to the Present". She received her DPhil (PhD) and Masters in Oriental Studies and Modern Middle Eastern Studies from the University of Oxford (2010, 2004), and her BA in English Literature from the University of British Columbia (2002). In 2012-13, she was a EUME Fellow at the Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin. From 2014-16, she was an Alexander von Humboldt postdoctoral Fellow affiliated with EUME and continues to be affiliated with EUME to the present. She has also worked with the London-based charity Oxford Research Group as a consultant on their Palestine-Israel projects.

PalREAD aims to tell the story of Palestinian literature by tracing, collecting, mapping and analyzing the development and evolution of Palestinian literary and cultural production and practices from 1948 to the present across various Arab, European, American, and Latin American countries. The project aims to take a holistic approach to researching authors and literary texts: their trajectories, production, reading sites, reception, and circulation. PalREAD is a 5-year (2018-2023) European Research Council (ERC) funded project, hosted at Freie Universität Berlin (Germany).

Project page: <https://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/en/e/palread/index.html>

Twitter: @PalREAD\_ERC



## Omar Al-Ghazzi

### Histories of the Future in the Post-2011 Arab World

Omar Al-Ghazzi is Assistant Professor in the Department of Media and Communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Al-Ghazzi's research expertise is in conflict reporting and representation, with a focus on digital media and collective memory in the Middle East and North Africa. His research has appeared in top academic journals in the field of media and communications. Before joining LSE, he was a lecturer (Assistant Professor) at the Department of Journalism of the University of Sheffield. Al-Ghazzi completed his PhD at the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania. He holds MAs in Communication from the University of Pennsylvania and American University and a BA in Communication Arts from the Lebanese American University. A former Fulbright scholar, Al-Ghazzi comes from a professional journalistic background. He has previously worked as a reporter for *Al-Hayat Arabic daily* and as a media analyst at *BBC Monitoring*.

From June to August 2019, from September to December 2020 and from April to August 2021, he is a EUME-CNMS Fellow of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.

This project explores the politics of mediated collective memory in the contemporary Arab world. It addresses the questions of how communicative practices during the 2011 Arab uprisings and their aftermath reflected and shaped understandings of history, and how these practices enabled revolutionary, but also reactionary, violent and divisive politics. Al-Ghazzi's project links collective memory studies to the study of political contention and struggle in the Arab world. He selects episodes of contestation about history and explores the political symbols and tropes that generated intense debates. He examines what these symbols are alleged to represent and what originary times in history they claim to continue. His approach does not confine its analysis to one national context or one medium or technology. Rather, it notes and theorizes a way of thinking about mediated histories and futures that permeates countries, political groupings, and media outlets. By focusing on mediations of history, the project explores the deep tensions between Arab nation-states as political spaces, the region's transnational media system, and temporal narratives of belonging.



## Toygun Altıntaş

### Integration and Minoritization: Governing Hierarchies in the Late Ottoman Empire

Toygun Altıntaş works on the social and political history of minoritization, supremacism and inequality in the late Ottoman Empire. He received his MA (2010) in Middle Eastern Studies and PhD (2018) in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from the University of Chicago. Entitled “Crisis and (Dis)Order: Armenian Revolutionaries and the Hamidian Regime in the Ottoman Empire (1887-1896),” his dissertation explores the spread of Armenian revolutionary committees and the contemporaneous minoritization of Armenians by the Ottoman state. It also investigates the processes by which boundaries of subjecthood and nationality for Armenians were constructed and constricted during the reign of sultan Abdülhamid II (r. 1876-1909). Altıntaş worked as an MA Preceptor at the University of Chicago (2017-2018). He taught courses on Middle Eastern history and Ottoman language and paleography at Bilgi and Boğaziçi Universities (2018-2020).

He is a EUME Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation between 2020 and 2022, affiliated with the Center for Global History at Freie Universität Berlin.

The project examines the making of ethno-confessional hierarchies in late Ottoman state and society with a particular focus on Armenians in the empire. In the middle of the nineteenth century, the Ottoman Empire extended equality before the law to its non-Muslim subjects under a new imperial and international regime. The last quarter of the nineteenth century marked important changes in Ottoman policymaking. Sultan Abdülhamid introduced a set of new policies in order to assert the primacy of his Sunni Muslim subjects and to curb Armenian efforts towards self-governance and administrative integration. The project focuses on this period (1856-1908) in order to trace the shifts and contradictions in the Ottoman regime of ethnicity. The reformation and abolition of ethnic, confessional and racial hierarchies were at the center of imperial and international politics during this period. The global connections in the Ottoman case are doubly important, because Ottoman modernization was intrinsically tied with international diplomacy from the middle of the nineteenth century. Therefore, it also seeks to situate the Ottoman example within a global context with attention to the contemporaneous expansions and contractions of citizenship and subjecthood in the Russian Empire and the United States.



## Mohammed Bamyeh

### Erotics of the Revolution

Mohammed Bamyeh currently is Professor of Sociology at the University of Pittsburgh (USA), and President of the Board of Trustees of the Arab Council for Social Sciences (ACSS). Most recently, he was a Senior Fellow at the Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften (IFK) in Vienna, and the editor of *International Sociology Reviews* (ISR). His most recent book is *Lifeworlds of Islam: The Pragmatics of a Religion* (2019). He also served as the lead author of the Arab Council for Social Sciences' (ACSS) first report, *Social Sciences in the Arab World: Forms of Presence* (2015). His other books include *Intellectuals and Civil Society in the Middle East* (ed., 2012); *Anarchy as Order* (2009); *Of Death and Dominion* (2007); *The Ends of Globalization* (2000); and *The Social Origins of Islam: Mind, Economy, Discourse* (1999). His research interests include Islamic studies, the sociology of revolutions and social movements, the sociology of knowledge, and comparative philosophy. He has been a EUME Fellow in 2010/11, 2014/15 and 2018/19, and he is joining EUME again for the academic year of 2020/21.

In as much as they demonstrate the gravity of grievances, the Arab uprisings of 2011 and 2019 also show a great deal of unexpected solidarity across social classes and groups that had different experiences and expectations. One dimension of this solidarity has taken cultural expressions, evident in the festival character of many opposition gatherings, in poetry, songs, performances, street art, and various other kinds of artistic creativity. This research focuses on one dimension of this cultural creativity, namely the way by which solidarity becomes associated with feelings of pleasure, of a kind that seems to have unexplored capacity to mobilize large populations. The research into these “erotics of revolution” relies on data collected from various sites of contemporary Arab rebellions, and builds on relevant sources in social psychology, anthropology, and comparative histories of revolution.



## Omri Ben Yehuda

### Mizrahim in Israel – Politics, Literature, History

Omri Ben Yehuda is a scholar of comparative Jewish Literatures. His work focuses on Jewish literatures in German and Hebrew, Mizrahi and Israeli literature, Holocaust literature and post-colonial studies. He is a former Minerva Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute for German Philology in the Free University of Berlin, and served as the head of the research group “Gaza: Towards the Landscape of an Israeli Hetrotopia” at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute. His comparative essay on the “Holocaust, the Nakba and Mizrahi Trauma” was published in *The Holocaust and the Nakba: A New Grammar of Trauma and History*, edited by former EUME Fellow Bashir Bashir and Amoz Goldberg (2019 Columbia UP), his essay on the Mizrahim and the 1967 War was published in *Jadmag (Jadaliyya)*, and his postcolonial reading of *Kafka’s A Hunger Artist* was published in the *Tel Aviver Jahrbuch für deutsche Geschichte* 45 (2017). He also publishes on Mizrahi literature, S.Y. Agnon and Ch.N. Bialik in venues such as *Prooftexts*, *Shofar* and *Journal of Jewish Identities*. His Mizrahi and colonial reading of the Netflix thriller *Fauda* is forthcoming with *AJS Review*. His publications include *The Speech Act of Kafka and Agnon* (Mossad Bialik Publishers, 2019) and *Auseinandergeschrieben: The Collapse of Storytelling in Modern Jewish Literature* (The Hebrew University Magnes Press, 2020). In the academic year 2020/21 he will be an associated EUME Fellow.

Mizrahim, an almost artificial construct that was created after the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948 in order to define and categorize its non-European Jewish residents, are at the center of this research which champions the term and avoids its conflation with “the Arab-Jew,” and in this way stresses that Mizrahim deserve to be addressed, studied, and explored, also via their shattered and traumatic present. It suggests that the Mizrahi is the main political frame to understand Zionism’s inner attempt of colonizing the Jew himself while divorcing him from his oriental residues. The research encompasses major works of literature, film and television, focusing on performativity and its traumatic manifestations in the process of *hishtaknezut* (passing as European) and of Ashkenazi, Mizrahi and Palestinian immersion in one another within the process of *hitbolelut* (Jewish assimilation). It offers a range of genealogies of love and rivalry (prevalent in the condemnations of lacking a “love for Israel,” or “loving Arabs” in conjunction with “Jewish self-hatred”) East, West, Orientalism and the Jewish condition which aims to read Israel with the lenses of race and racial profiling (thereby re-racializing the Jew himself). This research aims to challenge the distinctiveness of these genealogies by implying that the Mizrahi offers a path to not only reclaim Arab-Jews, but to find, address and reclaim Jewish identity and Zionism as a whole.



## İmren Borsuk Eroğlu

### Social Cohesion and Conflict in Turkey: From Democratization to Democratic Backsliding

İmren Borsuk Eroğlu (BA, Galatasaray University, 2007; MA, Strasbourg University, 2008) is a EUME Fellow affiliated with Freie Universität Berlin. After receiving her PhD in Political Science from Koc University (Istanbul, Turkey), she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Turkish Studies at Stockholm University. She specializes in the socio-spatial dimensions of nationalism, poverty and ethnic conflicts. She is currently editing a special issue that analyzes the changing dynamics of societal conflicts and social coexistence in contemporary Turkey (forthcoming in *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 2021). She is a recipient of the Swedish Institute post-doc scholarship, Bourse d'Excellence by the French Government and TUBITAK (Turkish Academy of Sciences) research fellowships among others. Her work has been published in *European Urban and Regional Studies*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Journal of International Relations* (Uluslararası İlişkiler), *Transparency International publications*, and *All Azimuth: A Journal of Foreign Policy and Peace*.

For a long time, peace and conflict have been studied separately as if these two phenomena are disparate and disconnected from each other. This has led scholars to conceive the countries 'at war' in a sort of chaos in which institutions have collapsed and violence wreak havoc on everyday life. However, the new conflict studies point out the spatial and heterogeneous dynamics of conflict as multiple forms of violence may occur in countries with limited rates of spatial overlap. Moreover, there are also ongoing networks of cooperation and collaboration in society even for the countries 'at war'. This failure to consider the dynamics of social coexistence had led to an underspecification of the causal mechanisms that drive peaceful forms of cohabitation, and an overstatement of political violence and societal conflict in the dominant literature. Borsuk's work analyzes the dynamics of cohabitation and varieties of violence that change under the pressure of authoritarian resurgence through the prism of Turkey.



## Önder Çelik

### Life Underground: Hunting for Armenian Treasure in the Post-Genocide Landscape

Önder Çelik received his PhD in Anthropology from Johns Hopkins University with a dissertation entitled “Life Underground: Hunting for Armenian Treasure in the Post-Genocide Landscape.” He holds an MA in Legal Theory from the École des hautes études en sciences sociales and a Diplôme in Law from École normale supérieure, Paris. He was a visiting graduate scholar in the Department of Anthropology at New York University in 2018-2019. His work explores the material and temporal dimensions constituted by the practices of dispossessed young Kurdish men searching for valuable objects believed to be buried by the victims of the Armenian genocide. In the academic year 2020/21, he is a EUME Fellow of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

Çelik’s book manuscript, *Life Underground: Hunting for Armenian Treasure in the Post-Genocide Landscape*, is based on 18 months of fieldwork in the region of Van, Turkish Kurdistan. The project draws on Çelik’s ethnographic research on popular practices regarding the search for treasures (principally gold) that were supposedly buried by victims of the Armenian genocide in a landscape that is haunted by both past and ongoing violence. By bringing the nexus of two enfolded crises, linking contemporary Kurdistan to the material afterlives of the Armenian genocide, *Life Underground* considers landscape and materials in the study of memory. As it complements narrative accounts of violent events with an examination of their material remainders, it aims to contribute to historical and anthropological studies of violence.



## Rasha Chatta

### Arab Comics in/of Migration: A Comparative Study of (Im-)Migrant Stories, War Narratives, and Conflicted Memory

Rasha Chatta earned her PhD in Cultural, Literary, and Postcolonial Studies from SOAS, University of London, with a dissertation titled “Marginality and Individuation: A Theoretical Approach to Abla Farhoud and Arab Migrant Literature”. She holds an MA in Near and Middle Eastern Studies from SOAS and a BA in History of the Middle East and North Africa from Panthéon-Sorbonne (Paris I) and “Classes préparatoires” in Humanities. She has held teaching positions at SOAS, Bard College Berlin, and NYU London. In 2009, she was Community Outreach Director at the Cairo-based Resettlement Legal Aid Project. Her research interests include visual aesthetics and memory, approaches to world literature, migrant and diasporic literatures, and war literature with a focus on Lebanon and Syria. Her recent publications include the chapter “Conflict and Migration in Lebanese Graphic Narratives”, in Smets, K. et al. (eds.), *The Sage Handbook of Media and Migration* (London: Sage Publications Ltd, 2019).

She is a EUME Fellow in the academic years 2017-21, affiliated with the Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School of Literary Studies at Freie Universität Berlin.

This research project seeks to offer a comparative study of the Arab migrant graphic novel and comics by examining the visual and creative portrayal of (im-)migrant experiences in the aftermaths of the Lebanese civil war, the Israeli-Lebanese war of summer 2006, and the Syrian war in the wake of the Arab spring. It also focuses on the role of memory in bridging dislocated narratives between the Near East and Europe. The project engages analytically with the creative forms of expression attending the current mass migrations, offering historical depth to the understanding of the cultural roots of recent movements and experiences. While aiming to bring the expertise of area studies to bear on the radical new artistic forms, the study also aims to contribute on the side of visual studies and the study of comic and graphic narratives. It seeks to do so both by expanding the reach of these fields to include contemporary authors of Arab background writing in Arabic and different European languages, and by exploring the possibility of a comparative approach to the visual aesthetics of conflicted memory.



## Amal Equeiq

### Indigenous Affinities: Comparative Study in Mayan and Palestinian Narratives

Amal Equeiq is Assistant Professor of Arabic Studies and Comparative Literature at Williams College. She is currently working on her manuscript, *Indigenous Affinities: Comparative Study in Mayan and Palestinian Narratives*. Her interdisciplinary research includes modern Arab literature, popular culture, Palestine Studies, feminism(s), performance studies, translation, indigenous studies in the Americas, the Global South, literary history, hip-hop, critical border studies, and decoloniality. She has contributed to the *Contemporary Levant Journal*, *The Routledge Companion to World Literature and World History*, *Journal of Palestine Studies*, *Transmotion: An Online Journal of Postmodern Indigenous Studies*, *MadaMasr*, *Jadaliyya*, and *Kohl* among others. She has received several awards, including a writing residency at Hedgebrook, the Dean's Medal in Humanities from the University of Washington, and PARC NEH/FPIRI research fellowship. She earned her PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of Washington (2013). Equeiq also keeps a Facebook blog called "Diaries of a Hedgehog Feminist."

From November 2019 to January 2021, Equeiq will be an affiliated EUME Fellow associated with the Lateinamerika-Institut of Freie Universität Berlin.

Equeiq's book project investigates similarities between contemporary Mayan and Palestinian narratives of indigeneity based on their shared histories of land struggle, practices of autonomy, quests for liberation, and collective resistance to systematic structural racism, military oppression, and colonial violence. *Indigenous Affinities* explores a multivalent dialogue between Mexico and Palestine, by going beyond the long history of Latin American solidarity with Palestine and engaging Palestine with Chiapas as parallel geographies of indigenous struggle. Her theoretical frameworks examine critical modalities pertinent to comparative reading in indigenous literature from the Global South, namely affinity, borderlands, and indigenous performance as a multiform practice of decoloniality. These modalities look at a range of contemporary literary texts in Mayan literature in Chiapas, Mexico, alongside Palestinian literature in Israel, while simultaneously dismantling the colonial borders that shaped their cartographies of minoritization and challenging the colonial construction of the very category of the "literary." Therefore, Equeiq examines oral texts, mostly community performances in memorial sites in rural areas, and rap music as prominent examples of indigenous oral literature that must be considered primary texts. Through this South-South and periphery-periphery dialogue, Equeiq goes beyond solidarity to engage closely with indigenous literary and cultural traditions deemed minor despite their global vision for citizenship, liberation, and decolonization.



## Zeina G. Halabi

### Excavating the Arab Present: History, Power, and the Archive

Zeina G. Halabi is Associate Professor of Arabic Literature at the American University of Beirut. She specializes in modern Arabic literature with particular interest in questions of loss, mourning, and dissidence in contemporary literature and visual culture. She was a 2012-2013 EUME Fellow at the Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin where she began working on her first book titled *The Unmaking of the Arab Intellectual: Prophecy, Exile, and the Nation* (Edinburgh University Press, 2017) that examines the depiction of Arab intellectuals in post-1990's fiction and film. She has authored articles on the shifting notion of political commitment in the writings of canonical and emerging Arab writers in journals including the *Journal of Arabic Literature* and *Middle Eastern Literatures*.

As a EUME-CNMS Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (2018-2021), she is working on her second book project, provisionally entitled *Excavating the Present: History, Power, and the Arab Archive*, which explores archival practices in contemporary literature.

Halabi's current book project examines the ways in which contemporary writers excavate the Arab cultural archive in search for past narratives that make legible the Arab world in gestation. She reads the archive as a repository for cultural memory and a device of the knowledge and power that structure it. Addressing a palimpsest of contemporary writings from Egypt, Lebanon, and Palestine, her book reveals the ways in which the reexamination of the Arab archive, by practices of excavation, enables cultural actors to articulate a novel interpretation of the past and envision the future. It suggests that contemporary excavation practices are not a nostalgic return to an imagined Arab identity and a statement on cultural authenticity. Rather, they are the means by which artists and writers articulate an overarching disenchantment with the ways stories of the Arab past had hitherto been transmitted and are a way to create a field of meaning for the future. As she proposes alternatives to the ahistorical and presentist scholarly approaches that have governed research on the contemporary Arab world, Halabi reveals the ways in which archival and excavation practices can answer ontological questions in times of wars and uprisings.



## Fouad Halbouni

### Political-Ethical Exercises in Survival Among Coptic Activists in Post-Revolutionary Egypt

Fouad Halbouni received his PhD in cultural anthropology from Johns Hopkins University (2019) and his MA from the American University in Cairo (2009). His dissertation is titled “Between Promise and Disappointment: Coptic Youth Movements and the Sectarian Question After the Egyptian Revolution”. Fouad has taught several courses at Johns Hopkins University and the Cairo Institute for Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CILAS) that reflect his current research interests in diverse sub-disciplines such as the Anthropology of Orthodox Christianity, Memory Studies, Anthropology of Youth Movements, and lastly, the Anthropology of Revolution. He has also co-founded (alongside art critic Ismail Fayed) the History and Cultural Memory Forum, a series of seminars that explore interrelated themes in Arab cultural history such as the legacy of Walter Benjamin in Arab thought, and the history of Egyptian avant-garde movements. The forum has produced specialized booklets on the themes discussed in the seminars. Fouad is a EUME Fellow in the academic year of 2020/2021.

The “Exercises in Survival” project examines everyday forms of ethical practices among Coptic activists which are involved in reclaiming their disrupted and damaged lives in the face of political repression following the January revolution. The project approaches two interrelated registers of survival: on the one hand, survival as an exercise in self-examination in which the activists reassess and revisit their different moral-political stakes in relation to their changing interpretations of the revolutionary event as it precipitates in different moments in time, and on the other, the different forms of moral responses to the disappointment of revolutionary outcomes, to what they see as a defeated revolution, yet which has its social legacy in the form of an afterlife whereby networks, values, subjectivities, and identities produced through it cannot be simply cast aside but subsist in everyday moral choices. Some activists attempt to find solace in mending and redefining their relations with their past social worlds such as through their local churches and kinship networks, which they broke due to political differences during revolution. For others, it is a quest to redefine their faiths and seek forms of ethical life outside of the confines of the church in which they have formed networks of moral camaraderie.



## Nurçin İleri

### The Electrification of Istanbul: Technology, Politics, and Everyday Life

Nurçin İleri received her PhD from the Department of History at Binghamton University in 2015. Her dissertation, “A Nocturnal History of fin de siècle Istanbul”, casts light on the social and material geographies of night that went beyond the dichotomies of the ‘city of glittering leisure and consumption,’ or the ‘city of indigence and vice.’ Her dissertation research has led to several publications in peer-reviewed journals including *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, *Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association*, *Etudes balkaniques*, and *New Perspectives on Turkey*. She taught courses on the history of the late Ottoman Empire and contemporary Turkey at Boğaziçi and Işık Universities (2012-2018). She worked as the assistant coordinator of the Boğaziçi University Archives and Documentation Center, where she conducted a project entitled “Histories of Science, Culture and Education in Istanbul Through Personal Archives” and was involved in curating and writing material for on-site and online exhibitions (2015-2018). She spent one year as a postdoctoral scholar in the Department of History at the Université Grenoble Alpes (2018-2019) and six months as a visiting researcher at the Center of Metropolitan Studies of Technische Universität Berlin (2019-2020).

During the academic years 2020-2022, she is a EUME Fellow associated with the IGK Work and Human Life Cycle in Global History (re:work) of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Nurçin İleri studies on the history of electrification in the late Ottoman and early Republican Istanbul (1876-1939). Her project focuses on the efforts to build an urban scale power plant and electric grid in Istanbul and explores how electrical technology and infrastructure transformed public, industrial, and domestic spaces, and rearranged the rhythm of everyday life. It examines how the transfer, generation, distribution, and consumption of this new technology triggered a range of encounters and dialogues among the state authorities, city administration, multinational investors, experts, workers, and consumers. İleri questions how the electricity network of artifacts, knowledge, labor, and political ideologies reinforced new hierarchies and inequalities in institutions, in the city’s natural and built environment and in daily life. Her research relies on a wide range of sources; state archives, foreign diplomatic archives, company/consortium archives, local periodicals, and memoirs; and reveals how the history of electrification in Istanbul stands at the intersection of transnational political and economic networks and tells another history of global capitalism both in the Middle Eastern and European contexts.



## Banu Karaca

### Lost, Not Found? Violence, Dispossession, and the Re-Collecting of Post-Ottoman Art Histories

Banu Karaca works at the intersection of political anthropology and critical theory, art and aesthetics, nationalism and cultural policy, museums and feminist memory studies. She holds a PhD from the Graduate Center, CUNY. Her recent publications interrogate the freedom of expression in the arts, the visualization of gendered memories of war and political violence, and visual literacy. Her manuscript “The National Frame: State Violence and Aesthetic Practice in Turkey and Germany” analyzes the entrenchment of art in state violence, and she is co-editor of *Women Mobilizing Memory* (Columbia University Press, 2019). She is the co-founder of *Siyah Bant*, a research platform that documents censorship in the arts in Turkey. She has been Visiting Assistant Professor of Cultural Studies at Sabanci University and Faculty Fellow at Columbia University’s Center for the Study of Social Difference and held fellowships in the ART HISTORIES AND AESTHETIC PRACTICES and EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE EAST—THE MIDDLE EAST IN EUROPE (EUME) research programs at the Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin, in the academic years 2015/16 and 2016/17. She is currently a EUME Fellow supported by the VolkswagenStiftung through its funding initiative “Original – isn’t it? New Options for the Humanities and Cultural Studies.”

This research project centers on episodes of state violence against non-Muslims in the late Ottoman Empire and the early Turkish Republic. Different kinds of symbolic, material and economic dispossession were part of these episodes of state violence, in the course of which artworks were looted, confiscated, or made illegible. Based on archival research, oral histories, expert interviews, and examinations of the laws that have governed moveable heritage and art in the late Ottoman Empire, Turkey, and the international arena, this project asks: How has the material absence or misattribution of dispossessed artworks shaped the writing of art history, understandings of art, and the art world in Turkey and beyond? Following the traces of dispossessed art in Turkey and rereading diasporic art archives and collections in the U.S., this research also examines alternate forms of connectivity that have been lost through state violence. Rather than solely ascertaining their current location or ownership, this search for ‘lost’ art presents an avenue to contemplate the dynamics of remembering and forgetting in the knowledge production of art. Together with art looted by the Nazi regime, during colonial times, and the art plunder accompanying current wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, this research suggests that the dispossession of art presents neither an aberration nor a practice of a distant past but is constitutive to the art world and its institutions.



## Zahiye Kundos

### The Loss of the Muftī: Reimagining the Afterlife of Muḥammad ‘Abduh’s Islamic Modernism in Arabic Literature

Zahiye Kundos is a research and teaching fellow at the Arab-Jewish Cultural Studies Department of Tel Aviv University. She co-organizes the Arabic Forum of fellows and students, which is supporting Middle Eastern and Palestinian scholarship in the humanities. With this same focus, she also previously co-directed the initiative “Humanities in Conflict Zones” at the Minerva Humanities Center (2016-2019). In 2018, she received her PhD from the School of Cultural Studies at Tel Aviv University on Modernist Islam and the critique of modernity. She is currently interested in rebuilding the bridges between theological studies and modern Arabic literature. In 2005, she was the Palestinian resident artist in the International Writing Program in Iowa, USA.

In the academic year 2020/21, she is a EUME Fellow, affiliated with the Seminar für Semitistik und Arabistik at the Freie Universität Berlin.

What starting point can we find for a discussion of being Muslim as a moral way of life in these times when the Arabic discourse is bruised and stuttering? To begin to answer this therapeutic question, this project suggests that, instead of studying religious knowledge, (*‘Ulūm Al-Dīn*) and literature (*Adab*), separately – as their ostensible mutual estrangement in modernity has led us to do – we turn our attention to the range of experiences that become available when we consider the dynamic and symbiotic historical interrelations between them. This project is an endeavor in this direction. It attends to allocate the polemics incited in the first decades of 20th-century Egypt between religious and secular writers from the point of view of the latter as registered in their literal productions, particularly that by Taha Hussein (d. 1973) surrounding Muḥammad ‘Abduh’s death (d. 1905). Alongside voicing the tensions and uncovering the drama created in the aftermath of ‘Abduh’s absence, the project aims to show the ways Hussein and his fellow intellectuals, looked up and back to ‘Abduh with awe and sobriety and sought to extricate textures of belonging with him and his agenda of reform.



## Anne-Marie McManus

### The Prison Narratives of Assad's Syria: Voices, Texts, Publics (SYRASP)

Anne-Marie McManus is a comparative literary scholar of modern Arabic and French-language literatures from the Middle East and North Africa. Her first book, *Of Other Languages*, under contract with Northwestern University Press, draws these sub-regions together via the Algerian War and its impact on Arab and Algerian leftists. She argues that trans-regional solidarity around independent Algeria failed in the 1960s and 1970s due to authors' unstated ideologies of the Arabic language. With ongoing relevance for the post-2011 moment, the book is a study of troubled translations in revolutionary imagination and action that took place within Arabic literatures. Along with Dr. Nancy Reynolds at Washington University in St. Louis, she co-directed an Andrew W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar for the Comparative Study of Cultures titled "Grounding the Ecocritical: Materializing Wastelands and Living On in the Middle East (2016-19)". This seminar critically challenged conventional representations of the Middle East and North Africa as ruined, blighted spaces. Her research has received support from Washington University in St. Louis, NYU Abu Dhabi, Fulbright, and the Mellon Foundation, among others. She received her PhD in Comparative Literature from Yale University. In 2016/17, she has been a EUME-CNMS Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and returned to the Forum Transregionale Studien in 2020 with an ERC Starting Grant.

Anne-Marie McManus will develop her investigations of the intersection between narrative practices and political world-making in her new research project, "The Prison Narratives of Assad's Syria (SYRASP)." This project is a five-year investigation funded by the European Research Council, hosted by the Forum Transregionale Studien, and related to EUME. It will collect and analyse Syrian prison narratives of the left and the Islamic movement since the 1970s, and thus deal with narratives of resistance and survival that are of particular importance for the political culture of Syria and its diaspora.



## Elmir Mirzayev

### Between Modernity and the Archaic: 20th-Century Azerbaijani Music Culture in the Context of Three (Former) Empires

Elmir Mirzayev is an Azerbaijani composer of orchestral, chamber and vocal pieces performed in Europe, CIS countries, Turkey, the USA, Mexico, the Far East and Japan. He is active in the promotion of new music and organizes contemporary music festivals in Azerbaijan. He studied at the Azerbaijan State Conservatory (now the Baku Music Academy) where he has been teaching since 1998 in the composition department. From 1995 to 2005, he was the artistic director of the Initiative Center of Contemporary Music - Ensemble SoNoR. Since 2013, he has been head of the cultural department of Meydan TV in Berlin.

From 2019 to 2021, he is a EUME Fellow affiliated with the Department of Slavic and Hungarian Studies at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, where he is working on the research project “Between Modernity and the Archaic: 20th-Century Azerbaijani Music Culture in the Context of Three (Former) Empires”.

Located at the intersection of cultural history and musicology, this interdisciplinary research project intends to revise the musical and cultural history of Azerbaijan in the 20th century from a transregional perspective. It examines the tensions and interactions between archaic-traditional and modern, religious and secular, and Eastern-Eurasian and Western-European tendencies. The significant tension between modernity and the archaic can be seen as expression of Azerbaijan's specific geo-cultural location at the intersection of three empires: the Russian Empire, which transformed itself into a socialist state in the 20th century, the Persian Empire, which, after a period of secularization, experienced a religious turn, and the Ottoman Empire, which went into a nationalistic-secular direction. Since the 19th century, Azerbaijan, similar to Georgia and Armenia, was culturally orientated towards the Russian Empire. With regard to the development of the arts, the Christian-influenced regions of Transcaucasia differed significantly from Azerbaijan, which was closely connected to Persia in religious terms, to Turkey in linguistic terms and above all to Russia in cultural terms. Azerbaijan's musical history, in particular, mirrors these complex references and developments.



## Lamia Moghnieh

### Global Mental Health at the Periphery: A Social History of Psychiatry, Humanitarianism and Violence in Lebanon (1860–2012)

Lamia Moghnieh received her PhD in Social Work and Anthropology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She also has an MA in Social Science from the University of Chicago and an MA in Psychology from the American University of Beirut. In her dissertation “Humanitarian Psychology in War and Postwar Lebanon: Violence, Therapy and Suffering”, she examines the humanitarian process of psychologizing suffering from war and displacement from Israel’s invasion in 1982 to the Syrian refugee crisis in 2012. Based on 18 months of ethnographic fieldwork, this research looks at how humanitarian psychology—a new form of expertise—sought to produce therapeutic subjects that both experts and communities in Lebanon contested, appropriated and negotiated. In 2016/2017, Lamia was a postdoctoral Fellow with the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS), affiliated with the SOAM department at the American University of Beirut. She recently took part of a collective special issue publication in *Contemporary Levant* on “Ethnography as Knowledge in the Arab Region”, contributing a paper on “The Violence We Live In: Reading and Experiencing Violence in the Field” 2:1, 24-36 (2017).

She was a EUME Fellow during the academic year of 2017/18 and returned as EUME Fellow of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation 2019-21.

The project examines the history and development of modern psychiatry in Lebanon, starting from the first humanitarian intervention in Ottoman Syria in 1860—and the foundation of the first psychiatric institution in 1900 Ottoman Lebanon and the Levant—to the present day.

The project looks at the entanglements between humanitarianism and psychiatric science as two projects of modernization and rehabilitation of subjects in the Middle East. Lebanon represents a powerful case for how both these projects unfolded to produce new forms of therapeutic subjects in Lebanon, especially with regards to violence and war. More specifically, the project looks at 1) the psychiatric reforms in the late nineteenth-century Lebanon; 2) how modern psychiatry classified and diagnosed various social transformations in twentieth-century Lebanon and 3) how humanitarianism psychologized violence and war, creating new forms of therapeutic subjects in Lebanon. Deeply committed to a multidisciplinary approach, Lamia Moghnieh situates her project at the intersection of critical medical anthropology, the history of science and society and Middle East history. The book is a mixture of ethnography, archival research and interviews with psychiatrists in Lebanon. The archival research is based on collected records of the Lebanon Hospital for Mental and Nervous Disorders—popularly known as Asfourieyh Hospital (1901-1982)—scientific journals and various magazines.



## Amir Moosavi

### Dust That Never Settled: Afterlives of the Iran-Iraq War in Arabic and Persian Literatures

Amir Moosavi is Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature in the Department of English at Rutgers University-Newark. Prior to his current position, he was a EUME Fellow supported by the VolkswagenStiftung (2016-17) and Visiting Assistant Professor of Modern Iranian Studies at Brown University (2017-18). He holds a PhD in Middle East and Islamic Studies from New York University and a BA in History from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. His research and teaching interests cover modern Arabic and Persian literatures, with an emphasis on Iran, Iraq, the Levant, and Afghanistan as well as the cultural history of the modern Middle East. His publications have appeared in *Alif*, *Middle East Critique*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies* and *Iran Namag*. He edits the series “The ‘1979 Moment’ in the Middle East” at *TRAFO – Blog for Transregional Research* and is the co-editor of the forthcoming volume *Losing Our Minds, Coming to Our Senses: Sensory Readings of Persian Literature and Culture*.

As a EUME Fellow, he will finish his current book project, *Dust That Never Settled: Afterlives of the Iran-Iraq War in Arabic and Persian Literatures*, which emerges from his interests in cultural production, its representation of violent pasts and the ways in which it supports and challenges dominant historical narratives.

This book project is the first comparative study of the massive literary output of the Iran-Iraq War—the longest two-state war of the twentieth century—in both Arabic and Persian. In bringing together these two literatures, it argues for the expansion of modern comparative literary studies across the two languages based on common experiences of war and writing under authoritarian regimes. The book focuses on prose fiction to demonstrate how Iraqi and Iranian writers have wrestled with the brutal reality of the war and its politically contentious legacy from 1980 until today. In doing so, *Dust That Never Settled* argues that writers from both countries have transformed literatures that were once entirely militarized and sponsored by warring governments into literatures of loss, mourning and resistance.



## Alia Mossallam

### This is What Socialism Looks Like: A Popular History of the Building of the Aswan High Dam 1960-1970

Alia Mossallam is interested in songs that tell stories and stories that tell of popular struggles behind the better-known events that shape world history. For her PhD, she researched a popular history of Nasserist Egypt through the stories and experiences of the popular resistance in Port Said (1956) and Suez (1967-1974) and the construction of the Aswan High Dam through the experiences of its builders and the Nubian communities displaced by it. Within institutional (but no less experimental) frameworks, she has taught at the American University in Cairo, CILAS, and the Freie Universität Berlin. Alia is currently a EUME Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Berlin, writing a book on the visual and musical archiving practices of the builders of the Aswan High Dam and the Nubian communities displaced by it. As a Visiting Scholar at the Lautarchiv, she has also started a new project researching the experiences of Egyptian workers on the various fronts of World War I through the songs and memoirs that recount their struggles. Some of her writings can be found in *The Journal of Water History*, *The History Workshop Journal*, *Jadaliyya*, *Ma'azif*, *Bidayat* and *Mada Masr*.

It is said that the 'high' of the Aswan High Dam is a misnomer. Standing at 111 meters high and a kilometer wide, the embankment dam's 'height' refers more to its being a technical and political feat. Built during a period of heightened socialist nationalism, its construction relied on peasants who had never dealt with machinery, and funding that required Soviet assistance and the nationalization of the Suez Canal - instigating a war with imperial powers and embedding it within Cold War politics. The Dam thus became a testament to decolonization, national liberation, and modernity. Looking at the building of the Aswan High Dam in Egypt in the 1960s, Alia explores how this large industrial project, which employed 36,000 builders and displaced 100,000 of the indigenous Nubian communities in its wake, 'brought Socialism' to the city of Aswan. She investigates how ideologies can be built and physically manifested in certain communities in the context of populist socialist revolutions. And how, in believing in these 'revolutionary truths', workers and displaced communities were willing to 'suspend disbelief' to often contradictory ideological values.



## Rim Naguib

### The Ideological Deportation of Foreigners and Local Subjects of Foreign Extractions in Interwar Egypt: How British Colonial Policy Shaped Egyptian Nationalism

Rim Naguib received her PhD in Sociology from Northwestern University (2016) and her MA from Sciences Po Aix-en-Provence (2006). Her PhD dissertation is titled “Intelligentsia Class Formation and Ideologies in Peripheral Societies: Comparing Egypt and Iran, 1922-1952”. She was recently a postdoctoral fellow with the Arab Council for the Social Sciences. Based in Cairo, she taught in several alternative education initiatives, seeking to popularize the critical social sciences. Her current research interests address three different, but not unrelated, fields: the genesis and development of Egyptian patriarchal nationalism; the formulation of the first Egyptian nationality law; and the practice of deporting internationalist foreigners in interwar Egypt. She is also writing and illustrating a graphic novel on the latter topic, and has co-translated several graphic novels into Arabic.

In the academic year 2019/20, Naguib was a EUME Fellow and stays with EUME during the academic year 2020/21 through a fellowship of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.

The project examines how British authorities in Egypt, in the period 1919-1927, sought to institute the legality and necessity of ideological deportation of “foreigners” and of “local subjects of foreign extractions”, out of the fear of what British intelligence perceived as the spread of Bolshevism among the natives. This practice in the colony went against British policy in the Metropole, which upheld civic nationhood and the right for asylum. The research traces how nationalist discourse re-appropriated this colonial policy, following the unilateral declaration of independence of February 28, 1922, the drafting of a new constitution, and the rise to power of the first elected national government, amidst a growing discourse focusing on sovereignty and national interests. The result was a reinforcement of ethno-nationalist discourse and politics, whereby foreigners came to be regarded as a social and political threat, legitimating a series of deportations and rigid border control. The project surveys this trend, leading up to the issuing of the first Egyptian nationality law in 1929, and its 1931 addendum which allowed for the denaturalisation of certain Egyptians with foreign ties.



## Wendy Pearlman

### Syrian Identity: Narratives of Belonging, Exile, and Home

Wendy Pearlman is Professor of Political Science and the Martin and Patricia Koldyke Outstanding Teaching Professor at Northwestern University, where she specializes in the comparative politics of the Middle East. Her new book, *We Crossed A Bridge and It Trembled: Voices from Syria* (HarperCollins 2017), chronicles the Syrian uprising and war through a mosaic of testimonials collected from 2012 through 2017 from more than 300 displaced Syrians across the Middle East, Europe, and the United States. She is also the author of two other books, *Violence, Nonviolence, and the Palestinian National Movement* (Cambridge University Press, 2011) and *Occupied Voices: Stories of Everyday Life from the Second Intifada* (Nation Books, 2003), as well as dozens of essays, articles, or book chapters. She holds a BA from Brown University, an MA from Georgetown, and a PhD from Harvard. She was a Fulbright Scholar in Spain, a Starr Foundation Fellow at the Center for Arabic Studies Abroad at the American University in Cairo, a Junior Peace Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace, and a postdoctoral Fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She has studied or conducted research in Spain, Morocco, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Germany, Israel, and the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In the summers of 2016-18 and 2021-22, Pearlman is a EUME-CNMS Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Pearlman spent her first summer conducting interviews for *We Crossed A Bridge and It Trembled* and writing that manuscript. During the other summers, she is continuing to conduct open-ended, life-story interviews with Syrian refugees for a new book project on how Syrians have defined and redefined their personal and collective identities since 2011. Given the upheavals of revolution, war, and displacement, what does it mean to be Syrian today? This book explores that question based on interpretive analysis of personal narratives, informed by engagement with interdisciplinary literature on theories of identity, home, exile, and belonging.



## Fatemeh Shams

### Blurring Borders and Boundaries: Liminal Spaces in Modern Persian Poetry of Iran and Afghanistan

Fatemeh Shams is Assistant Professor of Modern Persian literature at the University of Pennsylvania. Her area of expertise includes literary production under authoritarian states, social history of modern Persian literature, ideology and literary production. Fatemeh is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning poet with three poetry collections. Her third collection, *When They Broke Down the Door* won the Latifeh Yarshater annual book award in 2017. Fatemeh's first monograph, *A Revolution in Rhyme: Official Poets of the Islamic Republic*, will be published by Oxford University Press in 2020.

In the academic year 2020/21, she is a EUME Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Globalization increasingly favors lateral and non-hierarchical network structures, or what Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari call a rhizome. The figure of the rhizome suggests an uncontainable, invisible symbolic geography of relations that become the creative terrain on which minority subjects act and interact in fruitful, lateral ways. My project tackles the symbolic geography and ways in which it shapes the theme of home and homeland in the works of modernist poets of Iran and Afghanistan. By tracing hybrid spatiality in the work of modernist poets of Iran and Afghanistan, this project aims to demonstrate how poets of Modern Iran and Afghanistan have blurred ideological and geographical boundaries of homeland and national identities through introducing a set of hybrid, invisible symbolic geographies based on issues such as gender, sexuality, social justice, and anti-war sentiments. It proposes a recalibration of modern Persian poetics through a cartographical framework, exploring the themes of “home” and “exile” in works of the pioneering poets of Iran and Afghanistan.



## Sana Tannoury-Karam

### Red Flags in the Streets of Beirut: An Intellectual History of the Lebanese Left, 1920-1948

Sana Tannoury-Karam is a historian of the modern Middle East, writing on the intellectual history of the Left in the Levant. She received her PhD in History from Northeastern University and holds an MA in Political Studies from the American University of Beirut. In 2019/2020, Tannoury-Karam was an Early Career Fellow at the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS) affiliated with the Center of Arab and Middle East Studies at the American University of Beirut, and a lecturer in the Humanities Department at the Lebanese American University. She had also completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Rice University in 2018/2019. She has various publications, including her latest article “This War is Our War: Anti-Fascism Among Lebanese Leftist Intellectuals during World War Two” in *Journal of World History* 30, no. 3 (September 2019). She is also co-editor of and contributor to the volume *The League Against Imperialism: Lives and Afterlives* with Leiden University Press (2020).

In the academic year 2020/21, Sana Tannoury-Karam is a EUME Fellow at the Forum Transregionale Studien, affiliated with the Center for Global History at Freie Universität Berlin.

The project combines social and biographic history with intellectual history approaches to recover the ways Arab leftist intellectuals engaged with the political sphere and negotiated their presence within new structures of power emerging in post-war Lebanon. It is an intellectual history of a generation of leftists who were active in Lebanon, and more generally in the Levant, between the years 1920 and 1948. Tannoury-Karam chronicles the political organization and activism of a group of intellectuals who advocated for social justice, the international solidarity of the working class, the need to fight capitalism, and the interconnectivity between the class struggle and the anti-imperialist struggle. She examines how this milieu of leftists built upon the intellectual traditions of the nineteenth-century Nahda and pushed its temporal limits and its scope by further politicizing the role and figure of the ‘intellectual’ (al-muthaqqaf). The project shows how Arab leftists combined commitments to internationalism, nationalism, and anti-imperialism, and how they deliberately sought to be local and global actors simultaneously. Contrary to mainstream nationalist elites who dominated the political parties of the Mandate era, these Arab leftists opposed sectarian politics propagated by local elite and colonial administrators, organized against the rise of fascism, demanded political rights for women, and fought against the growing capitalist pull in the absence of laws to protect workers and peasants.



## Hanan Toukan

### Museums of the Future: Landscapes, Objects and Memories in Contemporary Palestinian Museums

Hanan Toukan holds a lectureship in Politics and Middle East Studies at Bard College Berlin. Before joining Bard College Berlin, she was Visiting Assistant Professor in Middle East Studies at Brown University (2016-18) and Visiting Professor of the Cultural Studies of the Middle East Department at the University of Bamberg (2018-19). Toukan has also taught at Freie Universität Berlin and SOAS, University of London, in Media and Film Studies, as well as Politics and International Studies. She is a recipient of several research awards, including most recently from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the Einstein Foundation for her current research project on the visual politics of museums in Palestine. She was a EUME Postdoctoral Fellow in Berlin in 2012-13 and a Kenyon Institute Visiting Scholar in East Jerusalem in 2012. Toukan's PhD dissertation undertaken at SOAS, University of London in 2012 won the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA) Malcolm H. Kerr Award for Best PhD in the Social Sciences for the same year. She is currently completing her book manuscript (under contract with Stanford University Press), titled *The Politics of Dissent: Contemporary Art and Cultural Diplomacy in the Arab World*, on the cultural politics of contemporary art in Palestine, Lebanon and Jordan. In the summers of 2019 and 2020 and from June 2021 to March 2022, Toukan is a EUME-CNMS Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

The question of how to make the museum – an institution historically bound up with the emergence of the nation-state and the notion of the public in eighteenth-century Europe – relevant to the global conditions which shape its direction, is central to many contemporary museums' missions to “globalize.” Inspired by this critical juncture in the historical trajectory of the museum's role, Toukan's project asks how we are to approach some of the key questions that underpin this conundrum that globalizing museums find themselves in vis-à-vis their publics, objects, collections and exhibitions. She approaches the study of museums within a framework that emphasizes the value of a postcolonial approach relevant for the twenty-first century. She asks how we are to rethink and rework the vexed relationship between what are often contested objects, local citizens and global publics on the one hand, and the existing tensions between the aesthetical form of an exhibition and the tastes of its audiences on the other. Accordingly, she examines how museums located at the liminal nexus of the colonial/postcolonial divide dislocate and reinvent their spaces and memorial practices in uneven contexts when the divisions between public and private are opaque and the freedom needed for objects to travel and museum landscapes and architectures to be accessed is restricted.



## Oraib Toukan

### Decruelling Images: The Micro Visual Field of Violence

Oraib Toukan is an artist and scholar. She holds a PhD in Fine Arts from Oxford University, Ruskin School of Art. Until Fall 2015, she was Head of the Arts Division and Media Studies program at Bard College at Al Quds University, Palestine and was visiting faculty at the International Academy of Fine Arts in Ramallah. Between 2015 and 2017, she taught at the Ruskin School of Art's University of Oxford Graduate Teaching program. In Autumn 2018, she was Mercator Fellow at the "Cultures of Critique" program at Leuphana University, Lüneburg. Toukan is author of *Sundry Modernism: Materials for a Study of Palestinian Modernism* (Sternberg Press, 2017), and the essay-film *When Things Occur* (2016). Recent exhibitions include the Asia Pacific Triennial, the Mori Art Museum, Akademie der Künste, Berlin, Heidelberger Kunstverein, Qalandia International, The Centre for Contemporary Art Glasgow, and the 11th Istanbul Biennale. Toukan's current research addresses "cruel images" and the question of how to treat them as both object and subject through artistic practice. Her writings have appeared in a number of publications, collected works, and biennale readers. Since 2011 she has been analyzing and remaking works from a found collection of film reels that once belonged to now-dissolved Soviet cultural centers in Jordan in 1990-1991. In the academic year 2019/20, she was a EUME Fellow and stays with EUME during 2020/21, supported by a fellowship of the Swiss National Science Foundation.

Cruel images epitomize degradation of sorts. In one way, images that represent politically degraded subjects in turn get materially degraded via passage and mediation, and degrade the subject further by virtue of being seen, scrutinized, or passed over. Toukan's postdoctorate departs from practice-based research on cruel images to explore propositions for decruelling images. Her methodology lies in handling and re-editing found archival materials in post-production, whereby knowledge is produced through an extreme closeness to the materiality of an image via the dialectics of montage. The objective is to publish an anthology of writings that propels various theoretical notions around "decruelling images" by using the essay-as-form and the artist book-as-method. To this end, she will ethnographically explore archival representations emanating from colonized contexts to reclaim the relevance of the Palestinian experience as a historic case that has long worked with images of violence—one that could help locate current concerns with the proliferation of cruel images. Her research questions whether abstraction, via extreme proximity to the materiality of violence, at the level of the pixel grain can transcend representations of violence altogether, into a field of knowing via seeing; when images feel like they can be touched, and in turn become touching. She asks, can a navigational turn toward images of suffering become the new un-cruelling, or at the very least lead to some moments of consciousness and, in turn, to the "shifting of the frame" (Butler, 2010) in the next round of violence?



## Yektan Türkyilmaz

### Historiography, Popular Culture and Routes of Authoritarianism

Yektan Türkyilmaz received his PhD from Duke University, Department of Cultural Anthropology. He taught courses at University of Cyprus, Sabancı, Bilgi, Duke California State Universities addressing the debates around the notions of collective violence, memory making and reconciliation, and politics of music. He is working on his book manuscript based on his dissertation, “Rethinking Genocide: Violence and Victimhood in Eastern Anatolia, 1913-1915”, that addresses the conflict in Eastern Anatolia in the early 20th century and the memory politics around it. He was a EUME Fellow in 2014/15 and returned as a EUME Fellow for the academic years 2017-21.

Yektan currently works on three interrelated projects that have emerged out of his PhD dissertation:

The first traces the genealogies of historiographical threads on the Armenian Genocide. It follows-up on a central concluding observation that the Armenian Genocide, seen as a process, has not only ended countless lives but also marks the beginnings of novel ideological formations that redefine the boundaries of communities and citizenship and sets an exemplary case for many other instances of collective violence in the broader region of the Middle East up to the present.

His second project addresses the emergence of the sound recording industry and its implications on the remaking of public space in the broader Ottoman and post-Ottoman world. Finally, his third and most recent research topic addresses the ongoing political upheavals in Turkey. Putting the country’s turbulent history in relation with the recent radical transformations in capitalism and governmentality at the global scale this project tackles the making of popular authoritarianism, institutional disintegration and their implications in the realm of popular culture.



## Zeynep Türkyilmaz

### An Archaeology of Today: Tracing the Genealogies of Yezidi Victimhood

Zeynep Türkyilmaz received her PhD from the Department of History at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in 2009. Her dissertation, “Anxieties of Conversion: Missionaries, State and Heterodox Communities in the Late Ottoman Empire,” is based on intensive research conducted in Ottoman, British, and several American missionary archives. She was an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar Postdoctoral Fellow at UNC-Chapel Hill between 2009 and 2010 and a postdoctoral 2010/11 EUME Fellow at the Forum Transregionale Studien. She worked as an Assistant Professor of history at Dartmouth College between 2011 and 2016 and as Program Coordinator and Research Fellow at Koc University’s Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations finishing her book project based on her dissertation. Her research and teaching interests include state-formation, gender, nationalism, colonialism, and religion with a focus on heterodoxy and missionary work in the Middle East from 1800 to the present. She returned as a EUME Fellow for the academic year of 2017/18 and continues to be with EUME in the academic years 2018-21 as a Fellow of the Forum Transregionale Studien associated with the Center for Global History at Freie Universität Berlin.

This project is a long durée study of Yezidi victimization and their narratives, tracing their manifold manifestations from 1700s until 2014 genocide. It is essentially a critique of ahistorical and uniform characterizations of Yezidis as an ever-persecuted people. Informed by Foucault’s archaeology of knowledge, which enforces an inquiry of multi-dimensional, multi-linear processes formed by discontinuities, contingencies and the choices of actors, thus opening up the possibility of dissonant discourses, this project brings in complexities of Yezidi agency and actorship. Drawing on extensive archival research and recently published oral testimonies of survivors, this project moves away from the portrayal of Yezidis only as meek, passive, converted and persecuted peoples, and study them as local rulers, and powerbrokers between empires; armed and resilient, fighting back on their Sunni neighbors’ intrusions, sometimes initiating attacks, and always resisting state’s attempts to infiltrate in matters relating to their identity as well socio-economic well-being, conscription, and taxation alike. The focus is on their demands and responses to the introduction of citizenship as well as the redefinition of communal coexistence in their local settings at high-altitude and remote corners of these political entities. In so doing, Zeynep hopes to illustrate how Yezidi subjecthood has been reshaped at the intersection of modernizing empires and nation-states.



## Filiz Tütüncü Çağlar

### The Unknown History of Ottoman Archaeology: An Entangled Legacy

Filiz Tütüncü Çağlar is an archaeologist specializing in Byzantine and Islamic archaeology. She was awarded her MA degree in Archaeology and History of Art at Bilkent University, Ankara. In 2017, Filiz received her PhD in Art History and Visual Studies from the University of Victoria (Canada). Her doctoral dissertation, entitled “From Raqqa with Love: The Raqqa Excavations by the Ottoman Imperial Museum (1905-1906 and 1908)”, examines Ottoman archaeological investigations in Syria within a broader historical and disciplinary context while garnering a critical outlook to the existing historiography. Her current research interests focus on the history of collecting and archaeology in the late Ottoman Empire as well as heritage politics and management.

She was an Art Histories Fellow in 2018-2019, an associated EUME Fellow in 2019-2020 and is a Fellow of the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung in 2020-2021, affiliated with the Museum for Islamic Art in Berlin and the Institute of Art History at Freie Universität Berlin. She is also affiliated with the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin where she leads tours for enthusiasts of the ancient and Islamic Middle East.

This project aims to produce a transnational history of archaeology in the Ottoman Empire around the turn of the twentieth century focusing on the social and scholarly interaction between Ottoman and European archaeologists. Drawing from archival sources such as official correspondence, letters, museum catalogues, field reports, photographs as well as archaeological material retrieved in Ottoman excavations, the project seeks to explore social networks, mechanisms of collaboration, and the specific role of Ottoman archaeologists in the formation of modern archaeology. In doing so, it aims to highlight the diversity of teams and individuals involved in archaeological practice in the late Ottoman Empire, who routinely collaborated in field research, artifact analysis, and publishing. Such transnational interaction in the archaeological realm opened up many opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and the transfer of expertise between European and Ottoman teams. The project exhibits the international nature of early archaeological research to allow for a reconsideration of the binary oppositions of East-West, local-foreigner, and Ottoman-European that have hitherto characterized mainstream historiographies. Emphasizing the prominence of local actors in the development of early archaeological practice, this project proposes an alternative narrative to those of the national(istic) and colonial histories.



## Antonio Ungar

### A Plena Luz (In Broad Daylight)

Antonio Ungar is a Colombian writer. His novels have been translated into eight languages and his short stories have been included in more than twenty anthologies in five languages. His novel *Tres ataúdes blancos*, was awarded in 2010 with the prestigious Herralde Prize, was short-listed for the Rómulo Gallegos Prize in 2011, and is currently being adapted into a movie.

Other prizes and distinctions include representing Colombia in the IWP Residence (2005), in the Granta Magazine Latin-American Anthology (2007), being second in the Courier International Prize to the best foreign book published in France (2008), and achieving the Colombian National Journalism Prize Simón Bolívar (2005). His last novel, *Mirame* (2019), is currently being translated into French.

During the academic year 2020/21, Ungar is affiliated as a Fellow of EUME and of the Institute for Latin American Studies at Freie Universität Berlin.

This is a story of vengeance. Marta is a young woman from Bogotá, a large metropolis, who goes to the little village where her father has been living for some years and where he has just been killed. Very soon she understands that the region is controlled by paramilitaries, drug dealers and guerrillas. In her quest for the killers, she gets advice from three locals, but soon discovers that nobody is who they claim to be, and that help will come from the most unexpected of places. The search will transform her completely, from a law-abiding citizen to a woman with a mission in a territory where laws mean nothing. The novel will be built around two narrative lines: that of Marta in the village, and that of three murders (one in Paris, at the beginning of the novel, one in Miami, in the middle, and one in Bogotá, in the end). The reader will gradually discover why these people are being killed, who is killing them, and what is their connection with the main story.



## Deniz Yonucu

### War on Politics: Policing, Counterinsurgency, and Political Space in Istanbul

Deniz Yonucu received her PhD in Social Anthropology from Cornell University. Her teaching and research interests lie at the intersection of anthropology, law and society studies, and urban studies, with a focus on the Middle East. More specifically, her work focuses on urban violence, crime, counterinsurgency and policing, sectarianism, and human rights. Situating the criminalization and racialization of urban working-class youth within the wider context of the Cold War counterinsurgency tactics which inform current security practices, she illustrates in her first book manuscript, *War on Politics: Policing, Counterinsurgency, and Political Space in Istanbul*, how counterinsurgency works to inform and shape dissent. Before re-joining EUME in 2020, Deniz Yonucu was a DAAD Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. She held research positions as a 2015-17 EUME Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, at the Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient and at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Deniz Yonucu's research was funded by various institutions including the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the British Council's Newton Fund, and SALT Research. Her work appeared in the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Studies*, *Social & Legal Studies*, *Berkeley Journal of Sociology*, among others. She has also published various op-ed articles related to her area of research on *openDemocracy*, *Jadaliyya*, *PoLAR Forum* and beyond.

*War on Politics: Policing, Counterinsurgency, and Political Space in Istanbul* illustrates the links between counterinsurgency, criminalization, and the processes of racialization. The manuscript is based on extensive ethnographic field and archival work carried out between 2010 and 2016. Much of this research was conducted in working-class Alevi neighbourhoods of Istanbul, neighbourhoods that have served as strongholds for dissident leftist organizations since the 1960s, and in Istanbul's Special Assize Courts, which specialize in "crimes against the state." *War on Politics* situates the criminalization and racialization of urban working-class youth within the wider context of those Cold War counterinsurgency tactics which inform current security practices and offer a spatial analysis of what Deniz Yonucu calls "provocative counter-organization." Drawing on an ethnographically rich case study from Turkey and engaging with other examples from the Global South (notably, Latin America and South Africa), Deniz Yonucu argues that, because counterinsurgency is in its essence a war on political dissent, it is not solely a project of pacification but also of social engineering which seeks to refashion dissent against the state through the active (re)production of criminal(ized) and racialized bodies and spaces, that urban violence has played in the making of sectarian identities in Turkey.



## Himmat Zoubi

### “The Right to the City”: Culture Spaces and Palestinian Urbanity in Israel

Himmat Zoubi is a Palestinian researcher and feminist activist. She wrote her dissertation on “Control Surveillance Discipline and Everyday Resistance: The Case of Haifa during the Military Rule” in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Ben-Gurion University. She completed two Master’s degrees, one in Criminology and another in Gender Studies. She published several book chapters and articles on gender, cities and settler colonialism, memory and oral history, indigenous knowledge and resistance, among them “The Ongoing Nakba: Urban Palestinian Survival in Haifa”, and “Economic Violence against Palestinian Women in the 1948 Era: Internally Displaced Women from the Saffouri Village”. She received several awards and grants for her research, among them the Palestinian American Research Center (PARC) fellowship, a scholarship for Outstanding Arab Doctoral Students by the Council for Higher Education and the Dean’s list award for academic excellence (2017-2018).

She was a EUME Fellow during the academic year of 2018/2019 and continues to be with EUME in the academic years of 2019-2021.

Seventy years after Israel’s sweeping attempts to de-urbanize Palestinian social life, Palestinians in Israel have forged alternative cultural and intellectual initiatives to practice their “right to the city” in Israel. This project builds on Zoubi’s dissertation research which examined the production of Israeli colonial urban space through the destruction of the Palestinian city with all its socio-economic components, in Israel between 1948 and 1953. Zoubi is interested in two main questions: first, how power relations shape space, affect people, and social interaction; and second, how urban change affects social behavior, identity and perceptions. This research project explores transformations in spatial social power relations in Haifa since the 1990’s, that have often been described as a period of new beginnings in Arab thought, social and artistic practice, not only in Arab countries but also elsewhere. It examines the interaction between macro and micro politics and the continuous struggle between colonial power and the colonized over urban space. It addresses the way Palestinians live and reclaim their city today, how they challenge political and spatial power relations, as well as internal social constraints to reproduce Palestinian urban spaces and urban society.

# PRISMA UKRAÏNA – Research Network

## Eastern Europe

**PRISMA UKRAÏNA – Research Network Eastern Europe** führt unter der Leitung von Andrii Portnov seit 2016 die Arbeit der von ihm gegründeten Berlin-Brandenburg Ukraine Initiative (BBUI) fort. Im interdisziplinären Forschungsverbund PRISMA UKRAÏNA steht die Ukraine als Forschungsgegenstand im Zentrum des gemeinsamen Interesses und fungiert gleichzeitig als »Prisma«, um regionale und transregionale Perspektiven zu eröffnen.

»Ukraine« bedeutet wörtlich »Grenzgebiet«. Ein Blick in ihre Vergangenheit zeigt die enge Verwobenheit regionaler Geschichten, die durch das russische, polnische, osmanische, österreich-ungarische und sowjetische Erbe strukturiert sind. Die Ukraine zeugt des Weiteren von der Berührung, Interaktion, der gegenseitigen Durchdringung und Koexistenz verschiedener Kulturen und Religionen wie des westlichen und östlichen Christentums, des Islams und Judentums, und ist bis heute durch soziale und kulturelle Diversität geprägt, die es ernst zu nehmen gilt. All das bildet den Rahmen für aktuelle gesellschaftliche Suchprozesse, die durch die Frage nach nationaler Identität und Souveränität in Zeiten tiefgreifender Transformationen und regionaler Neuordnung in Gang gesetzt werden.

Die Betrachtung der Ukraine eröffnet dabei ein ganzes Spektrum an Fragen nach soziokultureller Hybridität und Pluralität von Gesellschaften im Wandel, alten und neuen Grenzziehungen, den Bedingungen friedlicher Koexistenz, und den Auswirkungen wirtschaftlicher und politischer Neuordnung. Damit lenkt sie den Blick auf angrenzende Länder und Regionen des osteuropäischen und postsowjetischen Raums, in denen sich vergleichbare Fragen stellen. Und ihre Erforschung kann auch fruchtbar sein für das Verständnis der andauernden Transformationen in Westeuropa und anderen Weltregionen. PRISMA UKRAÏNA fokussiert diese und weitere Fragen in historischer, sozial- und kulturwissenschaftlicher Perspektive durch das Prisma eines anderen Ausgangspunktes. PRISMA UKRAÏNA lädt zu die-

**PRISMA UKRAÏNA – Research Network Eastern Europe** is an interdisciplinary research network that places Ukraine at the center of its interest and that serves at the same time as a “prism” to open up regional and transregional perspectives. Since 2016, under the leadership of Andrii Portnov, PRISMA UKRAÏNA has continued the work of the Berlin-Brandenburg Ukraine Initiative (BBUI) that he founded.

“Ukraine” means, literally, “border region”. A look at its past shows the close interweaving of regional histories that are structured by Russian, Polish, Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, and Soviet legacies. In addition, this region bears witness to the contact, interaction, mutual interpenetration, and coexistence of various cultures and religions, like Western and Eastern Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. To this day, Ukraine is characterized by social and cultural diversity that should be taken seriously. All this forms the framework for current societal processes of searching, set in motion by the question of national identity and sovereignty in times of far-reaching transformations and regional re-ordering.

Examining Ukraine thereby opens up a whole spectrum of questions about the socio-cultural hybridity and plurality of societies in transformation, old and new boundary drawings, the conditions for peaceful coexistence, and the effects of economic and political re-ordering. The gaze is thereby turned to bordering countries and regions of the Eastern European and post-Soviet realm, in which similar questions arise. And its study can be fruitful also for understanding the continuing transformations in Western Europe and other regions of the world. PRISMA UKRAÏNA focuses on these and other questions in a historical context as well as from the perspective of social and cultural sciences through the prism of another starting point. To this end, PRISMA UKRAÏNA invites young researchers, journalists and activists from Ukraine and Eastern Europe to spend up to three months in Berlin as Visiting Fellows, affiliated with a partner institute. They

sem Zweck Nachwuchswissenschaftler\*innen, Journalist\*innen und Aktivist\*innen aus der Ukraine und Osteuropa ein, bis zu drei Monate als Visiting Fellow, affiliert an einer Partner-einrichtung, in Berlin zu verbringen. Sie halten Vorträge und organisieren eigene, internationale Workshops, bringen so ihr Wissen und ihre Expertise in den hiesigen Forschungskontext ein und treiben ihre Vorhaben im Austausch mit Berliner und Brandenburger Forscher\*innen voran. In den Jahren 2016 bis 2019 konnten bereits neun Fellows nach Berlin eingeladen werden: Nataliya Gumenyuk, eine Journalistin aus Kyiv; Alexandr Osipian und Yuliya Yurchuk, Historiker\*innen aus Kramatorsk und Stockholm; Ilya Kalinin, ein Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaftler aus St. Petersburg, Iuliia Buyskykh, eine Anthropologin aus Kyiv; Olga Linkiewicz, eine anthropologisch arbeitende Historikerin aus Warschau; Kateryna Mishchenko, eine Autorin und Kuratorin aus Kyiv; sowie die Historiker Denys Shatalov aus Dnipro und Alexandru Lesanu aus Chişinău. Im akademischen Jahr 2020/21 haben wir vier weitere Visiting Fellows aus Osteuropa berufen: Bohdan Tokarsky, der bereits im Frühjahr 2020 ein Sur-Place-Fellowship von PRISMA UKRAÏNA erhalten hat, die polnische Historikerin Magdalena Semczyszyn, die serbische Kulturwissenschaftlerin Astrea Pejovic und der ukrainische Soziologe Ivan Kozachenko.

Als Forschungsverbund fördert PRISMA UKRAÏNA auch die stärkere Vernetzung von Osteuropa-Forscher\*innen in Berlin und Brandenburg über disziplinäre und institutionelle Grenzen hinweg. Es werden Vortragsreihen, Podiumsdiskussionen und Workshops mit internationaler Beteiligung durchgeführt, die sich an Fachpublikum und an die interessierte Öffentlichkeit richten.

Darüber hinaus organisiert PRISMA UKRAÏNA Transregionale Akademien, die die Vernetzung von Nachwuchswissenschaftler\*innen und die Entwicklung innovativer Forschungsfragen anspornen. Bisherige Akademien fanden in Berlin (»Beyond History and Identity: New Perspectives

hold lectures and organize their own international workshops, thereby contributing their knowledge and expertise to the research context here and advancing their projects in exchange with Berlin and Brandenburg researchers. In the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019, nine Fellows have been invited to Berlin: Nataliya Gumenyuk, a journalist from Kyiv; Alexandr Osipian and Yuliya Yurchuk, historians from Kramatorsk and Stockholm; Ilya Kalinin, a literary scholar from St. Petersburg; Iuliia Buyskykh, an anthropologist from Kyiv; Olga Linkiewicz, a historical anthropologist from Warsaw; Kateryna Mishchenko, an author and curator from Kyiv, as well as the historians Denys Shatalov from Dnipro and Alexandru Lesanu from Chişinău. In the academic year 2020/21, we will host four Visiting Fellows: Bohdan Tokarsky from Ukraine, who has already held a PRISMA UKRAÏNA Sur Place Fellowship in spring 2020, the Polish historian Magdalena Semczyszyn, the anthropologist Astrea Pejovic from Serbia and the Ukrainian sociologist Ivan Kozachenko.

As a research network, PRISMA UKRAÏNA also fosters stronger networking among Eastern Europe researchers in Berlin and Brandenburg, transcending disciplinary and institutional boundaries. Lecture series, podium discussions, and workshops with international participants are carried out; these aim at the specialized and the lay public.

Transregional Academies enable networking of young researchers and invite them to develop innovative research questions. Until now, academies were held in Berlin (“Beyond History and Identity: New Perspectives on Aesthetics, Politics, and Society in Eastern Europe”, 2 – 12 December 2015), at the New Europe College in Bucharest (“Revisiting the Nation: Transcultural Contact Zones in Eastern Europe”, 26 February – 7 March 2018) and at the “Tkuma” Ukrainian Institute for Holocaust Studies in Dnipro (“After Violence: The (Im-)Possibility of Understanding and Remembering”, 10 – 17 June 2019). The next

on Aesthetics, Politics, and Society in Eastern Europe«, 2.-12. Dezember 2015), am New Europe College in Bukarest (»Revisiting the Nation: Transcultural Contact Zones in Eastern Europe«, 26. Februar – 7. März 2018) und am Ukrainischen Institut für Holocaust-Studien »Tkuma« in Dnipro (»After Violence: the (Im-)Possibility of Understanding and Remembering«, 10.-17. Juni 2019) statt. Die nächste Akademie wird zum Thema »Shadows of Empires: Imperial Legacies and Mythologies in East Central Europe« vom 14.-21. September 2021 am Centre for Advanced Study (CAS) in Sofia, Bulgarien stattfinden und in Partnerschaft mit dem CAS, dem Center für Governance und Kultur in Europa der Universität St. Gallen und dem Deutschen Historischen Institut in Warschau arrangiert.

Der Verbund wird von Wissenschaftler\*innen an Universitäten und wissenschaftlichen Institutionen in Berlin und Brandenburg getragen. Das Kollegium besteht derzeit aus Jan C. Behrends (Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung, Potsdam), Katharina Biegger (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin), Katharina Bluhm (Freie Universität Berlin), Sebastian Conrad (Freie Universität Berlin), Susanne Frank (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Gabriele Freitag (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Osteuropakunde, Berlin), Sophie Lambroschini (Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin), Theocharis Grigoriadis (Freie Universität Berlin), Alfrun Kliems (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Magdalena Marszałek (Universität Potsdam), Gertrud Pickhan (Freie Universität Berlin), Miloš Řezník (Deutsches Historisches Institut Warschau), Gwendolyn Sasse (Zentrum für Osteuropa- und internationale Studien, Berlin), Matthias Schwartz (Zentrum für Literaturforschung, Berlin), Silvia von Steinsdorff (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Annette Werberger (Europa-Universität Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder), Thorsten Wilhelmy (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin), Georg Witte (Freie Universität Berlin) und Alexander Wöll (Universität Potsdam).

Die Arbeit des Verbundes wird vom Land Berlin, von der ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius und von der Marga und Kurt Möllgaard-Stiftung gefördert.

Academy, "Shadows of Empires: Imperial Legacies and Mythologies in East Central Europe", will take place 14 – 21 September 2021 at the Centre for Advanced Study (CAS) Sofia, Bulgaria and will be arranged in a cooperation with the CAS, the Center for Governance and Culture in Europe at the University of St. Gallen and the German Historical Institute in Warsaw.

The network PRISMA UKRAÏNA is borne by researchers at universities and research institutions in Berlin and Brandenburg. The Collegium currently consists of Jan C. Behrends (Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung, Potsdam), Katharina Biegger (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin), Katharina Bluhm (Freie Universität Berlin), Sebastian Conrad (Freie Universität Berlin), Susanne Frank (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Gabriele Freitag (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Osteuropakunde, Berlin), Sophie Lambroschini (Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin), Theocharis Grigoriadis (Freie Universität Berlin), Alfrun Kliems (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Magdalena Marszałek (Universität Potsdam), Gertrud Pickhan (Freie Universität Berlin), Miloš Řezník (Deutsches Historisches Institut Warschau), Gwendolyn Sasse (Zentrum für Osteuropa- und internationale Studien, Berlin), Matthias Schwartz (Zentrum für Literaturforschung, Berlin), Silvia von Steinsdorff (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Annette Werberger (Europa-Universität Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder), Thorsten Wilhelmy (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin), Georg Witte (Freie Universität Berlin), and Alexander Wöll (Universität Potsdam).

The research network is financially supported by the State of Berlin, ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius and the Marga and Kurt Möllgaard Foundation.

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## Ivan Kozachenko

### The Dynamics of Ukrainian National Belonging: Regional and Transnational Perspectives

Ivan Kozachenko is an independent scholar. He recently held a Postdoctoral Research Associate position attached to the Cambridge Ukrainian Studies Programme and the 'Multilingualism: Empowering Individuals, Transforming Societies' project, University of Cambridge. His research interests include migration and diaspora studies, ethnicity and nationalism in the post-Soviet states, the role of social media in cultural representations and social movements. Prior to arriving in Cambridge, Ivan was a Stasiuk Postdoctoral Fellow at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta. His most recent publications appeared in *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* and *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies*. He received his PhD in Sociology from the University of Aberdeen.

As a Prisma Ukraïna Fellow, Ivan Kozachenko will work on a project investigating urban social movements in the city of Kharkiv and diasporic identities after the Euromaidan revolution. Previous studies that portrayed Ukraine as implacably divided across regional, ethnic and linguistic lines, or even as a 'bipolar nation', appear generally misleading and thus systematic empirical updates and theoretical reflections are needed. While there is a growing body of literature that addresses the national or societal level, regional and overseas settings remain somewhat overlooked. In order to fill this gap, this project will explore how the changes of socio-political structures and national discourses influence urban communities and spaces as well as the making of diasporic 'selves'. Additionally, this study will scrutinise the role of social media in mobilisation processes and cultural representations. The goal of this project is to provide a conceptual framework to better understand the recent developments caused by the Euromaidan revolution and Russian aggression against Ukraine. Using ethnographic data, the investigation will highlight the ways in which symbolic frames and senses of national belonging are constructed in regional and transnational perspectives.



## Astrea Pejović

### Thinking Between the Images: A Comparative Perspective on the Visual Nature of the Commemorations of the Donbas War in Ukraine and the 1999 NATO Bombing in Serbia

Astrea Pejović is a PhD candidate at the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Central European University in Budapest. Her PhD research, “Towards an Anthropology of Defeat: Looking for an End of the Yugoslav Wars in Serbia,” investigates how notions of defeat and victory are conceptualized and experienced in the context of hybrid wars. It is based on a year-and-a-half long ethnographic research of the commemorations of the 1999 NATO bombing in Serbia. The analysis also looks for the (im-)possibility of closure in a society where both physical and discursive remains of the war are closely connected to everyday experience. Astrea’s special interest is devoted to the visual language of commemoration and how it influences the formation of narratives about the bombing.

This project comparatively observes two thematically distant but aesthetically very similar exhibitions: one dedicated to the war in Donbas at the ATO Museum in Dnipro and the exhibition “Defense 78” dedicated to the 1999 bombing of Yugoslavia in Belgrade. The project aims to understand how museological practice constructs facts about wars. The research departs from the question of why these two different conflicts have such similar aesthetics of memorialization. The project examines the materiality of the exhibitions (their similar use of colors, artifacts, materials, text and photography) and engages also deeper into the understanding of how aesthetics contribute to the creation of history and memory. While both the Yugoslav wars of dissolution and the post-Soviet wars belong to the trajectory of the end of the Cold War, these two regions are seldomly examined from a comparative perspective. This visual analysis provides an easily perceivable example of how these two regions have much more in common than one might think and that a comparative perspective is necessary to understand the trajectories of change and the nature of new wars in the period after the Cold War.



## Magdalena Semczyszyn

### The So-called Illegal Jewish Immigration from Poland and East-Central Europe after the Second World War (1945–1948)

Magdalena Semczyszyn is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of National Remembrance, Szczecin Branch, Poland. She received her PhD in History from the University of Szczecin with a dissertation entitled “National Minorities and the Elections to the National Parliament in Eastern Galicia, 1867-1906 (The Activities of the Central Voting Committee)”. She is particularly interested in the history of national minorities, including Polish-Jewish and Polish-Ukrainian relations in 19th and 20th centuries, as well as Jewish and Ukrainian heritage in Poland. Her articles have appeared in edited books and in academic journals. She has worked at the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, where she wrote about the pre-war Jewish community on the website *Virtual Shtetl*. She also participated in the scientific project subsidized by the National Scientific Centre in Poland. She was a resident scholar at the Center for Urban History of East Central Europe in Lviv and a resident Fellow of the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI, 2018) at the Wiener Library, London.

Her project focuses on the situation of Jewish survivors in Poland after the Shoah. Only 240,000 from 3.3 million Polish Jews survived the Holocaust and, soon after, most of them had to answer the question: “Stay or leave?” Semczyszyn’s main concern is the so-called illegal emigration of Jews from Poland to the West and to Palestine under the British Mandate. Between 1944 and 1948, about 140,000 Jews left Poland illegally. It was one of the effects of the Holocaust and the symbolic end of the centuries-long Jewish presence in Polish lands. Semczyszyn’s approach to the topic is interdisciplinary, which makes it possible to analyse the complex social relations during the first period after the war. She strives to answer the question of what illegal Jewish immigration in the Polish context was and describes the external and internal factors which determined its course. So far, she has conducted archival research in Israeli, British, Polish, Ukrainian, Lithuanian and Russian archives for the project.



## Bohdan Tokarsky

### Ukraine's Executed Renaissance: Fragmentation of the Literary Self in Early Soviet Culture

Bohdan Tokarsky is a Gates Cambridge scholar and PhD candidate at the University of Cambridge, where he is also an Affiliated Lecturer in Ukrainian Studies. Bohdan's research interests revolve primarily around Soviet dissident literature, and literary modernisms in the Slavonic context and beyond. He specialises in nineteenth- and twentieth-century Ukrainian literature and culture. His doctoral work is an innovative study of the underexplored writings of Ukraine's leading poetical voice and Gulag prisoner, Vasyl Stus (1938-1985). Before coming to Cambridge, Bohdan was trained in International Law. He holds LLB and LLM degrees from the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. At Cambridge, Bohdan has been a proactive force behind Cambridge Ukrainian Studies, and organiser of a number of impactful cultural events. Bohdan is also the co-author of *The Summer before Everything*, a powerful verbatim play on revolution and war in Ukraine, based on numerous interviews with soldiers, internally displaced persons, and volunteers all over the country, which was professionally produced at the 2016 Hotbed Festival at Cambridge Junction. Most recently, he co-organised the Kharkiv international theatre festival "1919-2019: Kulish. Kurbas. Shakespeare", which staged fresh productions of central dramatic works of Ukrainian modernism.

Bohdan's project explores the fragmentation of subjectivity in Soviet Ukrainian modernist works of the 1920s and the early 1930s. The writers and artists of this generation (the "Executed Renaissance") were not only physically exterminated en masse during Stalin's Great Terror; they were also culturally and intellectually effaced for decades. Ukrainian modernism reflected the mutable political landscape and identity confusion of the 1920s-30s in the Soviet Union. Bohdan investigates how Ukrainian modernist texts articulate multiple and overlapping identities: national, Soviet, Communist, subjective. Through the analysis of literary works and other published and archive materials, he scrutinises the authors' strategies in subverting the imposed unitary self-image of the Soviet regime and the construction instead of multiple identities. Ukrainian literature provides a fascinating case study, where the formal characteristics of modernist writing are inextricably linked with considerations of nation-building and the competition between nationalist and socialist projects. While Ukraine can serve as a prism for the study of the dynamics of nationalism and competing identities, the Ukrainian modernist literature of the 1920s and the 1930s is a prism of a kind too, one that reveals the shifting political identities in early Soviet culture and twentieth-century Ukraine.

# re:constitution – Exchange and Analysis on Democracy and the Rule of Law in Europe

In der Europäischen Union werden demokratische Werte zunehmend hinterfragt. Umso dringlicher ist es, Debatten darüber zu führen, wie diesen Entwicklungen begegnet werden kann.

Hier setzt das **re:constitution** Programm an. Die gemeinsame Initiative des Forums mit Democracy Reporting International, gefördert von der Stiftung Mercator, zielt auf den Dialog zwischen Rechtswissenschaftler\*innen und—praktiker\*innen über Grenzen und das gesamte politische Spektrum hinweg. Zentrales Element ist die Förderung europaweiter Mobilität für den persönlichen Austausch über Demokratie und Rechtsstaatlichkeit in Europa.

Unter der wissenschaftlichen Leitung von Christoph Möllers, Professor für Öffentliches Recht an der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin und Permanent Fellow des Wissenschaftskollegs zu Berlin, entsteht ein europäisches Netzwerk, das sich mit Fragen zur Lage der gemeineuropäischen Verfassung, zum Spannungsverhältnis zwischen pluralen Demokratie- und Rechtsstaatsdeutungen und zur Zusammenarbeit in der Europäischen Union befasst. Dieser europäische Diskurs befördert eine informierte und faktenbasierte öffentliche Debatte.

re:constitution umfasst drei Programm-Module:

- 1) re:constitution Fellowships,
- 2) re:constitution Seminare,
- 3) re:constitution Analyse.

1) re:constitution vergibt jährlich 20 Stipendien an jüngere Rechtswissenschaftler\*innen und -praktiker\*innen, die während des akademischen Jahres an einem Projekt ihrer Wahl arbeiten. Den Kern der re:constitution Fellowships bildet die Phase europaweiter Mobilität, ‚stage‘ genannt, die die Stipendiat\*innen für sechs Monate an Forschungseinrichtungen oder Orte rechtswissenschaftlicher Theorie und Praxis innerhalb der Europäischen Union führt.

As democratic values are increasingly contested in the European Union, the debate about responses to these tendencies becomes more urgent.

This is where the **re:constitution** programme comes in. This joint initiative of the Forum with Democracy Reporting International is funded by the Stiftung Mercator and aims at fostering dialogue between legal scholars and practitioners across borders and the entire political spectrum. Its central element is the promotion of Europe-wide mobility for personal exchange on democracy and the rule of law in Europe.

Under the academic direction of Christoph Möllers, Professor of Public Law at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Permanent Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, a European network is emerging that deals with questions concerning the state of the common European constitution, the tension between pluralistic interpretations of democracy and the rule of law, and cooperation within the European Union. This new European discourse contributes to an informed and fact-based public debate.

re:constitution comprises three programme modules:

- 1) re:constitution Fellowships,
- 2) re:constitution Seminars,
- 3) re:constitution Analysis.

1) re:constitution annually awards up to 20 Fellowships for one academic year to younger scholars and practitioners of law to pursue a project of their own choice. The core element of the re:constitution Fellowships is the pan-European mobility phase called the ‚stage‘, during which the fellows spend six months at research institutions or places of legal practice within the European Union.

Im Verlauf des akademischen Jahres kommen sie drei Mal zu mehrtägigen Fellowtreffen zusammen. Diese Gruppenphasen werden durch virtuelle und persönliche thematische Debatten vor Ort, Exkursionen, Vorträge und Diskussionen von und mit Expert\*innen aus Wissenschaft und Praxis ergänzt.

2) Die re:constitution Seminare bringen erfahrene Rechtswissenschaftler\*innen und -praktiker\*innen aus verschiedenen europäischen Ländern in den persönlichen Austausch. Dieser gilt als unverzichtbares Mittel für Verständnis und Annäherung, insbesondere vor dem Hintergrund verschiedener politischer Erfahrungen und Kulturen. Die Seminare ermöglichen themenbezogene Debatten über Demokratieverständnis und Rechtsstaatlichkeit, ausgehend von institutionenpolitischen Themen und konkreten fachlichen Fragestellungen. Diese europaweiten Treffen finden an verschiedenen Einrichtungen statt, die für die Entwicklung des re:constitution Netzwerkes von strategischer Bedeutung sind, und können auch virtuelle Komponenten umfassen. Im ersten re:constitution Seminar 2020 wurden am New Europe College in Bukarest »Institutionen richterlicher Unabhängigkeit« beleuchtet.

3) Die Programmlinie re:constitution Analyse wird von Democracy Reporting International verantwortet. Aktuelle Analysen der Rechtsstaatlichkeit in Europa in digitalen und klassischen Publikationsformaten (u.a. Aufsätze, Infografiken, Analysen) befördern die öffentliche Debatte und dienen Journalist\*innen (unmittelbar) und politischen Entscheidungsträger\*innen (mittelbar) als mögliche erste Informationsquelle über wesentliche Entwicklungen im Zusammenhang mit Rechtsstaatlichkeitsproblemen in Europa. Neben regelmäßigem Austausch mit den Medien und dem gezielten Aufbau von Medienpartnerschaften umfassen die Projektaktivitäten virtuelle Outreach-Veranstaltungen und thematische Konsultationen.

In the course of the academic year, they meet three times for Fellow Exchange Meetings lasting several days each. These group phases will be accompanied by virtual and personal thematic debates, excursions, lectures, and discussions by and with experts from academia and practice.

2) The re:constitution seminars bring experienced scholars and practitioners of law from European countries into personal exchange. They are based on the premise that personal exchange is an indispensable tool for understanding and convergence, especially considering different political experiences and cultures. The seminars allow for thematic debates about concepts of democracy and the rule of law, taking into account current political issues and specific topical questions. These seminar meetings take place at various institutions of strategic importance for the development of the re:constitution network across the EU.

3) re:constitution Analysis is managed by Democracy Reporting International. Up-to-date analysis of the rule of law in Europe in digital and classic publication formats (for example, essays, infographics, analyses, etc.) promotes an informed and fact-based public debate. These serve journalists (directly) and political decision-makers (indirectly) as a possible first source of information on the important developments in connection with the rule of law in Europe! Along with regular exchange with the media and a focused approach for the development of media partnerships, the project activities include virtual outreach events and thematic consultations.

A Collegium of researchers and practitioners of law discusses the selection of fellows and the further development of the programme.

Currently, the Collegium is composed of Matej Avbelj (Nova Univerza, Kranj), Christoph Grabenwarter (Constitutional Court of Austria/Vienna University of Economics and Business), Luc

Das Programm wird in der Auswahl der Fellows sowie bei der inhaltlichen Ausrichtung von einem Collegium aus Vertreter\*innen aus Wissenschaft und Praxis beraten.

Derzeit besteht das Collegium aus Matej Avbelj (Nova Univerza, Kranjec), Christoph Grabenwarter (Verfassungsgerichtshof Österreich/Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien), Luc Heuschling (Universität Luxemburg), Jeff King (University College London), Elaine Mak (Universität Utrecht), Xavier Philippe (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), Pál Sonnevend (ELTE Budapest) und Laura Ștefan (Expert Forum Bucharest).

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## Angelina Atanasova

### The Role of the Court of Justice of the European Union in the Context of Democratic Backsliding - a 'Stranger' or an Ally to Civil Society in Bulgaria and Hungary?

Angelina Atanasova is a PhD Candidate at the Public Law Department at KU Leuven, Belgium. Her PhD research focuses on the role of non-state actors in the judicial dialogue between domestic courts and the CJEU and more specifically in triggering the preliminary ruling procedure in cases related to disability and gender equality. Angelina was a Visiting Doctoral Researcher at iCourts, University of Copenhagen (2019) and at the Department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen (2016). She held a position as a Research Manager with focus on social policy in the private sector. Previously, she served as a Consultant on equality and anti-discrimination issues at the Open Society European Policy Institute. Angelina held a Think Tank Fund Fellowship as a part of the Think Tank Young Professional Development Program to research the link between media, democracy and human rights at the Forum 2000 Foundation. Prior to that, as a part of her Master's degree programme in Public Policy (Central European University, 2011), she explored Roma women empowerment in Central and Eastern Europe in the Center for Policy Studies. Her current academic interests cover the areas of empirical legal work and politicization of judicial processes, rule of law and democracy.

There is little research on when civil society actors in the countries from the CEE region mobilize EU law. While usually the focus of legal scholars falls on salient legal decisions of top and supranational courts and their implications; little is known about the perceptions of such decisions by civil society. Do civil society actors in the CEE view litigation as a tool for defending fundamental rights violations? Do they perceive the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), one of the most powerful supranational courts, as their potential ally in such a 'fight'? Do they consider that rulings rendered by the CJEU have the potential to bring change at domestic level? More insights into the apprehension and internal decision making processes of civil society actors are needed to understand under what conditions they are likely to resort to litigation at supranational level in the current context of democratic backsliding. The project will focus on civil society actors in two CEE countries - Bulgaria and Hungary. Through semi-structured interviews with civil society and judicial representatives, this research project is expected to enhance the understanding on CEE civil society's perceptions of supranational litigation and its potential for providing effective remedies.



## Bojan Baća

### Between Post-Truth Politics and Epistemocracy: Understanding the Populist and Pseudo-Scientific Contestation of Democracy in the Digital Public Sphere

Bojan Baća is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow at the Department of Sociology and Work Science, University of Gothenburg (2021-2023). He received his PhD in Sociology from York University, to which he still remains affiliated as an external Research Associate in the Global Digital Citizenship Lab. Before becoming a re:constitution Research Fellow at the Max Weber Institute of Sociology, Heidelberg University, he held postdoctoral positions at the Institute of Sociological Studies, Charles University, the Center for Southeast European Studies, University of Graz, the Institute for Advanced Study, New Europe College, and the Center for Advanced Studies, University of Rijeka. His scholarly work was published in academic journals such as *Antipode* and *Europe-Asia Studies*, as well as in the edited volumes “Resistances: Between Theories and the Field, Activist Citizenship in Southeast Europe, Changing Youth Values in Southeast Europe: Beyond Ethnicity, The Democratic Potential of Emerging Social Movements in Southeastern Europe, A New Eastern Question? Great Powers and the Post-Yugoslav States” (forthcoming), and “When Students Protest, Vol. 2: Universities in the Global South” (forthcoming). Most recently, the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts recognized him as the best young Montenegrin scholar in the areas of social sciences and humanities.

The project explores the Alternative Right – commonly known as the Alt-Right – as a multifaceted challenge to democratic values/institutions. By identifying and analyzing the Alt-Right’s “regimes of critique” of democratic values and “regimes of justification” of alternatives it offers to these principles, the project pays special attention to the content of populist/ethnonational politics, anti-expertise/pseudo-scientific ideas, and conspiracy theories in Alt-Right online discourse, the cultural practices through which these narratives are disseminated to the general public, and their socio-political consequences. The project fills the gap in scholarly literature on our understanding of how everyday civic/political engagement on social media platforms – especially during an unprecedented pandemic such as Covid-19 – is promoting, legitimizing, and mainstreaming populist ideas that, in aggregate, create “epistemic cultures” that contest, criticize, and delegitimize democracy, civic values, scientific knowledge, expertise, and the rule of law. The project is based on the premise that the case of the Alt-Right gives a unique opportunity to explore how the technologically-driven intersection of the political, the everyday, and the digital is rendering post-truth politics the dominant condition in the online space, in the process reshaping data quality, misinformation/disinformation, and factual verification surrounding key socio-political problems and, ultimately, negatively affecting policy making.



## Cristina Blasi Casagran

### The Role of Technology in Enriching Participatory Democracy in the EU

Cristina Blasi is Assistant Professor in EU law at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB). After conducting her Law Degree in 2007, she completed a Master's degree on EU integration (Barcelona, 2008), a LL.M. on EU Law (Saarland, 2009) and a LL.M. on Comparative, European and International Laws (Florence, 2011). She completed her PhD in Law at the European University Institute (Florence, 2015), in which she specialised on EU privacy and data protection law. As for her professional experience, she carried out paid internships at the Legal Service of the European Commission (2010), the European Supervisor of Data Protection (2012) and Europol (2013). Cristina is a Lecturer of EU Law and Public Participation in the EU institutions in the Law Faculty, and is currently coordinating the H2020 project "IT tools and methods to manage migration flows" (ITFLOWS) and the Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Modules EUCONAS.

This study will explore the role that technology plays in the current democratic processes, focusing on how technology increasingly has the power to shape governments, geopolitics and the socio-economic systems in which we are living. The premise for this study is that technology does not automatically enrich democracy. It will look into specific online platforms such as Google and Facebook. These tech companies have originated a new "surveillance capitalism", using the ability to target and ultimately influence the behaviour of voters by analysing and matching multiple consumer data points. The second part of this study will focus on the regulation of personal data processed and used for political campaigning purposes. Regulating technology is at some level necessary in order to preserve the Internet as an open space and to ensure that it continues to benefit the population. It will determine whether the EU can set global standards in regulating data access for political campaigns and elections. The overall goal of this study is to determine whether technology is changing the way democracy should be defined, and also to measure to what extent laws should regulate the way society is supposed to use technology as part of their democratic processes.



## Pola Cebulak

### The Role of Regional Courts in Protecting the Rule of Law

Pola is a tenured Assistant Professor in European Law at the European Studies Department of the University of Amsterdam. Before joining the University of Amsterdam, she has worked and studied at top academic institutions in seven different countries. She worked as Lecturer and Postdoctoral Researcher in Denmark (iCourts – the Centre of Excellence for International Courts at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen) and Switzerland (Global Studies Institute at the University of Geneva and Chair of Public International and European Law at the University of Fribourg). During her PhD, she was enrolled in a double-degree Erasmus Mundus program in Belgium (Université libre de Bruxelles) and Switzerland (University of Geneva), with a fellowship of the European Commission. As a Visiting Scholar, she followed classes in the United States (Boston University and Harvard Law School). Pola studied in Germany (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and United Kingdom (King’s College London). She graduated from the German “Staatsexamen” with honours. She has also worked as Trainee in Luxembourg (the Court of Justice of the EU) and Germany (Polish Embassy in Berlin and Clifford Chance LLP in Frankfurt). Pola speaks fluent Polish, English, German and French.

The project aims to shed further light onto the practice of regional supranational courts adjudicating on highly politically sensitive issues of democratic decay at national level. It combines an outside and an inside look of the role of judges in protecting the rule of law in Europe. The comparative approach of studying the varied understandings of regional human rights courts to the concept of the rule of law aims at placing the European experience in a broader context. The inside look presents a socio-legal perspective on the reception of European Court of Justice rulings in Poland. Regional organizations and, in particular, regional courts might appear as the key institutions guaranteeing counter-majoritarian checks and balances in times of rising populist tendencies. We expect that delegation of powers to supranational institutions can strengthen non-majoritarian policy dynamics and shield policy-makers from populist pressures. With the rise of populist and nationalist tendencies, international courts face the danger of backlash, understood as an extraordinary critique undermining the legitimacy and authority of the institution as such. This project maps various institutional strategies deployed by regional courts to address democratic backsliding at national level.



## Anna Damaskou

### The COVID-19 Pandemic and the Rule of Law: Turning the Crisis into Opportunity

Anna Damaskou holds Bachelor (Democritus University of Thrace) and Master (London School of Economics and Political Science) degrees in law, as well as a PhD in European Economic Criminal Law (Queen Mary University of London). She is currently the Chair of Transparency International Greece (pro bono), while she has served also as its researcher in the past. She has 17 years of work experience in the areas of banking regulatory compliance and regulation/supervision of the banking and financial sectors. She is teaching and publishing extensively on issues of good governance, anti-corruption and regulation/supervision of the banking and financial sectors. She is a member of the Athens Bar Association. She is certified as Fraud Examiner (CFE), Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS) and Data Protection Officer (CIPP/E, CIPM). She speaks English, French, German and Serbian.

The proposed policy paper aims to serve as a “Shadow Report” to the first Annual Rule of Law Report, which has been published recently by the European Commission. Namely, it shall provide a wide and diversified overview of rule of law circumventions in EU Member States, which shall allow for the drawing of conclusions as to how EU Member States score in complying with the democratic values of the EU, as well as for the proposal of the reforms that need to be enacted, at the level of EU policy and legislation, so as to ensure the effectiveness of relevant national oversight and transparency state authorities and non-state actors, despite the different contexts they may be facing from time to time, in order for the EU democratic standards to be upheld under any circumstances.



## Robin Gaddled

### Inducing Compliance: the Constitutional Implications of 'Pressure' in the European Union Legal Order

Alongside his re:constitution post-doctoral Fellowship, Robin Gaddled is Coordinator of research activities at the Institute for European Law at KU Leuven and has also been appointed by Oxford University to join the Europeum Scholars Programme as a Teaching Fellow. He has worked previously as a Lecturer in Comparative Constitutional Law at Sciences Po (Reims campus, France). Robin holds a PhD in law from the European University Institute in Florence, a Master's degree in Political Theory from Sciences Po Paris, a Master's degree in pluridisciplinary European studies from the IEE-ULB in Brussels (magna cum laude), and an LL.M. in Comparative, European and International law from the EUI. His research interests include constitutional theory, EU constitutional law, EU fundamental rights law, euro-crisis law and responses to the Covid-19 crisis, as well as methodologies of legal and pluridisciplinary research. His current work focuses on the tools available to EU institutions to induce the compliance of Member States with different sets of requirements.

This research project consists in a legal and constitutional exploration of 'pressure' as a form of action of European Union (EU) institutions, analytically distinct from other forms of action that aim at ensuring the compliance of EU member states with a given set of requirements. While the exercise of pressure is arguably not a new constitutional phenomenon at national or EU level, developing it has proven increasingly appealing to several EU institutions - and member states - when the option of directly imposing legal obligations has appeared unavailable or insufficient to satisfy expectations. Looking at pressure as a form of power exercised by EU institutions on EU member states, I investigate the constitutional checks available at EU level to limit this power. I also try to understand how or whether pressure fits into dominant constitutional theories of allocation of powers in the EU, both horizontally and vertically.



## Aravind Ganesh

### Commodification, Climate Change, and Sovereignty

Aravind Ganesh is the Vice-Chancellor's Research Fellow in Law at Oxford Brookes University, and his research interests lie in EU law, public international law, private law theory, and the legal and political philosophy of Immanuel Kant. He obtained a PhD (cum laude) from the Faculty of Law, VU Amsterdam in June 2019, and also possesses degrees from King's College London (LL.B.), Columbia Law School (JD), and Oxford (BCL). Before joining Brookes, Aravind worked for four years as a Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for Procedural Law. His work experience also includes working for the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, practising as a Corporate Lawyer in New York, as well as volunteering in South Africa in a major civil rights organization. Aravind has held visiting fellowships at Université Catholique de Louvain (2009-2010) and Tel Aviv University (2014-2015), and his work has been published in journals such as *Legal Theory* and the *Michigan Journal of International Law*. A monograph based on his PhD thesis is forthcoming in March 2021 within the series *Law and Practical Reason* under the Hart/Bloomsbury imprint.

European politics is beset by two seemingly divergent crises of liberal democracy and climate change. On the one hand, resurgent authoritarian movements cast climate change as a hoax and environmental movements as elite cosmopolitan plots against national freedoms and prosperity. At the same time, we also see the rise of far-right, 'ecofascist' movements that accept the fact of climate change, but as grounds for mortal civilisational combat, which then finds political expression in a demand for the expulsion of migrants – often themselves the victims of environmental collapse. My hypothesis is that a significant part of this malaise is caused by 'commodifying' the environment. This rests upon a deeper commodification of the public sphere itself, such that sovereignty is imagined as an office of 'dominion,' and the rights of refugees as claims to an equitable share of the earth's land and resources as if these were fungible commodities to be bought and sold. In contrast, I argue, relying upon Kant's philosophy of right, that the environment and the relevant sovereign obligations should be conceived as the inalienable 'body' of the political community, and the climate change refugee's most basic right as one of membership in a political community.



## Francesco Luigi Gatta

### Migration and Rule of (Human Rights) Law in the EU: A European “Constitutional” Crisis?

Francesco Luigi Gatta is Research Fellow at the Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium) and member of EDEM (Equipe Droits Européens et Migrations). He teaches EU Law at the Tuscia University (Italy) and EU Law and EU Constitutional Law at the Riga Graduate School of Law (Latvia). He holds a double-PhD in EU Law from the University of Padua (Italy) and Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck (Austria). He was Visiting Research Fellow at the European University Institute (Italy) and at the Université de Strasbourg (France). He was Trainee at the European Parliament (Legal Service) and at the Council of Europe (Legal Affairs and Human Rights Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly). His main research interests are in International and European Union Law, with a particular focus on the areas of human rights, migration, asylum and border controls. He is author of various articles and publications on international and EU law issues.

The project aims to demonstrate the inter-relationship between two “crises” occurred in the EU: the “refugee crisis” and the crisis of the principle of the Rule of Law. The starting point is the postulate that the two crises are closely connected and find their point of convergence in the kind of responses that the EU and some of its Member States have put in place in order to face the migratory pressure. In the name of the emergency, legal and policy measures have been adopted in a manner that, both from a substantial and procedural point of view, appears to be in violation of some of the very founding principles of the European integration experience, such as Rule of Law, human rights protection, transparency and democratic control. The migratory crisis acted as catalyst for the proliferation of atypical, “de-proceduralised” and informal measures, which are highly disputable in terms of compatibility with EU law and international human rights law. The project intends to investigate whether and how the migration crisis has accelerated the phenomenon of the rule of law backsliding in the EU, and to analyse the repercussions on European constitutional principles such as democracy, transparency, solidarity and human rights protection.



## Núria González Campañá

### Rule of Law and Populism in Europe

Núria González Campañá is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in European Constitutionalism at the University of Barcelona. In 2019, she obtained her DPhil in Law at the University of Oxford (Rafael del Pino Foundation and British Spanish Society scholarships) under the supervision of Prof. Paul Craig. Her thesis focused on the relationship between EU Law and the secession of sub-national entities within Member States. She is also an Associate Post-doc Researcher at the Jean Monnet Chair in European Policies at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Previously, she worked for more than three years as an Associate Lawyer at the Public Law Department of Garrigues, Barcelona. Before she had done internships at different international organisations like the Council of the EU (Brussels), the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) and Defensoria del Pueblo (Lima). She also holds an M.A. in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School, Tufts University (“la Caixa” scholarship), including an exchange semester at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. And she also obtained a LL.B. in Law (1st class honours) from the University of Barcelona, including an Erasmus exchange at Heidelberg University.

This project explores different cases of populism in Europe and identifies the EU’s available tools to deal with such tendencies. The populist narrative advances a shallow conception of democracy, whereby democracy becomes simply a majoritarian principle prevailing over any other consideration. This conception of democracy is not the one promoted by the EU or the constitutional legal orders of the majority of EU Member States. Viewed correctly, rule of law is not in conflict with democracy, but it is essential to it. The EU institutions have certain tools to ensure compliance with the Rule of Law, like Article 7 TEU. However, the required high threshold (unanimity) deprives this mechanism of meaningful effects. So far, the most effective strategy EU institutions can deploy to limit or impede populist or illiberal reforms is the infringement procedure, including the option of interim measures. All these mechanisms can only be triggered once there is a Rule of Law breach. My research would like to explore as well the options EU institutions have to intervene in the domestic political arena to limit the rise of populist parties, long before these parties can influence legislative reforms.



## Daniel Hegedüs

### Exploring the Potential and Feasibility of ‘Biting Intergovernmentalism’ in the EU

Daniel Hegedüs is Fellow for Central Europe at the German Marshall Fund of the United States. His areas of research include populism, democratic and rule of law backsliding, and European and foreign affairs of the Visegrad countries. He has studied political science, history, and European law at the Eötvös Loránd University Budapest and the Humboldt University in Berlin. In the past he has worked in different research, lecturer and project management positions at Freedom House, the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) and has taught in the Institute for Eastern-European Studies at the Free University Berlin, at the Humboldt University to Berlin, and the Eötvös Loránd University Budapest.

The project is based on the concept of ‘biting intergovernmentalism’. It focuses on the research puzzle why Member States obviously committed to the rule of law refrained from deploying Article 259 TFEU in defence of it, in spite of the legal tool’s obvious merits and applies the toolkit of political science to deliver answers to this question. The project’s geographic focus covers the main “Friends of the Rule of Law” countries and investigates through personal and online explorative semi-structured interviews what arguments of 1) European law, 2) European institutional politics, 3) European party politics, or 4) bilateral diplomatic relations are used to explain and legitimize the refraining from any deployment of biting intergovernmentalism. By analysing and clustering the interview outcomes, in the second phase of the research an online expert survey will be prepared and conducted among a broader circle of legal and EU experts and foreign policy professionals of the aforementioned countries. The online expert survey will provide a deeper understanding of the legal and political considerations regarding the application of Article 259 TFEU, the respective state behaviours of the main “Friends of the Rule of Law” countries, and ultimately of the intergovernmental dimension of the rule of law protection in the EU.



## Felipe Hernández

### Populism, Pluralism and Marginality: Latin America and Southeast Europe in Comparative Perspective

Felipe Hernández has a PhD in History and Civilizations and Political Science. His thesis entitled “Élites, intellectuels et démantèlement de la Yougoslavie. Archives du Quai d’Orsay et témoignages d’un processus de longue durée (1945-1991)”, (Elites, Intellectuals and the Dismantling of Yugoslavia. Quai d’Orsay Archives and Testimonies of a long-term Process) has been published by L’Harmattan in 2019. He has worked as Research and Teaching Officer at Institute for European Studies (IEE), University Paris 8 and as temporary Lecturer in the University Paris-Saclay. He is member of Césor (EHESS - Paris) and French Institute of Geopolitics (IFG), University Paris 8. His research interests include populism, civil society, ethnic conflicts, minorities, comparative area studies, Latin America and Southeastern Europe.

This research project is an interdisciplinary and comparative study that seeks to answer the question: How does new populism reshape pluralism and marginality? With this question at its core, this project aims to study this topic of research in the intersection between history and political science, specially the literature on governance of hybrid regimes. These regimes are characterized by using competitive elections and undemocratic aspects as new forms of governance. We will analyze how these regimes work on a discursive production of knowledge, conflicts, cultural divisions, emotions, beliefs and sentiments. Working on Latin America and Southeast Europe allow us to address two rich grounds of right and left wing populism, respectively, where pluralism and marginality represent crucial elements for the transformation of democracy and the rule of law. This project is also part of a reflection on the future of governance. A central question that catches the attention of governments and social science experts. It is a current priority in the contemporary world since liberal democracy has been undermined by direct and indirect violence and the rise of populism movements. It will allow us to broaden our understanding of the current challenges facing societies which, despite their different historical processes, are trapped in populist-authoritarian regimes where “pluralistic democracy” is contested.



## Amélie Jaques-Apke

### The Covid-19 Crisis as an Ideological Armoury for the Populist Right in Spain and Italy

Currently Deputy Director of the Centre for Studies and Head of the Franco-German department of the think- and do- tank EuropaNova in Paris (multilateral EU projects and research), Amélie Jaques-Apke is a political Analyst and Researcher with five years' experience in the public sector (Franco-German Office for Youth, French Parliament, Ministry of Interior, Delegation of the EU in Washington D.C.) and teaching experience at Sciences Po Paris. She currently works on political innovation projects for more inclusion of civil society in policy, research and polity channels in Europe, diplomatic security policy and illiberal practices in Europe. Amélie grew up in Germany and France, studied International Affairs, security and diplomacy at Sciences Po Paris and King's College London. She worked and travelled in many countries, in North and Latin America as well as North Africa, where she often conducted field research projects. Amélie is also very committed to further development of the NGO Zelligja, which distributes travel and research grants for young people. Her second on field research project for the NGO deals with the Castro transition in Cuba.

As Europe begins to emerge from a troublesome part of the pandemic, we begin to evaluate emerging political damages. The current Covid-19 crisis could reshape Europe by menacing liberal institutionalism and acting as democracy's mirror: the crisis constitutes an ammunition armoury for radical right-wing populism and widens the already fragile fissures within the European Union. Now more than ever, we must understand how radical right populist groupings design their message towards vulnerable, crisis-shaken populations. Disentangling common denominators of the various political strands subscribed to an approximate heterogeneous radical right-wing populist tradition and using specific mechanisms within the critical discourse analysis (CDA) approach, this interdisciplinary research project purports to explore the new populist radical right discourse triggered by the crisis in Spain and Italy, and to what extent its rhetoric can be substantiated by analysing how right-wing populist parties can corrode liberal democracies in times of crisis: the objective of this study is to reflect critically on the interplay between democracy and the rule of law, analysing the very recent discourse development of the parties Vox and The League and its power relations, which are linked to the exogenous shocks provoked by the pandemic.



## Monika Kareniauskaitė

### Control, Privacy, Crime and the Rule of Law in Eastern Europe: Historical Legacies and Current Challenges

Monika Kareniauskaitė is a Researcher at the Genocide and Resistance Research Center of Lithuania. Her work is on criminal law and criminal justice in Lithuania and in the Soviet Union after 1917. She also focuses on anti-Soviet resistance, Soviet political trials and deportations, the dissident movement, and historical memory and the culture of remembrance in the former Eastern Bloc and USSR. In 2017 she received a PhD in History from Vilnius University, where she also completed B.A. and M.A. degrees in History. She has been a Research Fellow at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland (2013-2014), and a Project Coordinator and Research Assistant at the Berlin-Hohenschönhausen Memorial (2015-2016). As part of this work she co-authored the section on Lithuania in the study “Honoring Civil Courage: Developing Suggestions to Improve the Situation of Victims of Communist State Crimes.” Monika also currently heads a research project at Vytautas Magnus University dedicated to gender-based violence in twentieth-century Lithuania. In 2019 she was a Postdoctoral Associate at Yale University (USA).

The aim of the proposed research project is to investigate how the state-socialist legal systems of the post-World War II and Cold War period defined the concepts of “crime”, “privacy”, “control” and “the rule of law” in legal theory and practice - and which impact these definitions had on legal reforms that took place in former Soviet-impact space after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union. To investigate these processes and transformations, we will use the cases of three former Soviet impact areas and states: Soviet and post-Soviet Russia, Soviet and post-Soviet Lithuania and German Democratic Republic. The project will question and emphasize, what kind of vulnerabilities Eastern European states and societies might experience or are already experiencing because of their non-democratic past and because of long-years’ experience of living in the legal systems that rather imitated than internalized the basic democratic principles concerning the rule of law, legality and justice.



## Alexandra Mercescu

### Penal Populism in Romania, Paradoxically: Consolidating or Undermining the Rule of Law?

Alexandra Mercescu is a Lecturer at the Faculty of Law of the West University of Timisoara (Romania) where she teaches comparative public law, legal philosophy and academic writing. She is also an affiliated Researcher at the Centre for Legal Education and Social Theory of the University of Wrocław (Poland) and a board member of the Central and Eastern European Forum of Young Legal, Political and Social Theorists. She holds a Master's and a PhD degree from Sorbonne University (obtained in 2016). Her thesis - "Pour une comparaison des droits indisciplinée" - was awarded the 1st prize of the Centre français de droit comparé (an award granted annually in France since 1957). Her academic career has benefited from research stays or exchanges at the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law (as a Van Calker Scholar), Max-Planck-Institute for European Legal History and Oñati Institute for the Sociology of Law. Alexandra publishes in English, French and Romanian. Her doctoral work appeared with the leading Swiss publisher Helbing Lichtenhahn in the "Grundlegendes Recht" collection. She is the editor of *Constitutional Identities in Central and Eastern Europe* (Peter Lang, 2020), and currently working on a co-authored book - *Rethinking Comparative Law* - forthcoming with Edward Elgar.

This project intends to explore the question of knowing to what extent part of the Romanian reaction to the pandemic, one very much focused on military action, can be seen as an expression of 'penal populism'. If so, the projects seek to identify several factors that might explain the emergence of penal populism in addressing the coronavirus crisis. Alongside remnants of the authoritarian past, it is hypothesized that Romania's anti-corruption fight might have played a role in cultivating a criminalizing ethos on the part of the state. This seems to respond to a correlative demand on the part of the public. Given the background of Romania's undeniable progress against corruption, it is worth asking whether penal populism can constitute in fact an advantage in building solid institutions. However, when prosecuting comes to be seen as setting the country straight, a cure to all evils, doesn't this positive penal populism risk converting itself into negative penal populism? Thus, this project wants to show how such a penal populist attitude affects the rule of law, especially in times of crisis when the country tends to be governed by exceptional powers, including military ones as in the case of the pandemic's management.



## Manuel Müller

### The Cosmopolitan-Democratic Narrative of European Integration

Manuel Müller is Senior Researcher at Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP) in Berlin. He grew up in Bamberg, Helsinki and Valencia and studied History and Spanish Philology in Bamberg, Granada and Berlin. He was a Fellow of the postgraduate research group “Multilevel Constitutionalism: European Experiences and Global Perspectives” (Grakov) at the Law Faculty of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and one of the coordinators of the Franco-German research network “Saisir l’Europe – Europa als Herausforderung”. His doctoral thesis in Contemporary History, which he defended at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in 2019, analyses the European public sphere in the debate on the Maastricht Treaty. His research interests also include the political system and institutional reform of the EU, European Parliament elections, and European political parties. Since 2011, Manuel runs the blog “Der (europäische) Föderalist”, which deals with constitutional politics at the European and global level with a focus on supranational democracy.

Finality-oriented narratives play a pivotal role in the normative justification and legitimization of European unification. However, the three most common policy objectives ascribed to the EU – peace, prosperity, and self-assertion on the global stage – do not offer a direct reason for its most important peculiarity: supranationality. A stronger argument is offered by the cosmopolitan-democratic narrative, according to which European integration serves the double constitutional objective of individual freedom and collective self-government on a supranational level. Unlike the other three, this narrative places the democratic self-determination of individual citizens at its centre and thereby transcends the logic of national interests. The research project analyses the role of the cosmopolitan-democratic narrative for European integration: its internal logic and its relationship to the peace, prosperity, and self-assertion narratives, its historical evolution, its significance for the current constitution of the EU, its challenges and critiques, and its potential for the future political and constitutional development of European integration.



## Matteo de Nes

### Pandemic Measures in Europe: Legitimacy and Proportionality under the Lens of Transparency

Dr. Matteo De Nes is currently post-doc Fellow at the University of Padua (Italy). He holds a PhD in Constitutional Law and Comparative Public Law, released by the University of Venice in 2017. His doctoral research investigated the impact of austerity measures on the protection of social rights in the Eurozone. He was Visiting Scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy (Munich) in 2015. His research area of interest includes the principles of proportionality and transparency, as well as scrutiny techniques used by courts. He has published several articles in the field of Constitutional and Comparative Public Law, and he participated as speaker in many international conferences. He has been admitted to the Italian Bar Association and he holds a degree in law released by the University of Padua in 2012.

The Covid-19 pandemic is the first case of strong, widespread limitation of constitutional rights and freedoms in Europe since the end of the Second World War. In particular, freedom of movement and economic rights have been significantly restricted in order to protect public health. Therefore, reasonableness, proportionality and transparency should guide governments and lawmaking bodies more than in ordinary times. In many European countries, pandemic legal measures have been adopted on the basis of scientific evidence, technical assessments, and statistical data. Nonetheless, this information has been either partially disclosed or not disclosed at all to the public. Many legal provisions have been approved after numerous consultations with scientists, but without comprehensive, publicly transparent communication of datasets, criteria, potential errors, etc. This lack of transparency could undermine the legitimacy of the measures adopted and prevent a complete proportionality assessment in case of judicial disputes. The project will analyze: (i) whether scientific data have been officially disclosed to the public by governments of selected European countries; (ii) whether and how such data has been used by courts; (iii) whether a higher degree of transparency in decision-making processes is constitutionally warranted in the context of this massive limitation of rights and freedoms.



## Lea Raible

### The ECHR's Democratic Society: Human Rights and Secessionist Movements

Lea Raible is a Lecturer in Public Law at the University of Glasgow. Previously, she held academic positions at Maastricht University, the University of Edinburgh and University College London. Her research interests are in the areas of international and constitutional law, as well as their relationship with political philosophy. She has written on a range of topics, including the extra-territorial application of human rights, human rights adjudication and participatory democracy, and the theory and practice of referendums. She is the author of *Human Rights Unbound: A Theory of Extraterritoriality* (OUP 2020).

Current secessionism in Europe sits uneasily with existing definitions in international law. The latter relies on two categories of groups that seek recognition either within or against existing states: indigenous peoples and (national) minorities. High-profile examples in Europe, such as Scotland and Catalonia, sit uneasily with these definitions. Accommodation as indigenous peoples is not open to the Catalans or the Scots. Integration as national minorities, on the other hand, is not what they aspire to. At the same time, Catalonia and Scotland find their attempts to secede thwarted by anti-secessionist policies. How do we judge which of these anti-secessionist means are justified? The project investigates what the ECHR could contribute to secessionist movements achieving their aims or to limiting responses to secessionist movements. The ECHR includes a strong commitment to democracy, mentioning the value of a democratic society at various points. This makes it a promising candidate in this regard. The project considers the potential of ECHR cases on minority protection, and case law related to the banning of political parties that advocate constitutional change. It further asks whether the ECHR's contributions to shaping secessionist processes are a) desirable and b) (if so) sufficient.



## Cecilia Rizcallah

### The Right to Judicial Independence in the European Union. An Inquiry about the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights' Actual and Potential Contributions

Cecilia Rizcallah is a Guest Professor at the Université libre de Bruxelles and the Université Saint-Louis - Bruxelles and a postdoctoral Researcher at the Belgian National Fund for Scientific research. She holds a PhD in EU law both from the Université libre de Bruxelles and the Université Saint-Louis Bruxelles, a LL.M. in European Law from the College of Europe (Very Good, Baillet-Latour scholar), and a Master of law from the Université libre de Bruxelles (Major de promotion, Ganshof Van Der Meersh Prize). She achieved a PhD on the principle of mutual trust in European Law, which is now published as a monograph (*Le principe de confiance mutuelle en droit de l'Union européenne. Un principe essentiel à l'épreuve d'une crise des valeurs*, Bruxelles, Larcier, 2020). During her thesis, Cecilia has completed two research stays at the European University Institute in Florence and at Queen Mary University in London. More generally speaking, her research interests include EU law, the national and European (EU and ECHR) protection of Human Rights and Belgian Constitutional Law. Cecilia regularly publishes in these fields.

The European Union is currently facing a major and unprecedented crisis due to the breakdown of its founding values in some Member States. Unsurprisingly, this democratic backsliding frontally attacks the independence of these states' judicial apparatus. In the view of this alarming context, this research aims at analyzing how international courts and, in particular, the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights, can intervene in order to protect the independence of national judicial systems. In order to address this issue, this research will analyse the ECJ and the ECtHR's actual and potential contributions to the protection of judicial independence within the Member States of the European Union, as well as the limits surrounding their actions. A particular attention will be paid to the effectiveness of their contributions on the basis of existing theoretical frameworks enabling to measure the effectiveness of international case law. This analysis will be part of a broader reflection on the links between judicial independence, the values of democracy and the rule of law, on the concept of illiberal democracy as well as on the tension between sovereignty and the international protection of human rights.



## Stefan Szwed

### Choice Illusions: Through 'Rule by Law' to 'Electoral Capture' in Hungary, Poland and Beyond

Stefan Szwed is Research Associate at the Centre for International Studies (CIS) at the Department of Politics and International Relations (DPIR), University of Oxford. His research interests include European foreign policies, conceptions of power in international institutions, and democratic transitions. He has over twenty years of experience in election observation (and some in assistance), predominantly as Political Analyst and Deputy Head of Mission on OSCE/ODIHR election observation missions across the Balkans, Eastern Europe and Eurasia, but has also worked with the UN, EU and several international NGOs in the Middle East, South Asia and Africa. His most recent publication is the monograph *Asymmetry Matters: Poland, Germany and state power in a new Europe* (Palgrave-Macmillan 2019). He was Mairie de Paris Visiting Fellow at the Centre de Recherches internationales at Sciences Po, Paris. Stefan has a Doctorate (DPhil) in International Relations and a Master's (MPhil) in European Politics and Society, both from the University of Oxford, and a Bachelor from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Populist leaders across the EU like to champion themselves as true representatives of the people. They pit the principle of genuine democratic choice against the demands of the rule of law, defined as protection against abuses of majority rule. In academic discourse and popular polemics, the populist argument tends to be repudiated with normative claims about democratic demands of checks and balances and separation of powers. Few voices question the claim that populists that are in power actually represent majorities. I plan to examine the way in which some populist regimes that win elections assault the rule of law not only to advance their vision of an illiberal state, but to neutralise the risk of losing another election. Across five different aspects of the electoral process — campaign (rhetoric), media coverage, complaints and appeals (judiciary), political financing, and election system/ election administration (reform) — I aim to examine how new populist regimes lay out foundations for electoral 'capture'. While tinkering with different aspects of the electoral framework do not necessarily produce immediately dramatic results, together these changes remove important safeguards for democratic elections. Consequently, by extinguishing the rule of law, populist regimes undermine the very essence of democracy, or the democratic choice.



## Zuzana Vikarská

### National and Constitutional Identities in the European Union

Zuzana Vikarská is an Assistant Professor in constitutional law and human rights at the Masaryk University in Brno, Faculty of Law, and she also serves as a Law Clerk at the Czech Constitutional Court, in the chambers of Judge Kateřina Šimáčková. Zuzana holds a PhD in law and jurisprudence from the Charles University in Prague (2018) and has previously studied at the University of Oxford (2014-17) and at KU Leuven (2011-14). As for practical experience related to the topic of her research, Zuzana worked as a Legal Adviser at the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the first Slovak presidency in the Council of the European Union in 2016. Her academic interest lies primarily in topics where EU law meets constitutional law and as a re:constitution Fellow she will deal with issues of national and constitutional identities of EU member states.

This project aims to explore the notions of national and constitutional identities in the context of the ongoing crises at the European and global level, such as the rule of law crisis, the migration crisis, the Covid-19 crisis, or the very recent ‘declaration of war’ by the Bundesverfassungsgericht to the CJEU in the PSPP ruling. Arguably, national identity and constitutional identity are two distinct but inter-related concepts, and next to the identities of EU countries, there is also an overarching concept of a European identity (or EU identity) which deserves scholarly attention. National identity is embedded in Article 4(2) of the Treaty on European Union, which makes it an autonomous notion of EU law, while national constitutional courts invoke constitutional identity as a potential threat to the primacy of EU law. This project therefore aims to examine this tension and to explore the notion of the EU’s constitutional core as well as the limits of constitutional tolerance. One of the big questions of our era is whether the EU has merely an obligation to respect the identities of its Member States, or also an obligation to protect them against unwelcome political and legal developments, which we are currently witnessing.

# 4A Laboratory: Art Histories, Archaeologies, Anthropologies, Aesthetics (4A\_Lab)

**4A Laboratory: Art Histories, Archaeologies, Anthropologies, Aesthetics (4A\_Lab)** ist ein Forschungs- und Fellowship-Programm, das als Kooperation des Kunsthistorischen Instituts in Florenz - Max-Planck-Institut und der Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz mit ihren Museen und wissenschaftlichen Einrichtungen konzipiert ist. Weitere Partner sind die Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin und das Forum Transregionale Studien.

Das seit Oktober 2019 existierende Programm ist eine Fusion, Weiterentwicklung und Neuausrichtung der beiden Forschungs- und Fellowship-Programme Connecting Art Histories in the Museum (CAHIM) (2009-2019) und ART HISTORIES AND AESTHETIC PRACTICES (2013-2019).

Ziel ist es, einen experimentellen Dialograum zwischen - oft getrennt operierenden - Institutionen und Disziplinen zu schaffen. Insbesondere möchte das 4A\_Lab einen neuen Dialog zwischen Kunstgeschichte, Archäologie, Anthropologie bzw. Ethnologie und Ästhetik bzw. Ästhetischen Praktiken (Art Histories, Archaeologies, Anthropologies, Aesthetics = 4A) und benachbarten Disziplinen in Gang bringen. Schwerpunkte liegen hierbei auf Objekten, Praktiken, Ökologien und Narrationen (objects, practices, ecologies, narratives = OPEN). Dreh- und Angelpunkt von 4A\_Lab ist ein Fellowship-Programm, das herausragende internationale Nachwuchswissenschaftler\*innen nach Berlin bringt.

4A\_Lab ist interinstitutionell, interdisziplinär und transregional ausgerichtet. Es erforscht transkulturelle Dynamiken im Bereich ästhetischer Praxis und materieller Kulturen, bzw. musealer und sozialer Praktiken und Repräsentationen. Es nimmt damit die jüngere Objektforschung auf und erprobt neue Verbindungen zwischen den Sozialwissenschaften und den Disziplinen der vier A.

**4A Laboratory: Art Histories, Archaeologies, Anthropologies, Aesthetics (4A\_Lab)** is a research and fellowship program designed in cooperation with Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz - Max-Planck-Institute and Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz including their museums and research institutions. Further partners are Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Forum Transregionale Studien.

The program, which has existed since October 2019, is a fusion, progression, and restructuring of the two research and fellowship programs Connecting Art Histories in the Museum (CAHIM) (2009-2019) and ART HISTORIES AND AESTHETIC PRACTICES (2013-2019).

The program aims to create a space for dialog between - oftentimes separately operating - institutions and disciplines. In particular, 4A\_Lab attempts to create a new dialog between Art History, Archaeology, Anthropology/Ethnology, and Aesthetic Practices (4A), as well as other disciplines concerned with objects, practices, ecologies, and narratives (OPEN). Central to 4A\_Lab is a fellowship program which brings excellent international doctoral and postdoctoral researchers to Berlin.

4A\_Lab has an interinstitutional, interdisciplinary, and transregional approach and explores transcultural dynamics with regards to aesthetic and material cultures, as well as social practices and representations in museums and elsewhere. The while, it takes up current object research issues testing new liaisons between Social Sciences and the disciplines of the four A.

Dieser Dialog sieht zwar keine geographischen oder chronologischen Einschränkungen vor, wird aber mit Bezug auf Sammlungen und Objektkonstellationen der Einrichtungen der Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz geführt. Dies geschieht in Zusammenarbeit mit Forscher\*innen und an den Museen und Fachvertreter\*innen des Forum Transregionale Studien, der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin sowie der internationalen Wissenschaftslandschaft. Die Strukturierung der Diskussion in der jährlich neukonstituierten Forschungsgruppe erfolgt über Schwerpunktthemen, die mit einem wissenschaftlichen Programm aus Seminaren sowie Reiseakademien (Transregional Academies), Tagungen, Workshops und kleinen Ausstellungen auch öffentlich präsentiert und diskutiert werden.

Das Schwerpunktthema der ersten beiden Jahrgänge 2019/20 und 2020/21 lautet *Plants* (I/II). Das Programm begrüßt Forschungsprojekte aus den 4 A-Disziplinen, aber auch aus philosophischen und literaturwissenschaftlichen Fächern, die sich einem breiten Themenspektrum rund um Pflanzen widmen und ihre Schwerpunkte auf ästhetische Prozesse, Ideengeschichte und materielle Kulturen legen, und diese aus überregionaler Perspektive diskutieren.

In Fortsetzung der Buchreihe aus dem Vorprojekt *Connecting Art Histories in the Museum* wird das 4A\_Lab an weiteren Publikationen arbeiten. Den Anfang macht Philip Geisler mit seinem Essay »Cambodian Court Dance After Genocide. Embodied Heritage and the Limits of Critique«, das im Rahmen des ART HISTORIES Traveling Seminars »Cultural Heritage and Post-Genocide Memory« (14.-25. März 2019) entstand und in der Essay-Reihe des Forum Transregionale Studien im September 2020 erschien.

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This dialog exceeds geographical and chronological boundaries, nevertheless it will be held in relation to the collections and object constellations of the museums and institutions of Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz. This takes place in cooperation with researchers of the museums and expert representatives of Forum Transregionale Studien, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, as well as other institutions of the international scientific landscape. The dialog of the annually reconstituted group of researchers is structured by an annual theme which is presented and discussed publicly in scientific seminars, conferences, workshops, transregional academies, and small exhibitions.

The annual theme of the first two years 2019/20 and 2020/21 is *Plants* (I/II). The program welcomes projects from a wide range of topics relating to plants that place emphasis on aesthetic processes, history of ideas, and material cultures, from the 4 A disciplines but also from philosophical or literary studies, in a transregional perspective.

In continuation of the book series from the preliminary project *Connecting Art Histories in the Museum*, the 4A\_Lab will work on further publications. In September 2020 Philip Geisler's Essay "Cambodian Court Dance After Genocide. Embodied Heritage and the Limits of Critique", that was first outlined at the ART HISTORIES Traveling Seminar "Cultural Heritage and Post-Genocide Memory" (14-25 March 2019), was published in the Essay series of the Forum Transregionale Studien.

# 4A\_Lab Fellows 2019-2022

## Annual Themes: »Plants I + II«

### **Bat-ami Artzi**

*Mutual Growth: The Agency of Plants as Reflected in Inca and Chimú Visual Culture*

### **Carlotta Castellani**

*"Plants as Inventor": The Impact of Raoul Heinrich Francé Theories on El Lissitzky in the Context of the International Constructivist Movement*

### **Sria Chatterjee**

*Nature & Nation: Art, Design and Political Ecologies in the Twentieth Century*

### **Hanin Hannouch**

*Colonial Landscapes and Organic Vision: Robert Lohmeyer's Dreifarbenphotographie of Africa*

### **Luke Keogh**

*The Wardian Case: Artefact of the Anthropocene*

### **Lucas Vanhevel**

*Fungi in the Early Modern Low Countries: Image-forming, Ethnomycology and Beyond*

### **Angela Nikolai**

*(Re-)Producing Nature. Moritz Meurer's Teaching Aid Collection for Applied Plant Studies*

### **Jamie Forde**

*Flowers, Religious Transculturation, and Entangled Ecologies in Early Modern Mexico*

### **Jung-Hwa Kim**

*Invented Woods and Forests: The Tree Collections, Displays, and Networks of the First Korean Arboretum, 1922-1948*

### **Lisa Lodwick**

*Globalising Roman Plant Agency: Finding the Plantiness in Roman Museum Collections*

### **Melis Taner**

*Plants and Animals on the Move in Early Modernity: The Global Connections of Early Modern Islamic Manuscripts*

### **Zachary Caple**

*Project I: Holocene in Fragments, Project II: Phytopoiesis in an Anthropocene Dunefield*

### **Qiuzi Guo**

*The Shadow of Trees: Photography and Visual Realism in 1920s and 1930s China*

### **Hollyamber Kennedy**

*Ansiedlungstechnik: Settlement Colonialism and Migrant Mobility in the German Empire*

### **Parul Singh**

*The Gardens of Qaiserbagh: Between Myth, Reality and Illusion*

### **Vera-Simone Schulz**

*Mangrove Aesthetics along the Swahili Coast. Transcultural Entanglements and the Built Environment in Coastal East Africa*

### **Judith Elisabeth Weiss**

*Plants in a Box. The Herbarium as Object of Knowledge and Art*

### **Pamela Mackenzie**

*Microscope/Macrocosm: Early Modern Technology, Visualization and Representations of Nature*

### **Maria Kyrou**

*From the Herbarium to the Universal Garden. Defining Objects of Knowledge as Tacit, Phygital Reassemblies*

### **Azar Emami Pari**

*The Role of Plants in the Iranian Worldview, as manifested in Carpet Design*

### **Alia Santi**

*The Role of Vegetal Life in the Foundation and Development of 'Anjar: A Multilayered Exploration of 8th Century South-Eastern Biqā' as a Human-plants Participatory Space*

# ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE: Revisiting the Canons of Textual Scholarship

**ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE: Revisiting the Canons of Textual Scholarship** will zu einer Neubewertung des Kanons textbezogener Wissenschaft beitragen. In einem Zeitalter beispielloser Mobilität von Wissen und Menschen möchte ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE bisher marginalisierte präkoloniale Wissenschaft aus Asien, Afrika, dem Nahen Osten und Europa neu in den Blick nehmen und bisher vernachlässigte Zweige philologischer Forschung unterstützen. Im Interesse geschichtsbewusster Philologie fördert das Programm Forschungen in den folgenden Bereichen: Genealogie und Transformation philologischer Praxis; der Ort der Philologie im System des Wissens (z.B. ihre Beziehung zu exakter Wissenschaft, Theologie und Rechtswissenschaft); Philologie, Nation und Imperium; Philologie, Übersetzung und Mobilität und schließlich Philologie und Universität. Darüber hinaus will ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE kritische Neubewertungen historiographischer und philologischer Praxis unterstützen.

Bei der Neubetrachtung wichtiger »Philologiekriege« geht es nicht nur darum, den argumentativen Wert der betreffenden Debatten zu eruieren, sondern auch um eine Reflexion über ihren allgemeinen kulturellen und politischen Kontext und darüber, wie sie unser Wissen um die Vergangenheit geprägt haben.

Über einen Zeitraum von vier Jahren, von 2010 bis 2014, wurde ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE im Rahmen des Forums durch ein Fellowshipprogramm, drei Winterakademien (Kairo, Delhi, Kapstadt), das World Philologies Seminar sowie eine Reihe von Workshops gefördert. In dieser Phase war ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE an der Friedrich Schlegel Graduiertenschule für Literaturwissenschaftliche Studien an der Freien Universität Berlin assoziiert.

**ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE: Revisiting the Canons of Textual Scholarship** supports research on marginalized and undocumented textual practices and literary cultures with the aim of integrating texts and scholarly traditions from Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, as well as from Europe itself, by way of a critical recuperation of philology. The program takes as its point of departure the growing concern with the global significance of philology and the potential of philology to challenge exclusivist notions of the self and the canon. To promote historically conscious philology, the program supports research that addresses intellectual entanglements and interactions beyond national, cultural, and regional boundaries. The program's main areas of focus include the genealogy and transformations of philological practice, philology's place in the system of knowledge, its relation to science, theology, and jurisprudence, philology and the university, and the relation of philology to nation and empire.

Furthermore, ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE aims to support critical reviews of historical and philological practice. In revisiting important "philological wars", the goal is not to merely evaluate the argumentative worth of these debates, but to reflect on the wider cultural and political context in which they emerged and how they have shaped our knowledge of the past.

From 2010 until 2014, ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE offered more than 25 postdoctoral grants through its fellowship program. It hosted a lively series of workshops and lectures as well as three international winter and summer academies (Cairo, Delhi, Cape Town). In this phase ZUKUNFTSPHILOGIE was associated with the Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School of Literary Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin.

Seit dem Winter 2015 ist ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE mit der Berufung seines Leiters, Islam Dayeh, als Juniorprofessor am Seminar für Arabistik und Semitistik der Freien Universität Berlin angegliedert und wird dort weitergeführt. Im Zentrum des Programms steht die Zeitschrift *Philological Encounters* und das »World Philologies Seminar«. *Philological Encounters* widmet sich der historischen und philosophischen Kritik der Philologie und wird vom Verlag Brill herausgegeben.

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Since the winter of 2015, ZUKUNFTSPHILOLOGIE has been affiliated with the Freie Universität Berlin due to its director Islam Dayeh's appointment as Assistant Professor at the Department of Arab and Semitic Studies. The program will continue its work there and will be now focusing on its peer-reviewed journal *Philological Encounters*, an academic journal dedicated to historical and philosophical critique of philology (published by Brill), and its lecture series "World Philology Seminar".

# MERIAN CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN THE MAGHREB (MECAM)

**ميكام**  
 مركز ميريان  
 للدراسات المتقدمة  
 في المنطقة المغاربية



**MECAM**

**Merian Centre  
 For Advanced Studies  
 In The Maghreb**

Das **Merian Centre For Advanced Studies In The Maghreb (MECAM)** an der Universität de Tunis wurde im April 2020 von einem Konsortium von sieben deutschen und tunesischen Universitäten und Forschungseinrichtungen begründet. MECAM soll den wissenschaftlichen Austausch in den Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften im und zwischen den Ländern des Maghrebs, Europa und benachbarten Regionen stärken. »Imagining Futures: Dealing with Disparity« ist das Leitmotiv der Forschungsagenda von MECAM, unter dem Fragen von Ästhetik & kultureller Praxis, Ungleichheit & Mobilität, Erinnerung & Gerechtigkeit, Ressourcen & Nachhaltigkeit, Identitäten & Überzeugungen in den Blick genommen werden. Diese fünf Forschungsfelder strukturieren die gemeinsame Arbeit in fünf »Interdisziplinären Fellowgruppen« (IFG). Damit sollen Fragen aufgegriffen werden, die den Maghreb, Europa und ihre benachbarten Regionen historisch und gegenwärtig prägen und in der Folge des »Arabischen Frühlings« und den anhaltenden Umbrüchen auf allen Seiten des Mittelmeeres (neu) verhandelt werden.

MECAM wird ein Fellowship-Programm in Tunis etablieren, das Wissenschaftler\*innen aus Europa, den Maghreb-Staaten, dem Nahen Osten und anderen Regionen zusammenbringt, um frei wissenschaftlich arbeiten zu können, sich mit Kolleg\*innen im Gespräch, in Seminaren und Workshops über ihre gemeinsamen Forschungsfragen auszutauschen und wissenschaftliche Netzwerke zu schaffen. Das Fellowship-Programm wird ergänzt durch

The **Merian Centre For Advanced Studies In The Maghreb (MECAM)** will be established this year at the Université de Tunis/Tunisia to strengthen cooperation in the Humanities and Social Sciences in and across the Maghreb, the Middle East, and Europe. The overall theme "Imagining Futures: Dealing with Disparity" guides MECAM's research agenda on questions of Aesthetics & Cultural Practice, Inequality & Mobility, Memory & Justice, Resources & Sustainability, and Identities & Beliefs. These constitute the core issues of MECAM's five thematic research clusters and Interdisciplinary Fellow Groups (IFG). For its first Interdisciplinary Fellow Group, "Aesthetics & Cultural Practice", MECAM has invited applications for five short-term fellowships in July 2020 for researchers at different career stages for the period from April to July 2021.

MECAM was founded in April 2020 as an international centre for interdisciplinary research and academic exchange. It is located in Tunis/Tunisia with branches that shall be developed in Casablanca/Morocco and Beirut/Lebanon in a second phase. MECAM is a joint endeavour of a consortium of seven Tunisian and German research institutions: It is coordinated by the Philipps-Universität Marburg and the Université de Tunis and supported by the Universität Leipzig, the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) in Hamburg/Germany, the Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin/Germany, the Institut Tunisien des Études Stratégiques (ITES) in Tunis/Tunisia, and the Université de Sfax/

Akademien an verschiedenen Orten inner- und außerhalb der Region, zusätzliche Mobilitätsstipendien für Forschungsaufenthalte von tunesischen Wissenschaftler\*innen in Deutschland und eine Wissenschaftskommunikation, die die Forschungsfragen und -antworten der wissenschaftlichen und allgemeinen Öffentlichkeit zugänglich macht. Dazu sollen u.a. eine öffentliche Veranstaltungsreihe unter dem Titel »Rencontres Ibn Khaldun« und Open-Access-Publikationen beitragen. Das MECAM kann in seiner Arbeit auf die an den Partnerinstitutionen in Berlin, Hamburg, Leipzig, Marburg und Tunis vorhandenen Expertisen, Formate und Netzwerke zurückgreifen.

Im Juli 2020 wurden die ersten fünf Fellowships für die erste IFG zu »Ästhetik und Kultureller Praxis« ausgeschrieben. Die Fellowships richten sich an Wissenschaftler\*innen aller Karrierestufen und sind zunächst auf vier Monate angelegt.

MECAM wird von einem Konsortium getragen, dem die Philipps-Universität Marburg, die Université de Tunis, die Universität Leipzig, das GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies, das Forum Transregionale Studien, das Institut Tunisien des Études Stratégiques (ITES) und die Université de Sfax angehören. Die deutschen Partner sind Mitglieder des Forum Transregionale Studien. Das Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF) fördert die Einrichtung des internationalen geistes- und sozialwissenschaftlichen Forschungszentrums mit zunächst 1,7 Millionen Euro.

Das MECAM wird durch einen Rat geleitet, dem neben den beiden Direktoren, Rachid Ouaisa (Philipps-Universität Marburg) und Khaled Kchir (Université de Tunis), Fadma Aït Mous (Hassan II University of Casablanca), André Bank (GIGA Hamburg), Sami Ben Jannet (Institut Tunisien Des Etudes Stratégiques), Tamirace Fakhoury (Lebanese American University), Jörg Gertel (Universität Leipzig), Georges Khalil (Forum Transregionale Studien), Saoussen Krichen (Uni-

Tunisia. During a three-year preliminary phase (2020-2023), this consortium is entrusted with the institutional development of MECAM and the preparation of the project's main phase (2023-2032). The Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany sponsors MECAM with a budget of 1.7 million Euros during the first three years.

The overall theme "Imagining Futures: Dealing with Disparity" guides MECAM's research agenda on the (re-)negotiation of complex social and political processes after the "Arab Spring." MECAM aims at analysing these processes against the backdrop of disparities and inequalities that divide and connect both the Maghreb and the neighbouring regions historically and currently.

MECAM will establish a fellowship program in Tunis with the aim of bringing together scholars from the Maghreb, Europe, the Middle East and beyond so that they gain time and free-space to work on their self-chosen research projects within one of the above-mentioned thematic research clusters (IFGs). The fellows will be offered excellent working conditions for research and debate. MECAM intends to hold seminars and workshops, as well as academies in different places in and outside the region. The fellowship programme will be supplemented by mobility grants for research stays in Germany for the benefit of scholars from Tunisia, the Maghreb, and other Arab countries. The "Rencontres Ibn Khaldun" are conceived as a series of special events seeking to highlight the work of MECAM. Communication techniques through open access publications and other forms of knowledge transfer and translation among the academic community and to other target audiences will be of particular interest. For its work, MECAM can rely on the expertise, the existing formats and networks of the partner institutions in Tunis, Marburg, Sfax, Berlin, Hamburg and Leipzig. All German partner institutions are members of the Forum Transregionale Studien.

versité de Tunis), Abdelwahed Mokni (Université de Sfax), Anika Oettler (Philipps-Universität Marburg), und Friederike Pannewick (Philipps-Universität Marburg/Vorstandsmitglied des Forum Transregionale Studien) angehören.

Dem Beirat des MECAM gehören folgende Personen an: Raja Ben Slama (National Library of Tunisia/Université de Manouba), Karima Dirèche (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Aix-en-Provence), Farid El Asri (International University of Rabat), Zeina G. Halabi (American University of Beirut), Imed Melitt (Institut Supérieur des Sciences Humaines de Tunis), Christoph Menke (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main), Emma Murphy (School of Government and International Affairs, Durham), Isabelle Werenfels (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik).

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Information:  
[www.uni-marburg.de/de/cnms/forschung/mecam](http://www.uni-marburg.de/de/cnms/forschung/mecam)

MECAM is directed by Rachid Ouaisa (Philipps-Universität Marburg) and Khaled Kchir (Université de Tunis) and steered by a council of 12 members that also include: Fadma Aït Mous (Hassan II University of Casablanca), André Bank (GIGA Hamburg), Sami Ben Jannet (Institut Tunisien Des Etudes Stratégiques), Tamirace Fakhoury (Lebanese American University), Jörg Gertel (Universität Leipzig), Georges Khalil (Forum Transregionale Studien), Saoussen Krichen (Université de Tunis), Abdelwahed Mokni (Université de Sfax), Anika Oettler (Philipps-Universität Marburg), Friederike Pannewick (Philipps-Universität Marburg/member of the board of the Forum Transregionale Studien).

The Advisory Board of MECAM consists of the following persons: Raja Ben Slama (National Library of Tunisia/Université de Manouba), Karima Dirèche (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Aix-en-Provence), Farid El Asri (International University of Rabat), Zeina G. Halabi (American University of Beirut), Imed Melitt (Institut Supérieur des Sciences Humaines de Tunis), Christoph Menke (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main), Emma Murphy (School of Government and International Affairs, Durham), Isabelle Werenfels (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik).

# AKADEMIE IM EXIL / ACADEMY IN EXILE

Die **AKADEMIE IM EXIL** (AiE) ist eine gemeinsame Initiative des Forums, der Universität Duisburg-Essen (UDE) und des Kulturwissenschaftlichen Instituts in Essen (KWI) und wurde 2017 mit Unterstützung der VolkswagenStiftung begründet. Seit 2018 zählt auch die Freie Universität Berlin zum Kreis der Trägereinrichtungen der **AKADEMIE**. In ihrer Gründungsphase hat die **AKADEMIE** insbesondere Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaftler\*innen aus dem Umfeld der »Academics for Peace« aus der Türkei eine Plattform geboten, um ihre Forschungen im Exil fortzusetzen und ein wissenschaftliches Programm kritischer Türkeistudien mitzugestalten. Seit 2019 hat sich die **AKADEMIE** auch Wissenschaftler\*innen aus anderen Ländern geöffnet, die von Einschränkungen bürgerlicher und wissenschaftlicher Freiheiten betroffen sind. Sie bietet den beteiligten Wissenschaftler\*innen Freiräume für wissenschaftliche Debatte und Forschung zu Fragen der Grundlagen pluraler und offener Gesellschaften, autoritärer Ideologien und politischer Praxis. Sie strebt an, das intellektuelle Potenzial gefährdeter Forschender für Forschung und Lehre in der Bundesrepublik zu nutzen und als Impuls für die Internationalisierung unserer Hochschulen und in der Form von Online-Lehrangeboten auch für ihre Heimatländer und -Regionen fruchtbar zu machen.

Die **AKADEMIE IM EXIL** ist zunächst an zwei Standorten, Berlin und Essen, angesiedelt. Eine Ausweitung der Angebote wurde ab 2018 mit Unterstützung weiterer Stiftungen durch Partnerschaften vor allem mit der Freien Universität Berlin aber auch mit der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin ermöglicht. Seit ihrer Gründung hat die **AKADEMIE** über 40 gefährdete Wissenschaftler\*innen durch Lang- oder Kurzzeitfellowships unterstützt.

Die Wissenschaftler\*innen werden als Fellows an das KWI oder das Forum berufen, oder arbeiten in dem durch Mittel der Mellon Foundation ermöglichten Critical Thinking Residency Program an der Freien Universität

The **ACADEMY IN EXILE** (AiE) was founded in 2017 as a joint initiative of the Forum, the Universität Duisburg-Essen (UDE), and the Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut in Essen (KWI), with the support of the VolkswagenStiftung. Since 2018, the Freie Universität Berlin has been a member of the **ACADEMY IN EXILE**. In its founding phase, the **ACADEMY** offered a platform for researchers of the humanities and social sciences active in the initiative "Academics for Peace" in Turkey to continue their research in exile. It helped to shape a program of critical studies of Turkey. In 2019 the **ACADEMY** opened up opportunities for scholars from other countries affected by restrictions to civil and academic freedom. It offers the researchers involved scope for academic debate and research on questions of the foundations of plural and open societies, authoritarian ideologies and political practice. It strives to support the intellectual potential of threatened researchers towards research and teaching in Germany and to encourage the internationalization of our universities.

The **ACADEMY IN EXILE** is now located in two cities, Berlin and Essen. An expansion was made possible in 2018 with the support of other foundations, in particular the Mellon Foundation, and through partnerships with the Freie Universität Berlin and also the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Since its inception, the **ACADEMY** has supported more than 40 scholars at risk through long-term or short-term fellowships. The researchers are appointed as Fellows to the KWI or the Forum, or work at the Critical Thinking Residency Program at Freie Universität Berlin.

In Essen and Berlin, they are involved in relevant faculties of universities or in research programs of the Forum. For reasons of personal safety, CV's and biographies of the Fellows of **ACADEMY IN EXILE** are not listed in this brochure. Information on some of their research projects is available on the AiE website.

Berlin. In Essen und in Berlin sind sie in fachlich entsprechende Fakultäten der Universitäten oder in Forschungsprogramme des Forums eingebunden. Die Fellows der AKADEMIE IM EXIL werden aus Gründen des persönlichen Schutzes in dieser Broschüre nicht namentlich ausgewiesen. Informationen zu ihren Arbeitsgebieten finden sich auf der Webseite der Akademie. Die AKADEMIE IM EXIL ergänzt bestehende Angebote, wie die Philipp-Schwartz-Initiative der Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung und andere Stipendienprogramme für gefährdete Wissenschaftler\*innen, indem eine Diskussionsgrundlage für den Transfer und die Einbindung der Forschung im Exil geschaffen wird.

Die AKADEMIE IM EXIL wird durch einen Rat geleitet, der aus Kader Konuk (UDE), Volker Heins (KWI), Georges Khalil (Forum), Verena Blechinger-Talcott (Freie Universität Berlin) und Vanessa Agnew (UDE/The Australian National University) besteht.

Dem Beirat der AKADEMIE IM EXIL gehören folgende Personen an: Markus Dressler (Universität Leipzig), Barbara Göbel (Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut/FU Berlin), Fatma Müge Göçek (University of Michigan), Katrin Kinzelbach (Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg), Esra Küçük (Allianz Kulturstiftung), Claus Leggewie (Universität Gießen), Arien Mack (The New School for Social Research), Friederike Pannewick (Universität Marburg), Paul Pickering (The Australian National University), Maximilian Steinbeis (Herausgeber des Verfassungsblog), Claudia Tazreiter (University of New South Wales), Susanne Zepp-Zwirner (FU Berlin).

Leitung: Kader Konuk (Universität Duisburg-Essen)

Kontakt/Koordinator in Essen: Egemen Özbek (egemen.oezbek@kwi-nrw.de)

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The ACADEMY IN EXILE complements existing programs like the Philipp-Schwartz-Initiative of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, and other fellowship programs for scholars at risk. It provides a forum for the transfer and the integration of research in exile.

The ACADEMY IN EXILE is steered by a council of five members: Kader Konuk (UDE), Volker Heins (KWI), Georges Khalil (Forum), Verena Blechinger-Talcott (Freie Universität Berlin), and Vanessa Agnew (UDE/The Australian National University).

The Advisory Board of the ACADEMY IN EXILE consists of the following persons: Markus Dressler (University of Leipzig), Barbara Göbel (Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut/FU Berlin), Fatma Müge Göçek (University of Michigan), Katrin Kinzelbach (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg), Esra Küçük (Allianz Kulturstiftung), Claus Leggewie (University of Gießen), Arien Mack (The New School for Social Research), Friederike Pannewick (University of Marburg), Paul Pickering (The Australian National University), Maximilian Steinbeis (Editor of the Verfassungsblog), Claudia Tazreiter (University of New South Wales), Susanne Zepp-Zwirner (FU Berlin).