

## PRESSEMITTEILUNG

Essen, 28.09.2018

### EXILE AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM TODAY

**International Conference, October 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> 2018  
Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen (KWI)**

**The *Academy in Exile* cordially invites you to our conference on *Exile and Academic Freedom Today*, to be held in Essen at the Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut (KWI) on October 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> 2018. We are very pleased that the keynote lecture will be delivered by Sarah Willcox, Director of IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund.**

With populism and anti-intellectualism on the rise and civil liberties and academic freedom under intensified threat, increasing numbers of scholars are facing persecution in their home countries and seeking safe havens abroad. The Academy in Exile provides a forum for scholars-at-risk to continue working in the social sciences and humanities outside their home countries. With the inaugural 2018 conference, the Academy asks how the global intellectual community can and ought to respond to this crisis.

The conference will explore the institutionalization of academic freedom since its establishment as *Lehr- und Lernfreiheit* at Humboldt University. It asks how the meaning of exile is changing with respect to academic freedom. With growing numbers of scholars internally displaced or exiled abroad, emphasis will be placed on the common understanding of exile as a form of refuge, as well as on other types of state and social control of dissent and free thought.

With unprecedented numbers of people on the move today—symptomatic of a global crisis produced by armed conflict, economic and social inequality, and environmental degradation—we further inquire into the relationship between exiled scholars and refugees. How is exile to be understood today? How do contemporary and historical experiences of exile compare? What are the intellectual legacies of earlier exile scholars? What institutional support is needed for exiled scholars to continue their research and become integrated into German academic life? What are the potential benefits to the host society? Can we bridge the disciplinary distinctions between exile studies and refugee and forced migration studies—traditionally regarded as separate areas of intellectual inquiry—to the benefit of stakeholders inside and outside the academy?

**Registration** is required to attend the conference. To register, please contact Ayhan Özgül at [ayhan.oezguel@uni-due.de](mailto:ayhan.oezguel@uni-due.de).

The Institute of Turkish Studies at the University Duisburg-Essen, the Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen (KWI) and the Berlin-based Forum Transregionale Studien founded Academy in Exile with funding support from the Volkswagen Foundation.

**Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Freudenberg Foundation** and **IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund** made crucial contributions that allowed AiE to strengthen its structure and support even more scholars.

## PROGRAMME

## Thursday, 18 October 2018

**13:30 – 14:00** Registration and Coffee

### **14:00 – 14:45 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

**Julika Griem** (Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen)

**Kader Konuk** (Academy in Exile/Turkish Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen)  
“Exile and the Transfer of Knowledge”

### **14:45 – 16:15 DEFINING ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

**Andreas Niederberger** (Department of Philosophy, University of Duisburg-Essen)  
“What Is Academic Freedom?”

**David Kaldewey** (Department for Science Studies, University of Bonn)  
“Vita Contemplativa, Vita Activa, and Academic Freedom Today”

**Katrin Kinzelbach** (Global Public Policy Institute, Berlin)  
“A Three-tiered Definition of Academic Freedom for Empirical Research on Infringements”

Moderator: *Aras Ergüneş (KWI)*

**16:15 – 16:45** Break

## **SECTION 2: KEYNOTE AND DISCUSSION**

**16:45 – 17:30 Sarah Willcox** (Scholar Rescue Fund, New York)  
“Risk, Resilience, and Rediscovery: Exiled Scholarship and the Regeneration of Science and Learning”

### **17:30 – 18:00 FORUM**

## Friday, 19 October 2018

**10:00 – 10:30** Coffee

### **10:30 – 12:00 FORMS OF EXILE**

**Aslı Telli** (University of Siegen), **Hazal Gümüş** (independent researcher), with contributions from **Dilek Akbulut** (independent researcher)  
“Interactive Platform for Mapping Support Networks in Europe: Turkey’s Academics in Exile”

**Rüstem Ertuğ Altınay** (Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna)  
“Queering the Academic Exile: Turkey’s Queer Academic Diaspora in Precarious Times”

**Patrick Lewis** (Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago)  
“Exiled, Expelled, or Left-Behind: Kurdish University Students on the Margins of Turkish Higher Education”

Moderator: *Attila Aytekin (KWI)*

**12:00 – 13:30** Break

**13:30 – 15:00 CONCEPTUALIZING EXILE**

**Volker M. Heins** (Academy in Exile/KWI)

“Defending the Art of Voice: Albert Hirschman as a Theorist of Exile”

**Brahim Benmoh** (Applied Language and Culture Studies, Chouaib Doukkali University, El Jadida, Morocco)

“Exile as the Breathing Space for Re/Writing the History of & Attributing Agency to the Postcolonial Subject”

**Nora Şeni** (The French Institute of Geopolitics, University of Paris VIII)

“Exile and Social Network”

Moderator: *Firat Erdoğmuş (KWI)*

**15:00 – 15:30** Break

**15:30 – 17:30 ACADEMIC FREEDOM: THREATS AND RESPONSES**

**Claus Leggewie** (The Centre for Media and Interactivity, University of Giessen)

“The Encyclopaedia of Exiled Authors: A Book Proposal”

**Ellen Hinsey** (independent researcher) and **Adam Krzywoń** (Department of Constitutional Law, Warsaw University)

“Threats to Academic Freedom in Eastern Europe? The Case of Poland”

**Andrea Pető** (Department of Gender Studies, Central European University, Budapest)

“An Academic in the Polypore State”

**Daniela Kaisth** (Gratias Partners, USA)

“The Practitioner View: Lessons Learned from the Iraq Crisis to Inform Response in Turkey and Beyond”

Moderator: *Çağla Diner (KWI)*

**17:30 – 17:45** Break

**17:45 – 18:30 CONCLUDING SUMMARIES**

**Georges Khalil** (Academy in Exile/Forum Transregionale Studien)

**Nazan Üstündağ** (Forum Transregionale Studien)

**DATE AND LOCATION**

Thursday, October 18th – Friday, October 19th

Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen (KWI), Gartensaal, Goethestraße 31, 45128 Essen

**REGISTRATION**

Registration is required to attend the conference. To register, please contact Ayhan Özgül at [ayhan.oezguel@uni-due.de](mailto:ayhan.oezguel@uni-due.de).

**ORGANIZERS**

**Volker M. Heins**, Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen (KWI)

**Kader Konuk**, Universität Duisburg-Essen

**Egemen Özbek**, Academy in Exile

**SPONSORS**

Volkswagen Foundation, Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Campus Sapiens Foundation

## FURTHER INFORMATION

<http://www.kulturwissenschaften.de/en/home/event-882.html>

## DIRECTIONS

<http://www.kulturwissenschaften.de/en/home/contact.html>

### **Über das Kulturwissenschaftliche Institut Essen (KWI):**

Das Kulturwissenschaftliche Institut Essen (KWI) ist ein interdisziplinäres Forschungskolleg für Geistes- und Kulturwissenschaften in der Tradition internationaler Institutes for Advanced Study. Als interuniversitäres Kolleg der Ruhr-Universität Bochum, der Technischen Universität Dortmund und der Universität Duisburg-Essen arbeitet das Institut mit den Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftlern seiner Trägerhochschulen und mit weiteren Partnern in NRW und im In- und Ausland zusammen. Innerhalb des Ruhrgebiets bietet das KWI einen Ort, an dem die Erträge ambitionierter kulturwissenschaftlicher Forschung auch mit Interessierten aus der Stadt und der Region geteilt und diskutiert werden. Zukünftig stehen folgende Forschungsschwerpunkte im Mittelpunkt: Kulturwissenschaftliche Wissenschaftsforschung, Kultur- und Literatursoziologie, Wissenschaftskommunikation sowie ein „Lehr-Labor“. Fortgesetzt werden außerdem die Projekte in den Forschungsbereichen Partizipationskultur und Kommunikationskultur sowie Einzelprojekte.

[www.kulturwissenschaften.de](http://www.kulturwissenschaften.de)

### PRESSEKONTAKTE

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