

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“GUESTS AND ALIENS”

RE-CONFIGURING NEW MOBILITIES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN
AFTER 2011

-with a special focus on Syrian refugees-

9th and 10th of December 2014

IFEA

Institut Français d'Etudes Anatoliennes

Nuru Ziya Sok. 10- 34433 Beyoğlu

Istanbul-Turkey



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Universität
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research network
configurations
history, remembrance and transformation
processes in the Middle East + North Africa



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Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur l'Asie Orientale - CERAO
East Asian Studies & Research Centre
Centro de Estudios e Investigación sobre Asia Oriental

Programme

Tuesday 9th of December 2014

9:00 **Opening Session, Welcome from IFEA and the Re-Configurations Network**

9:30 – 10:30 **Session 1. Mapping Key Issues post 2011**

**Mapping Reconfigurations. Achim Rohde (Phillipps University Marburg)*

**Thinking the role of Diasporas, migrants and exiles in the Arab Revolutions and Political Transitions. Claire Beaugrand (IFPO-OPT) Vincent Geisser (IFPO-Beirut)*

**Mobilities post-2011: transformations over time or sudden change. Natalia Ribas-Mateos (Phillipps University Marburg/UAB/IFEA)*

Discussants: **Elif Aksaz** (IFEA/Galatasaray University) and **Clémence Scalbert-Yücel** (IFEA)

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00 – 12:15 **Session 2. Syrians in Turkey**

**Understanding migration management and its impacts on Syrian refugees in Turkey. Michelle Dromgold (Middle East Technical University, Ankara)*

**Guests or Refugees. Transformations in Turkish border towns post-2011. Şenay Özden (Hamisch, Syrian Cultural House in Istanbul)*

**Turkey's Human Trafficking Policies and Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees to Labor Exploitation. Stephanie J. Nawyn and Vanja Pantic Oflazoglu (Michigan State University)*

**Euro-Mediterranean relations in the field of migration management: contrasting Morocco and Turkey as case studies. Hafsa Afailal (URV/Galatasaray University)*

Discussants: **Kamel Dorai** (IFPO-Amman) and **Önver A. Cetrez** (Swedish Research Institut -Istanbul/Uppsala University)

12:15 – 14:00 **Lunch Break**

14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3. Urban Futures**

** Urban Frictions. Federico Rahola (Genova University, Italy)*

**The "good" and the "bad" Arabs in Istanbul streets since the end of 2012 (Beyoğlu:Tarlabası and Taksim square). Jean-François Pérouse (IFEA)*

**Where 'here' and 'there' are: Syrian migrants' border crossings from Turkey to Europe. Souad Osseiran (Goldsmiths, University of London).*

Discussants: **Kristen Biehl** (COMPASS, Oxford/IFEA) and **Barbara Pusch** (Istanbul Policy Center, Sabancı University/Orient-Institut Istanbul)

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:00 Session 4. Understanding mobility-enclosure to the EU

Migrants or Expelled? Beyond the 20th century migration modes (video-conference).* **Saskia Sassen (Columbia University)

The human cost of Fortress Europe: human rights violations against migrants and refugees at Europe's borders (video-conference).* **Giorgios Kosmopoulos (Amnesty International Greece)

The reconfiguration of the Mediterranean migratory routes after the war in Syria. Focus on the "Egyptian route" to Italy.* **Chiara Denaro (University of Rome 'La Sapienza'/UAB)

17:00 – 17:30 Coffee Break

17:30 – 18:30 Continuation of Session 4

Leaving Libya: The Re-Configuration of Mobility in Times of War and Complexity.* **Mariam Salehi (Phillipps-University Marburg)

Refugees from Syria as "guests and aliens" in Germany.* **Christoph H. Schwarz (Phillipps University Marburg)

Discussants: Achim Rohde (Phillipps University Marburg) and **Christoph H. Schwarz** (Phillipps University Marburg)

19:00 Cocktail

Wednesday 10th of December 2014

09:00 – 09:45 Session 5. Research on Border Zones: new mobilities and transnational networks of humanitarian response

* *The field before the battle. Palestinian mobilities and the Gaza-Israel-Egypt triangular border before (and after) 2011.* **Lorenzo Navone** (Genova University, Italy).

The role of transnational networks and cross-border circulation in Palestinian migration in situation of conflict.* **Kamel Doraï (IFPO-Amman)

Listening to the voices of Syrian women refugees in Jordan: Ethnographies of Displacement and Emplacement.* **Ruba Al Akash (Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford/Jordan University of Science) and **Karen Boswall** (SOAS, U. London)

09:45 – 10:15 Coffee Break

10:15 – 11:00 Continuation of Session 5

Setting negotiations of humanitarian power into context: Anthropological perspectives on the governance of the Syrian refugee crisis in Lebanon.* **Susanne Schmelter (Göttingen University)

Syrian associations in the Turkish-Syrian border region and in Lebanon. Preliminary notes from a comparative perspective.* **Laura Ruiz de Elvira (Phillipps University Marburg)

Role of local aid networks and Diaspora NGOs in cross border operations.* **Hélène Michalak (Syria Project Manager at France Expertise Internationale)

11:00 – 12:00 Continuation of Session 5

Debate

Discussant. **Jean-François Pérouse** (IFEA)

12:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – 14:30 Session 6

* *Humanitarian assistance for Syrians in Turkey: IOM intervention.* **Selma Masic** (IOM)

14:30 – 15:30 Session 7. Closing Session

Closing Remarks: **Elif Aksaz** (IFEA/Galatasaray), **Kristen Biehl** (COMPASS, Oxford/IFEA), **Natalia Ribas-Mateos** (Phillipps University Marburg/UAB/IFEA), **Laura Ruiz de Elvira** (Phillipps University Marburg)

Synthesis from the discussants and Open Debate

NGO'S PROGRAMME (Held at Istanbul Addar Center)

18:00 Film - "**Boya boya**", 24', Dir. **Karen Boswall**, *Irbid (Jordan)*, 2014

Synopsis: A portrait of Syrian refugee Mohammed, a 12 year old shoe shine boy, "Boya Boya" (shine, shine) looks at the reality of the growing population of urban refugees from the point of view of a child. While supporting the women and children of his family, Mohammed still smiles and sings his way through his long working day cleaning shoes around the city of Irbid. Through song and laughter he touches the hearts of his clients, but for how long will he be able to keep finding and creating these moments of joy while carrying the burden of such responsibility and sadness? Filmed in September 2014 in Irbid, Jordan

18:30-20.30 **Roundtable with NGO's working with migrants in Istanbul:**

Lauranne Callet-Ravat (MDN)

Sema Genel (Support to Life)

Belinda Mumcu (CARITAS)

Özhan Önder (Hamisch, Syrian Cultural House in Istanbul)

Salim Salamah (Malmö University)

Hande Soğancılar (IMC)

Istanbul Addar Center Members

Coordinated by **Chiara Denaro** (University of Rome 'La Sapienza'/UAB)

Conference Participant ABSTRACTS
Guests and Aliens:
Reconfiguring New Mobilities after 2011
December 9-10, 2014

IFEA-Istanbul, Turkey

SESSION 1. Mapping Key Issues post 2011

Abstract 1. *Mapping Reconfigurations.* **Achim Rohde** (Phillips-University Marburg)

This paper lays out the idea of this conference in the context of the on-going transformations within the MENA region triggered by the Arab spring as well as within studies on global migratory movements and regulation policies. It situates the wider context within the conceptual frame of the research network “Re-Configurations. History, Remembrance and Transformation Processes in the Middle East and North Africa” at the University of Marburg (Germany). The network’s research takes into consideration the underlying reasons, the historic roots and the future perspective of the transformation processes in the region through an interdisciplinary empirically founded and theory led investigation. Apart from the political issues this work also looks at contemporary debates concerning historiographic approaches and the politics of remembrance. More specially, our approach takes a particular focus on four research fields: history from below (authoritarian rule periods, society and actors –labour conflicts, everyday resistance etc-), re-configurations of cultural memory (remembrance, study of the silent and the spoken), political transformations and transitional justice (legal context and judiciary role in transitions), transregional entanglements (by considering internal and external factors).

Abstract 2. *Thinking the role of Diasporas, migrants and exiles in the Arab Revolutions and Political Transitions.* **Claire Beaugrand,** (Ifpo-oPT) **Vincent Geisser,** (Ifpo-Beirut).

Following the 2010/ 2011 Tunisian and Egyptian revolutions, protest movements and political transitions in the Arab World attracted a great deal of media coverage and academic attention. Yet, the topic of the role of diasporas, binationals and exiles in the pro- and anti- regime mobilisation has been widely overlooked to concentrate on Arab “domestic actors”, the role of state powers and the strategic regional stakes. This paper, partly based on the ERC-funded WAWAW conference (Tunis, October 2014) aims at filling this gap and thinking through the involvement of diasporic

actors, migrants and exiles in the processes of socio-political transformations of the Arab world.

The 2011 political upheavals opened up new theoretical questions that can enrich the already vast literature on migrants and diaspora: first, it questioned the idea according to which migrants are apolitical and exile opposition has neither appeal nor representative power in the country. Suddenly the assumed *distance/disjunction* between migrants and the political scenes of their home countries was replaced by a rekindled feeling of national belonging. Second, where regime did not fall, the exile opposition has become an essential component of the dissenting political field.

Altogether, this raised a number of questions addressed in the paper: how did the 2011 rupture and the new range of possibilities it opened present the conditions in which “long-distance nationalism” is possible to create and shape, beyond the limited circles of political exiles? How did the uprisings, their repression as well as the authoritarian regaining of control confer a new relevance and salience to opposition groups abroad? How do the regimes, new or old, manage the relations with these transnational actors?

Abstract 3. *Mobilities post-2011: transformations over time or sudden change.*
Natalia Ribas-Mateos (U.Marburg/CERAO-UAB/IFEA)

This paper examines the tangled question of continuity and change from the point of view of the observance of mobility. Studying the diverse changes since the upheavals of January 2011 in Mediterranean mobility is a topic worthy of particular attention. However an effort has to be made in order to understand the transformed understandings of continuity and change, which are sometimes found in sharp opposition to each other but which also find connections and relations between each other. The paper brings together in dialogue at least five different questions,

(i) The use of categories. Can we keep using the term of “refugee” and “irregular migrant” in the same way as we did in the past? Globalisation studies have showed new challenges in the blurring of such categories. Agamben (1995) has also worked on the differentiation of the classic idea of refugee from the concept of the refugee from that of the “human rights”.

(ii) Forms of continuity. Authors like de Hass and Sigona (2012) talk about a continuity: “it is rather unlikely that the revolutions will dramatically change long-term migration patterns”.

(iii) Challenging of borders. Authors working on EU borders have showed a rupture in how the Arab Spring has forced to change regulation parameters of EU

internal borders (see the examples in the various programmes in Italy after the Tunisian upheaval)

(iv) Forms of cross border circulation. Authors working on the Syrian humanitarian crisis do show how the cross border circulation does enhance a new model of humanitarian structure, especially concerning Turkish borders.

(v) Re-scaling. Do really cities like Istanbul conform to the kaleidoscope of such changes and continuities post-2011?

SESSION 2 Syrians in Turkey

Abstract 4. *Understanding migration management and its impacts on Syrian refugees in Turkey.* **Michelle Dromgold** (Middle East Technical University, Ankara)

This paper presents an overview of migration management in Turkey. 'Migration management' is an increasingly popularized theoretical approach to migration that is nonetheless neither well understood nor singular in definition or interpretation. Geiger and Pecoud suggest that 'migration management' minimally refers to the trends of: 1) mobilization of the term by *actors*, 2) adherence to distinct *practices*, and 3) reliance on specific *discourses* regarding migration. This paper applies these minimal trends as a framework for identifying and determining the actors involved in shaping the practices and discourses of migration in Turkey.

With the influx of Syrian refugees to Turkey and the country's shift away from a predominately migratory 'sending' country to that of a 'receiving' country as well, migration policies and organization in Turkey are changing. In April 2013, the Turkish government introduced the Law on Foreigners and International Protection (Law No. 6458) and established a new Directorate General of Migration Management. Despite these national level changes, migration management in Turkey, particularly of Syrian refugees, is not limited to the national level. Today, the actors involved in migration management in Turkey are part of a multi-tiered system that includes initiatives, exchanges and interactions among international (UN), supranational (EU), and national government institutions, as well as civil society organizations (such as the Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants), migrant networks (like Migration Solidarity Network), research centers, and private NGOs. This paper overviews the actors at each of these levels and illustrates how their practices and discourses contribute to the system of migration management in Turkey. Understanding these intricacies is essential for studying the Syrian diaspora in Turkey and identifying the impact that such a system of management has upon different groups, families and individuals.

Abstract 5. *Euro-Mediterranean relations in the field of migration management: contrasting Morocco and Turkey as case studies.* **Hafsa Afailal** (URV and Galatasaray University).

This paper focuses on the study of Moroccan and Turkish migration policy, through the analysis of the historical framework of Euro-Mediterranean relations in the field of migration management.

Morocco and Turkey have played (and continues to play) an important role in the management of migratory flows to the European Union. During the 90s and following the closure of the border of the European Union and the enlargement of the Schengen area, new security measures were put in place to control entry into the European territory. Morocco, Turkey and other countries began to have a central role in this "preventive" strategy of the "uncontrolled" irregular migration that marked the European Neighborhood Policy.

Since 2002, the outsourcing process of the border to control the borders of the EU has also been "supported" by non-EU members using developed measures such as FRONTEX. The impact of this control had a quick effect on the political affairs of migration in EU neighboring countries.

In addition to that role, Morocco and Turkey are known as countries of emigration. Starting from the early 1960s and well into the 1970s, large numbers of Turkish and Moroccan nationals migrated to western European countries, Africa or America. Recently, Turkey and Morocco have also become known as a country of transit to the European Union and a destination for migrants from different regions.

Abstract 6. *Turkey's Human Trafficking Policies and Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees to Labor Exploitation.* **Stephanie J. Nawyn** and **Vanja Pantic Oflazolu** (Michigan State University)

The Syrian crisis and subsequent migration of Syrians into Turkey has corresponded with new developments in the country's human trafficking law and policies. While these new laws specify the rights of Syrian refugees to remain in Turkey, they are not clear as to how much access to employment Syrians will have in the long term. The access that Syrians have to the formal labor market shapes their vulnerability to extreme forms of labor exploitation, including trafficking. It also dictates the opportunities for exploited Syrians to claim rights and receive protection from labor traffickers.

In this paper, we analyze the changing legal terrain for Syrians in Turkey. Using data collected from fieldwork among NGOs and government officials, analyses of laws and policy reports, and the available data on Syrian flows into Turkey, we describe the vulnerability that Syrians have to human trafficking and extreme labor exploitation. The

results draw upon the labor exploitation framework of human trafficking proposed in earlier research.

SESSION 3 Urban Futures

Abstract 7. *Urban Frictions*. Federico Rahola (Genoa University)

How to locate the urban? In a way, a sound similar to the one of Tsing's non-scalable theory of scalability resonates here too. As for the expansion of scalability filled up with non-scalable factors, is it not the case that the urban is expanding itself by being filled up with non-urban elements? That the specific scalability project involved in urbanization realizes itself through the nonurban? Urban, in this perspective, appears to be a kind of inventory, a scalable process. And a non-urban approach to the urban, focused on frictions, may help us in ethnographically deciphering the amazing process of urbanization that is materializing before our eyes: a "urban at large", re-phrasing Arjun Appadurai's title, where urban seems at the same time to exceed its own dimensions and scale while becoming increasingly slippery as a concept. As I will try to suggest, "urban at large" is an attempt to define such a process, that is, to develop a nonurban theory of urbanization, in order to detect to what extent supply-chain capitalism also entails (a supply-chain) urbanism.

Looking at Istanbul: nothing but flowers. Taksim Square, Istanbul and the aftermath of the bloody military repression of mass demonstrations and encampments against the destruction of Gezi Park (which, as someone will remember, was planned to make way for a government-backed shopping mall, to be housed in a reconstructed Ottoman barracks), Istanbul people eventually decided to sow next to the flowers as many signs and images of the victims of President Erdoğan's repression. There should be of course much (more) to say about current urban movements and mobilizations, by reading them as a direct manifestation of urban resistance, as immediate instances of a "right to the city", and as practices of production of spaces others than capital urbanization – the same goes for President Erdoğan's military repression, as a further embodiment of the "military urbanism" strategy adopted to counter the urban political oppositions and uprisings of the last years (Marcuse 2006). But this is not the place. Here, instead, I just want to focus on the urban/nonurban significance of those trees and flowers. At a first gaze, a park, a tree, a flower, they can all be considered as nonurban intrusions within the urban, being thus an almost immediate evidence of a nonurban approach to the urban. And we must admit that there isn't anything good in these specific nonurban elements (flowers to celebrate a government repression), and that there isn't anything specifically nonurban in this story (starting from the park itself). It represents moments and sites of frictions, and thus urbanization as a specific battle-space: among scales, within scales, between scalable logics and projects – a fine, a biofuel plantation, a shopping mall project – built upon non-scalable and irreproducible situations and subjects – a car parked on the rocks, the unpredictable and subjective encounters and forms of cooperation between migrants (both in a sugarcane plantation and amidst and

against European apparatus of capture), the uniqueness of the image of a victim. It is precisely the immanent, ephemeral and situated encounter or clash between this un-reproducible dimension and the scalable strategies and plans of supply-chains capitalism/urbanism that produces the fractious sites of ethnography of urbanization.

Abstract 8. *The “good” and the “bad” Arabs in Istanbul streets since the end of 2012 (Beyo?lu :Tarlabas? and Taksim square).* **Jean-Fran?oise P?rouse** (IFEA)

Istanbul has faced the last two years a remarkable and complex Syrian immigration which till now had not been studied. It is certainly premature to address in general this phenomenon. For this reason, we preferred to focus on a precise field, instead of trying to give general insights. The matter we want to deal with is related to daily interactions between “Syrian refugees” – who represent a coherent sociological category only for the people remaining outside—and local dwellers and foreign tourists. Two spots, which are connected, have been selected for in deep observations: the central square of Taksim – the beating heart of international tourism in Istanbul, on one side, and Tarlabas?, an old area subject to urban regeneration projects and reached by the diffusion of hotel business targeting people from Gulf countries, on the other side.

Interactions between Turkish Kurds living in Istanbul – sometimes for many years – and Syrian Kurds have been observed ; in the same time, interactions between Arab speaking Syrian refugees and Arab speaking tourists from the Golf. Social distance – even among the Arab speaking Syrian people who don’t form a coherent group - seem to remain stronger than by the other supposed “natural” affiliations. Concurrence to access to the different resources that the metropolis is considered to provide deepens the split between the different components of the so-called “Syrian community” of Istanbul.

Abstract 9. *Syrians go home: the challenge of the refugee influx from the Syrian civil war in Turkey.* **Andr?s Mourenza** (Euroasian Hub/El Peri?dico) and **Imanol Ortega** (Universidad de Granada)

One of the most acute problems arising from the conflict deriving from Syria’s civil war is the highly numerous flows of refugees to neighboring countries. With an estimated influx of around 1.5 million, Turkey has become the first receiving country. If at the beginning, back in 2011, Turkish population had considered Syrian immigration and their guests (*misafir*) under a government’s policy of “open gates”, the most recent developments (with several protests and xenophobic behavior against Syrian refugees) are sharply different. This change goes along with the traditional view that Turks have maintained about Arabs as subjects of the Ottoman Empire and the attempt, since the founding of the Republic, to break away from the image of the Arab Muslims, which has resulted in a negative image of it in Turkish society.

Therefore, the main objectives of this paper investigate such a change, through the historical context of migration flows that Turkey has received during the past 25 years (migration routes, visa policies and relations with the EU about illegal immigration), with its different profiles (changes in number, geographical distribution and profile of Syrian refugees); and the analysis of both different discourses, realities and implications for domestic politics. A change that challenges that the country with an Ottoman heritage, with an emergence of a duality in the “Arabization of the Turkish streets”, and that also faces the political shift to the MENA region regarding the implemented AKP foreign policy since 2002, which has not only opened the gates for the arrival of Syrian refugees, but also of Iraqi, Libyans, Palestinians refugees and Egyptians exiles, which also contrasts with the influx of a large number of tourists from the Gulf countries.

Abstract 10. *Where ‘here’ and ‘there’ are: Syrian migrants’ border crossings from Turkey to Europe.* **Souad Osseiran** (Goldsmiths, University of London)

Syrian migrants in Istanbul are considered ‘guests’ under the temporary protection of the Turkish state. Guest status places them in an ambiguous position as neither asylum seekers nor refugees but persons dependent on the continued benevolence of the state for their presence in Turkey. Many Syrian migrants are working and living in Istanbul while others have come to the city with the intention of moving on to Europe. In this paper, I explore Syrian migrants’ presence in Istanbul, some migrants’ attempts to cross the border to Europe, and the Turkish state’s changing response to the attempts forms the border space. The border space with Europe emerges as ambiguous and mobile expanding to Istanbul and further south. The shifts and mobility of the border affect the ways Europe and Turkey are situated as distinct spaces. Relying on ethnographic data gathered during my fieldwork undertaken from July 2012 till December 2013 with Syrian migrants living in Istanbul, I will examine the ways a European ‘there’ and a ‘here’ in Turkey is created and muddled in Syrian migrants’ border crossings practices.

Abstract 11. *The field before the battle. Palestinian mobilities and the Gaza-Israel-Egypt triangular border before (and after) 2011.* **Lorenzo Navone** (Genova University, Italy)

The first part of my presentation is based on ethnographic materials collected during several fieldworks on the borderland between Egypt, Israel and the Gaza Strip, between 2009 and 2011. The paper is based on participant observation and on several interviews conducted around the Rafah Border Crossing, on the Egyptian side. During the random and unpredictable openings of the border crossing, thousands of people stand in queue in front of the terminal, waiting to cross the border. Through the presentation of some paradigmatic case studies, I attempt to provide an answer to some

crucial questions: How does this “triangular” border work? When and where does it work? Who is allowed to cross it? Who is not? Can an adequate answer to all these questions be provided by interpreting the border as a membrane, compressed between opposing forces acting from either side – “border crossing” versus “border reinforcing”, inside versus outside? What emerges from the research is the widespread perception that the border, balanced unsteadily beneath the pressure of multiple forces, is not functioning. What has happened, however, since 2011? What impact has the Egyptian Revolution had on the border’s functioning?

A new framework. Following the 2011 Egyptian uprising, the interface between Egypt and the Gaza strip has become increasingly turbulent: the northern Sinai governorate (Shamal Sina’), where the border crossing is physically located, has become a war zone, opposing the Egyptian army, Bedouins and jihadi militias (Ansar Bait al-Maqdis); the Gaza Strip, which since 2007 had already been already under an Israeli blockade, has suffered two large scale Israeli military operations (“Pillar of Defence”, 2012, and “Protective edge”, 2014); Egypt is politically unstable, and protests, mass arrests, killings and torture are still occurring (HRW, *All according to plan*, 2014). In this scenario, the border area is almost off limits to all non-residents.

What re-configuration has the border system taken on following the Egyptian revolution? How does it function currently, and what are its effects on Palestinian mobility? A few elements can be isolated: on one hand, the constant shifting of the border (from the Suez Canal to Gaza City) and the militarization of the entire border area; on the other, the multiplication of decision-makers in the field. The new *spatialisation* of the border has broadened its magnitude, further complicating its identification, the understanding of its functioning, and its crossing.

SESSION 4 Understanding mobility-enclosure to the EU

Abstract 12. *Migrants or Expelled? Beyond the 20th century migration modes.*

Saskia Sassen (Columbia University)

The past two decades have seen a sharp growth in the number of people, enterprises, and places expelled from the core social and economic orders of our time. This tipping into radical expulsion was enabled by elementary decisions in some cases, but in others by some of our most advanced economic and technical achievements. I use the notion of expulsions to go beyond the more familiar notion of growing inequality, and get at some of the more complex pathologies of today’s global capitalism. It brings to the fore the fact that forms of knowledge and intelligence we respect and admire are often at the origin of long transaction chains that can end in simple expulsions.

My paper is based on the book *Expulsions: Brutality and Complexity in the Global Economy* (Harvard University Press 2014). The book provides this map to the dynamics of the near future: what does inequality look like, now? It's not a matter of a slow rise in inequity, it's about millions of people displaced, from their homes, from the land, incarcerated or forgotten. Here, as throughout the book I work in "the shadow of major categories" to unpack the scale of these developments; it's a story about a Keynesian project of expanding economic inclusion giving way to a system marked by pockets of people become disposable, irrelevant to the continued operation of the system; it's a story about quantitative developments pointing to qualitative shifts, to a new logic running through multiple domains. The *complexity* inherent in the economic operations that structure our daily life gives way to *brutality*, producing ostensibly authorless suffering along a whole series of faultiness and multiform peripheries. The project is to make the spaces of the expelled visible, to establish, a *jurisdiction* capable of naming them and providing a site for a politics of resistance and the articulation of alternative.

Abstract 13. *The human cost of Fortress Europe: human rights violations against migrants and refugees at Europe's borders.* **Giorgio Kosmopoulos** (Amnesty International Greece).

Every year, thousands of migrants and refugees try to reach Europe. Some are fleeing grinding poverty; others are seeking refuge from violence and persecution. The response of the European Union (EU) and its member states has been to invest in surveillance technology, security forces and detention centres, both internally and in neighbouring countries, with one interest: to construct an impenetrable fortress at Europe's borders to keep people out.

Fixated on "protecting" borders, EU member states are employing drastic measures, some of which breach their human rights obligations and cause immense human suffering. At some EU borders, migrants and refugees are denied access to asylum procedures and pushed back into neighboring countries, often in ways that put them at grave risk. They are ill-treated by border guards and coastguards and left stranded in neighbouring countries where there are serious human rights concerns. With safer routes to Europe being closed off through increased securitization, and in the absence of legal channels into the EU, migrants and refugees are attempting ever more hazardous routes. Thousands have died on the journey since 2000; many more are missing feared dead.

The report "The human cost of Fortress Europe: Human rights violations against migrants and refugees at Europe's borders" describes some of the key elements of the EU's migration policy and how this policy plays out at the EU border where Bulgaria and Greece meet Turkey, one of the main routes used by Syrian refugees seeking safety in

the EU. The report ends with recommendations calling on the EU and member states to review their migration policy urgently in order to shift its primary focus from protecting borders to protecting people.

Abstract 14. *The reconfiguration of the Mediterranean migratory routes after the war in Syria. A focus on “Egyptian route” to Italy.* **Chiara Denaro** (U. di Roma ‘La Sapienza’/UAB)

This paper aims to provide some insights on the reconfiguration of the Mediterranean migratory routes as one of the most important consequences of the Syrian conflict. For this purpose, it will focus on the reopening of the “Egyptian route” to Italy, which seems to be particularly interesting for three reasons. Firstly, because it remains the longest and most dangerous route, covering the distance of more than 1500 kilometers by sea. Secondly, because the political context of the post-Arab Springs has made more complex the configuration of Egypt as a sending and receiving country. Thirdly, in reference to the particular vulnerability of the migrants who travel this route: mainly Syrian families and Egyptians unaccompanied minors.

The context of Mediterranean migration routes has been partly modified by the Syrian diaspora, and one of the consequences has been the reopening of the “Egyptian route” to Italy. This event, has contributed to create a “new opportunity of life” also for Egyptian adolescents, unaccompanied minors, who started to reach Italy with Syrian refugees, crossing the Mediterranean Sea. According to the statistics published by UNHCR (July, 2014), since January 2011, more than 9,3 million Syrians have fled their homes and Egypt is the 5th receptor country, hosting 138.347 people registered as refugees (50.894 households), after Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan and Iraq.

After the removal of the Egyptian President, Mohammed Morsi, Syrian refugees’ life conditions partially changed, maybe because of their supposed affiliation to Muslim Brotherhood Party. According to some witnesses, to obtain/renew the permits of stay for work have become more difficult, and arbitrary detentions have become more frequent as well: day after day, this kind of changes would have pushed more people to choose the way of sea, risking their life.

Between 2013 and 2014, the Italian reception system for asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors reaching Europe by sea, has undergone significant changes: first of all, after the two shipwrecks of October 2013, the Italian government tried to give a strong signal of “presence” with the implementation of the mission “Mare Nostrum”. Secondly, even if in this case Italy did not declare a “state of emergency”, the host system implemented has been characterized by a high level of improvisation, and by the absence of long-term planning.

This work will be driven by three main research questions. What have been the most important sociopolitical factors that caused the reopening of Egyptian route to Italy? What are the fundamental characteristics of this route (typology of migrants, smugglers, duration of the travel, way of rescue)? What have been the most important features of the Italian reception system, concerning the Syrian refugees and the Egyptian unaccompanied minors?

Abstract 15. *Leaving Libya: The Re-Configuration of Mobility in Times of War and Complexity.* **Mariam Salehi** (Phillips-University Marburg)

In the summer of 2013 in the German cities of Hamburg and Berlin refugees who have fled from the 2011 Libyan crisis started to organise and to claim stay and work permits. Having received asylum in Italy, their presence in Germany was regular, however, according to European law, this permission was temporary and they were not allowed to work. After moving constantly for over two years, they started to resist, claiming to be “Guests” rather than “Aliens”. First, this contribution aims to shed light on the question of how the interplay of cascading world events in a globalized world - like the so-called Arab Spring, the financial crisis and the war in Mali - with local realities impact individual lives and trajectories of migrants. By putting the migrants' views first, the paper is able to show that migratory decisions and the re-configuration of mobility are dependent on structural and individual factors alike. In doing so, we stress the autonomy inherent to migrants' decisions and practices even in a situation of war and complexity. In turn, it shows that through feedback loops individual decisions can also influence or lead to macro phenomena.

Abstract 16. *Palestinians of Syria. Perceptions of two Nakbas after The Migration to Sweden.* **Salim Salamah** (Malmo University) (ACTIVIST PROGRAMME)

“Palestine is closer to Sweden than to Syria” Lebanon, January 2013. An interview with Palestinian activists from Yarmouk in Lebanon.

Upon the Israeli occupation of Palestine hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were displaced. Between June 1946 and May 1948, 711.000 Palestinians were forced to flee their homes. Syria was one of their fleeing destinations.

Out of approximately 540,000 Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA in Syria, over 50 percent are estimated to have been displaced within Syria or in neighboring countries. In Lebanon, 53,070 PRS have registered with UNRWA. In Jordan and Gaza, 14,220 and 860 Palestine refugees from Syria respectively have approached UNRWA for assistance. The Agency also received reports of around 6,000 Palestine

refugees in Egypt and smaller numbers in Libya, Turkey and elsewhere. In this research I will try to shed some light on the following questions:

- 1What is the nature of the first Palestinian Nakba and exodus to Syria in 1948?
- 2How did the first generation perceived the concept of Nakba back in 1948?
- 3Did the concept of forced migration changed for the later generations born and raised in Syria? Or did they maintain the same vision like their parents and grandparents?
- 4How Palestinians did perceive their relationship to Syria after the revolution?
- 5And how Syrians did perceive the participation of Palestinians in the uprising? And how did the Syrian perception influence the Palestinians' idea of their existence in Syria?
- 6What is the final outcome for the Syrian uprising upon the Palestinians?

Taking into consideration the number of Palestinian refugees arriving to Sweden, did the Palestinians conclude the need for a final and definite immigration post 2011, after the first and temporary immigration in 1948?

After the partial destruction of the 14 camps of Palestinians in Syria, the siege of their biggest camp, Yarmouk, for over a year, and the death of more than 150 people due to starvation warfare there, in addition to more than 2000 Palestinian victims of the Syrian crisis, Palestinians seem to believe that their 60 years stay in Syria was nothing but a transit and that a final destination is needed today. Why did the Palestinians of Syria prefer Sweden as this destination, especially bearing in mind the extremely difficult conditions of the journey?

In Sweden, Palestinians are granted political refugee statues, and acquiring a nationality takes up to three years in comparison to Syrians above four or five years. Does the new generation of Palestinians consider Sweden "a homeland" unlike the first generation who considered Syria "a transit"?

Abstract 17. *Refugees from Syria as "guests" and aliens in Germany.* **Christoph H. Schwarz** (Phillips-University Marburg)

I would like to outline how questions of space are dealt with in German refugee policy in general, and in how far the case of Syrian and Syrian Palestinian refugees since 2011 is special in this regard. In Germany, asylum seekers in general are often "distributed" to remote areas where they are practically excluded from urban life. They have to apply for a permit if they want to leave their district (this is known as

Residenzpflicht, the duty to principally remain in the administrative district of the town or city you were assigned to by the government). In the last years, refugees have deliberately and publicly resisted these restrictions on various occasions, for example by organizing marches over these “borders” that are normally invisible to German citizens or people with a safe status. In order to hold political protests in the city occupations of squares and public buildings like schools have been an important strategy to fight for refugees’ rights, however, it seems that this strategy of dealing with space has also had its setbacks, as it allowed German institutions to divide refugee protests.

In the case of Syrian refugees, the German administrations issues special programs, that on the one hand allowed Syrian residents in Germany to invite their relatives and friends, and thereby eased the procedure of visa application and flight. However, in some countries of the Federal Republic of Germany this came at the price of an individualization of the costs for the stay: Syrian residents of Germany had to sign an agreement that they cover all expenses of their “guests”, who – unlike regular asylum seekers – were excluded from health insurance (at least until they were granted asylum officially). In this case, the loom of the Syrian refugee crisis seems to have fostered certain renegotiation of the relation of public and private space and accommodation, of individual and public responsibility.

Session 5 Research on Border Zones: new mobilities and transnational networks of humanitarian response

Abstract 18. *Listening to the voices of Syrian women refugees in Jordan: Ethnographies of Displacement and Emplacement.* **Ruba Al Akash** (Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford and Jordan University of Science and **Karen Boswall** (SOAS, U.London)

In the border town of Irbid, in Northern Jordan, five refugee camps host more than quarter of a million refugees, the majority of whom are women. Outside of the camps the population of the towns and villages along the border have doubled since the beginning of the Syrian crisis in 2011 bringing the number of refugees in this border area of Jordan to over half a million. Many of these refugees are from the rural communities of and around Dera’a where the socio-local practices differ to those of their Jordanian neighbours. The harshness and isolation of the life of some Syrian refugee women is not fully realized or adequately documented. This paper is an ethnographic exploration of the real desires and needs of these Syrian refugee women by looking into their life stories and narratives and their extraordinary journey of arriving in new surroundings and adapting to a new daily life. We hope this will contribute to the rethinking of the place of women refugees in Jordanian society and offer new anthropological perspectives on the impact the challenging socio-cultural environments of Irbid – Jordan is having on them and their children. This paper asks if the needs of the refugees can be met in Irbid? What is the role of Jordanian authorities

and international agencies in supporting Syrian women (inside and outside the camps)? Are the voices of the Syrian women are being heard?

Abstract 19. *The role of transnational networks and cross-border circulation in Palestinian migration in situation of conflict.* **Kamel Dorai** (Ifpo-Amman)

The Syrian conflict has profound consequences for the Palestinian population in Syria. Palestinians in Syria were enjoying access to education and the labor market without particular discrimination in Syria before 2011. The conflict began in 2011 rejected the Palestinians in Syria to their stateless status and forced more than 70,000 of them to seek asylum in neighboring countries, like the Palestinians from Iraq following the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003. The aim of this presentation is to analyze the specific treatment of Palestinians from Syria in a context of a broader discussion on the selectivity of migration policies of Middle Eastern states vis-à-vis the Palestinians. This issue raises wider question of the status of Palestinian refugees who seek asylum in a third country. Their status has a strong impact both on how they settle in their host country and their access to mobility and protection in the context of conflicts. The current forced migration of Palestinian refugees, largely overshadowed by the magnitude of the Syrian refugee crisis, raises many questions regarding the status of refugees forced to leave their countries of first asylum to seek refuge in a third country out of any framework for international protection. I will analyse the issue of secondary migration of refugees, which is part of a wider inquiry on the scales of mobility and cross-border circulation. I will therefore question the relationship between forms of long term circulation and forced exodus related to conflict. The construction of transnational and translocal networks in situation of crisis will be developed. This communication will be based on my research on the movement of Palestinians refugees since the mid-1990s as well as an exploratory field study carried out in December 2013 in South Lebanon which show strong relationships between secondary migration and other forms of international migration of Palestinians, as their local effects in Lebanon.

Abstract 20. *Syrian associations in the Turkish-Syrian border region and in Lebanon. Preliminary notes from a comparative perspective.* **Laura Ruiz de Elvira** (Phillips-University Marburg)

How do the local, regional and international contexts influence and reconfigure the field of Syrian associations working in Turkey and in Lebanon? This is the main question that I will try to answer throughout my paper. In order to do so, I will divide the paper in three parts. In the first part, I will highlight the genealogy of these associations thus showing the elements of continuity and rupture with Syria's pre-

revolutionary civil society and social actors. In the second part, I will analyze the differing strategies, *formes d'agir* and narratives of Syrian associations. I will defend the hypothesis that they are strongly shaped by the interaction with the national host authorities, i.e. the Turkish and the Lebanese, as well as with the international humanitarian actors. Finally, in the third part, I will explore more specifically how these associations relate to politics, politics being understood in a broad sense (i.e. looking at concrete practices and discourses, *raisons d'agir*, connections to political parties, capacity and will to participate in the political debate, etc.). Here again, I will show how the local political context plays an important role and how, as a consequence, the religious reference and the charitable dimension of these structures tend to be overshadowed. I will rely on exploratory qualitative fieldwork conducted during May and June 2014 both in the Turkish-Syrian border region and in Lebanon, including more than twenty semi-structured interviews with representatives and employees of Syrian charities, NGOs as well as several participant observation sessions.

Abstract 21. *Humanitarian challenges: ethnographic field research in Lebanon.*
Susanne Schmelter (Göttingen University)

The conflict in Syria and the subsequent flight movements have led to a massive increase of the already high presence of humanitarian actors in the Middle East. Even though humanitarian action is often portrayed as apolitical it is deeply involved in global power relations, local notions of solidarity as well as cultural, religious and conflict-driven motives for aid. A variety of humanitarian actors - state institutions, inter-state organizations, international and national NGOs as well as social and religious networks - provide assistance and exert their influence. While humanitarian relief is obviously their primary concern, the humanitarian sector comes to play a major role in the governance of the affected population. Questions of access to territory, services, infrastructure etc. are negotiated between the different actors in the humanitarian regime.

Based on ethnographic field research in Lebanon, the paper illustrates some of the negotiations taking place between humanitarian actors. While coordination and the use of funds are among the main issues being discussed, the socio-economic situation of the host population, sectarian affiliations, different conceptions of humanitarian action and the transnational character of the Syrian conflict are among the dynamics that play into the often rather technical implementation of "relief mechanisms". These multi-layered and quickly changing dynamics appear to be major challenges when conducting empirical research on the humanitarian responses to displacement. Yet, despite or just because of these dynamics in a conflict-laden setting, the paper crucially pleads for the need to take the struggles over power and influence within the humanitarian field into account when analysing migration decisions and the relations between "guests and

aliens". The paper concludes by reflecting on the limits and scopes of anthropological research in this field.

Abstract 22. *Guests or Refugees? Transformations in Turkish border towns post-2011.* **Şenay Özden** (Hamisch, Syrian Cultural House in Istanbul).

Even though Turkey is a signatory of the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees, Turkey's asylum policy is characterized by the "geographical limitation" with which it implements the Convention. Turkey originally accepted the Convention with both the "time" and the "geographical" limitation. With the adoption of the 1967 Protocol, Turkey lifted the "time", but kept the "geographical" limitation implying that the Turkish state grants refugee status and the right to asylum only to "persons who have become refugees as a result of events occurring in Europe." In line with the "geographical limitation" Syrians who have fled to Turkey are not recognized as "refugees". Initially, Turkish state authorities referred to Syrians as "guests", a category which does not exist in national or international law. With the recent establishment of Directorate General of Migration Management and the newly promulgated Law on Foreigners and International Protection, Syrians in Turkey are now under "Temporary Protection." The terms of this status, however, still remain uncertain.

Based on fieldwork conducted in border cities of Gaziantep, Hatay and Urfa, this paper focuses on the political, social and economic repercussions- both for Syrian and local communities- of such legal limbo that Syrians have been living for the past three and a half years in Turkey. Furthermore, the paper also discusses the role of such legal uncertainty, in addition to pre-existing political and structural reasons, in giving the green light to increasing xenophobic and anti-refugee attacks against Syrians in Turkey.

Despite the fact that there are approximately 2 million Syrians currently residing in Turkey, the Syrian refugee "crisis" has entered the agenda of human rights organizations and civil society actors only very recently as a result of such increasing attacks. The paper will discuss the reasons and implications of the failure of such human rights and civil society actors in organizing networks and actions of support with Syrian refugees at earlier stages of the increasing Syrian presence in Turkey.

Abstract 23. *The Syrian crisis: Transborder flows and the restructuring of humanitarian routes.* **Helène Michalak** (human rights activist and project manager)

Taking into consideration the context of the coordination of humanitarian assistance since 2012 I will demonstrate by using several specific cases like the case of the border city of Gaziantep how the humanitarian network using NGOs-local based in

Syria, NGOs which are diaspora based etc. is articulated in a very innovative way in contrast with other humanitarian crisis (e.g. Darfour). In this case the transborder circulation becomes very important as well as the key role played by locally based Syrian NGOs.

Abstract 24. Selma MASIC (OIM)

Humanitarian assistance for Syrians in Turkey: IOM intervention. Selma Masic (IOM)

More than three years into the armed conflict, Violence has forced nearly half of Syrians from their homes, many of them multiple times. There are now some 7.6 million people displaced inside Syria. In addition, more than 3.2million people have fled the country, with countries in the region and communities hosting refugees bearing an enormous burden. This is the largest number of people displaced from conflict in the world.

In Turkey, Syrian refugees residing outside camps outnumber those in camps, with around 220,000 Syrians residing in 22 camps and over 1.600,000 living in urban areas. Hence, The need for a resilience-based development response to support host communities and countries was developed and articulated by the United Nations Development Group (UNDP in its Position Paper “ A Resilience-based Development Response to the Syrian Crisis” (October 2014).The 3RP builds on the successes of the existing SyriaRegional Response Plan (RRP) model with a new, innovative approach that brings together humanitarian and development interventions for a sustainable resiliencebased response to the Syria crisis in support of refugee hosting countries in the region. In 2015 and 2016, further to the expanded and full-fledged registration system by the Government of Turkey with UNHCR technical support, it is hoped that the Government and the 3RP partners will be able to deliver a more targeted protection and assistance response, particularly for the most vulnerable refugees, such as children and women at risk and persons with specific needs.

Out of camp Syrians (residing predominately in Hatay, Kilis, Sanliurfa, Gaziantep and Istanbul provinces) have received limited ad hoc support thus far. Recently, the Government has opened up to the provision of assistance to out of camp populations, recognizing the challenging conditions they face. A common effort has been shown by the Turkish government since the Law on foreigner and international protection has been adopted in April 2014 followed by the Temporary Protection Regulation released in October this year.

My presentation will be focusing on a brief description of IOM role and activities in Turkey from a humanitarian point of view with a particular lens on Syria Emergency Response based on IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) and finally a way forward which highlights Rescue at sea, humanitarian border management and Disaster Risk Reduction.

▪ **Conference Participant BIOS**
Guests and Aliens:
Reconfiguring New Mobilities after 2011
December 9-10, 2014

IFEA-Istanbul, Turkey

Hafsa Afailal is a PhD student at Rovira i Virgili University (Spain) and visiting researcher at Galatasaray University, Istanbul. Her thesis topic is related to issues of migration and human rights in the Mediterranean region. She is also a technical advisor for many NGOs in Morocco and a Programme coordinator at the Rabat-based NGO « Le Médiateur pour la Démocratie et les Droits de l'Homme ». In this capacity, she serves as coordinator for a project financed and managed by the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) on "Young People for Democracy in Morocco". She has publications in Arabic, French and Spanish.

Ruba Al Akash is a Visiting Fellow in the Refugee Studies Centre - Oxford University. She has been working as a faculty member in the Department of Architecture and Design, and the department of humanities at Jordan University of Science and Technology. Ruba completed her Ph.D. in Social Anthropology at Kent University - Canterbury; she also holds BA in Journalism and Mass Communication, MA in Social Anthropology from Al Yarmouk University-Jordan. As a social anthropologist with an interest in the Middle East, urban studies, and forced migration as well as religion and politics, her research is highly interdisciplinary, particularly at the intersection between social, political and urban anthropology. Ruba's doctoral thesis (University of Kent) explores the manner in which migrants and minority groups constitute selves and persons, relationships, and realities in their daily interactions, with more emphases on local and regional factors. More recently, she has been investigating the impact of forced migration on Syrian refugees inside and outside camps in Jordan. Current research focuses on the Syrian refugees' experiences in Jordan.

Elif Aksaz holds a PhD degree in Sociology from the Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University. She is a postdoctoral researcher at the French Institute for Anatolian Studies (L'Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes - l'IFEA / USR 3131 CNRS - Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes) in Istanbul where she coordinates the research program and network: "*Axe de recherche Migrations et Mobilité (AMiMo)*". She teaches sociology at the Galatasaray University, Istanbul. She is also an associate member of the European Center of Sociology and Political Science at the Sorbonne, CESSP-Paris. Her research themes are as follows: Turkey and Turkish women, immigration, emigration and rural exodus, sociability, neighborhood relations, marriage and family, social honour in the rural milieu and in French *cités HLM*. As a researcher she uses a combination of ethnographic methods and an analysis of the production of administrative data.

Claire Beaugrand joined the Institut Français du Proche Orient (Ifpo) in June 2013 after working as a Senior Gulf analyst at the International Crisis Group (ICG), covering mainly Bahrain. She received her PhD in International Relations from the London School of Economics, for which she studied the emergence and persistence of statelessness in Kuwait. Her research interests mainly lie in issues of nationality, transnational networks, political exiles and social margins as they apply to Kuwait and Bahrain. She is currently investigating the new wave of Bahraini exile, between legacies and innovative trajectories. Together with Vincent Geisser, also at Ifpo, she is one of the core researchers of the European Research Council- funded WFAW project (When Authoritarianism Fails in the Arab World), both coordinate the program on « the role of diasporas, migrants and exiles in the Arab revolutions and transitions period».

Kristen Biehl is a PhD candidate at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology (ISCA) and the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) at the University of Oxford. She is currently a doctoral research fellow of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Cultural Diversity (MPI MMG) in Germany, and visiting researcher at the French Institute for Anatolian Research (IFEA - AMiMo) in Istanbul. Her research interests are migration, diversity and urban studies, with an emphasis on space and place making, housing and home, informality, illegality, governmentality, multiculturalism and cosmopolitanism, Istanbul and Turkey. Kristen's doctoral research examines the ways in which differences are socially and spatially experienced and practiced in contexts of intense migration led diversification. In Istanbul, she has carried out ethnographic fieldwork in a locality known as Kumkapi that has emerged as a key migrant hub over recent decades. Through this case, in her PhD thesis, Kristen is analyzing the intersections between narratives and practices of migration, informality, difference and diversification, and those of space and place.

Karen Boswall is a filmmaker and visual anthropologist currently studying at the School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS), University of London. She lived and worked in Mozambique as a journalist and documentary filmmaker between 1990 and 2007, focussing in particular on issues of conflict driven migration and internal displacement and post conflict reconciliation, resettlement and re-integration. Her award winning films and BBC radio documentaries explore the spiritual, cultural and environmental worlds of individuals, families and communities both during and after the war in Mozambique. Upon returning to the UK in 2007 she taught Visual Anthropology and Film & Television at Kent University (2008-2009) and Canterbury Christ Church University (2010-2014). She began investigating the impact of forced migration on Syrian refugees inside and outside camps in Jordan in November 2013, gathering testimonials in particular from the women and young girls living outside of the camps in the Northern town of Irbid. Her documentary on the private and public world of these women and girls is currently in production.

Lauranne Callet-Ravat is a young expert holding bachelor degree in political science and masters in urban policies from Sciences Po (Institute of Political Studies - IEP) in Paris, France. She specializes in urban and public policies in Europe, Turkey, the Arab world and Asia. She contributed to several consulting missions for public institutions and academic researches on the topic. In addition, Ms. Callet-Ravat is

knowledgeable in the fields of migration, integration and social policy, with practical insight gained through involvement with the International Organization for Migration (IOM Turkey) and several civil society organizations. Also, she is skillful in media reporting as she has been writing for several media in the Philippines, Indonesia and Turkey. Her life and work experience covers France and La Réunion, Indonesia, Philippines and Turkey. Lauranne Callet-Ravat is fluent in French, English and Turkish, with basic command of Spanish and Portuguese, while currently studying Arabic. Since 2014 she works with Middle East Development Network (MDN) as Project Development Associate. She is a French national residing in Istanbul.

Önver A. Cetrez has a specific interest in the area of migration and acculturation, not the least due to his own experience of migration from Turkey to Sweden at the age of 9, thus being both multilingual and multicultural. Currently he is holding a position as deputy director at the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul. He is also a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Theology, Uppsala University, Sweden, specializing in psychology of religion and cultural psychology. In 2005 he finished his doctoral dissertation, focusing on meaning and ritualization among Assyrian migrants in Sweden. Since then he has been teaching at the same faculty, primarily on courses in mixed methods, but also on topics such as migration, health, and the role of religion in violence. During several years he coordinated a master program in Religion, Peace, and Conflict. His publications include articles and edited anthologies, among these on the psychology of religion, on identity, on youth, and on borders of knowledge. He is now leading a research project on migration, acculturation, and health among Iraqi refugees in Sweden, which is about to be finalized. He has recently started a similar project on Syrian refugees, but this time among people who are in a transitional space as refugees in Istanbul, Turkey.

Chiara Denaro is a social and legal assistant with several years of experience in working in the immigration field in Rome. She is PhD student in “Sociology and Applied Social Sciences” at the University of Rome “La Sapienza” and in Sociology at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, holding a degree in “Conception and management of social policies and services”. Her work focuses mainly on forced migration in the Mediterranean Sea, and on evaluation of reception systems implemented in the Southern European countries and migratory policies. She is currently doing research on the reconfiguration of the migratory routes after the conflict in Syria and analysing the coping strategies implemented by Syrian asylum seekers to realize their migration projects.

Kamel Dorai is a researcher at the CNRS (the French National Centre for Scientific Research) currently based at MIGRINTER, University of Poitiers (France) and IFPO (Amman, Jordan). His work focuses mainly on asylum and refugees in the Middle East, new migrations and geopolitical reorganization in the Middle East, and migration and transnational practices within the Palestinian diaspora. He is currently conducting research on Iraqis in Syria as well as on the urbanization process of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. The comparative study between refugees residing in and out of camps as well as the analysis of their migratory experience and spatial practices provide an account of the refugees’ socio-spatial dynamics in exile and of relationships between the camp refugees and their urban environment.

Michelle Dromgold is currently a Masters student at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, where she is a second-year student in the Middle East Studies Program. Her research interests include Turkish and Arab migration to and integration into Western Europe and Kurdish internal migration in Turkey and the European Kurdish diaspora. Ms. Dromgold's master thesis is entitled: "A Culture of Managing Difference: Migration Management of Syrian and Iraqi nationals in Turkey." She has experience as a social worker with Eastern European, Lebanese Palestinian and Turkish migrant children in Germany and has published on "Islamic Religious Instruction in German Public Schools" (2012).

Vincent Geisser is a political scientist and a research fellow at the CNRS based at the Institut français du Proche-Orient (Beirut). He is the president of the Centre d'information et d'études sur les migrations internationales (CIEMI, Paris) and editor of *Migrations Société* review. He is also a member of the editorial committee of *L'Année du Maghreb* (CNRS Editions). He has authored more than fifty articles and papers on a wide range of subjects dealing with ethnicity, Muslim migrations in France and Europe, Islamophobia, the Tunisian political system or authoritarianism in the Arab world. In the framework of the WFAW project, he focuses primarily on "Gender and Politics in the Arab World", "Islamism and democratic transition in Tunisia" and "Diasporas and Arab revolutions". With Moncef Marzouki (current President of the Republic of Tunisia), Vincent Geisser has published a book that anticipated much of the Arab revolutions: *Dictateurs en sursis. La revanche des peuples arabes* (L'Atelier, 2009). His most recent book is *Renaissance arabe. 7 questions sur des révolutions en marche* (L'Atelier, 2011 with Michaël Béchir Ayari).

Giorgios Kosmopoulos is a Project Manager of Amnesty International – Greek Section. Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 3 million supporters, members and activists in over 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights. Its mission is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards. Amnesty International is independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion, and funded mainly by its membership and public donations. *When you don't exist* is Amnesty International's campaign for the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in Europe and at its borders. The objective of the campaign is to shine a light on the human rights violations suffered by migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers and help them to claim their rights, while holding accountable those responsible for violating their rights.

Selma Masic has been working for IOM in Turkey, Istanbul Office as part of the Syrian Emergency Response Team since February 2014. Prior to join IOM, she worked in various fields such as governmental bodies (French Embassy in Ankara and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in Paris) and consulting firms mostly related to international cooperation project implementation. She holds a MA in international relations and political sciences from the University Jean Moulin Lyon III (France). She is currently the focal point for the Syrian Emergency Response in Istanbul. Among her duties, she is responsible for the liaison and coordination with NGOs, local authorities and international organisations involved in the assistance towards Syrian refugees.

Hélène Michalak is currently a project manager for Syrian humanitarian action (French Ministry of Foreign Affairs). She studied in Paris School of International Affairs, PSIA, Science Po Paris and at the Institut Français du Proche Orient in Damascus. Her interests are Middle Eastern and humanitarian affairs, freedom of expression & human rights, forced labour & forced migration.

Andrés Mourenza holds a degree in Journalism from the Barcelona University (UB). Mourenza. He was one of the founding members of the collective *Eurasianhub*. Mourenza has been residing in Turkey for seven years and has also worked as a correspondent for the Spanish news agency EFE, both in Istanbul and Athens. He is currently a correspondent for “El Periódico ” and collaborator for several Latin-American and Spanish media.

Lorenzo Navone holds a PhD in sociology (University of Genova, Italy) with a dissertation about the functioning of the “triangular” border among Egypt, the Gaza Strip and Israel titled: “Walls and Tunnels: Ethnography of the border among Egypt, Israel and the Gaza Strip” (Supervisor: Federico Rahola). He currently collaborates with University of Genova (Laboratorio di Sociologia Visuale), Ngo’s and other research institutes.

Stephanie J. Nawyn is an assistant professor in Sociology at Michigan State University. Her research and teaching areas of expertise are in gender and migration, with a focus on forced migration and the ways that structural inequalities inhibit incorporation. She has begun a new study of human trafficking and migrant labor exploitation in Turkey. She has published numerous articles in journals such as American Journal of Public Health, Gender & Society, Feminist Formations, and American Behavioral Scientist. She also co-edited a book with Steven J. Gold, The Routledge International Handbook of Migration Studies, published in 2013.

Imanol Ortega holds a degree in Political Science and Public Administration from the Complutense University of Madrid (2009). He later completed a postgraduate studies at the Granada University in Arabic and Hebrew Culture: Past and Present (2011). Currently, he is pursuing the Master of IUGM on the Challenges of Peace, Security and Defense (UNED), and he is completing his PhD dissertation based on the ideology and political project of the AKP in Turkey.

Souad Osseiran is currently completing her PhD in Anthropology Goldsmiths, University of London. She has undertaken fieldwork with Syrian migrants living in Istanbul. Her thesis is concerned with mobility, temporality, and hospitality.

Şenay Özden is one of the founding members of Hamisch, Syrian Cultural House in Istanbul. Founded by activists, writers and researchers from Syria and Turkey, Hamisch aims to establish grassroots networks among Syrian and local communities in Turkey. Through research and publications, Hamisch also aims to foster a deeper and more multifaceted understanding of the Syrian society and its political and social dynamics. With a background in anthropology and refugee studies, Özden has previously carried out research on Palestinian refugees in Syria. Her current research is on Syrian and Palestinian refugees in Turkey residing in the border cities of Gaziantep, Urfa and Hatay. Her research focuses on the different processes of re-defining resistance and Syrian identity among camp and non-camp refugees. Özden’s research also investigates the

impact of humanitarian aid agencies and civil society organizations in de-politicising the Syrian refugee issue.

Vanja Pantic Oflazoğlu is a research consultant with Michigan State University, working in Istanbul, Turkey on a study of trafficking and migrant labor exploitation. She holds a BA in International Relations and Political Science from Boston University. She has worked in Bosnia, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States on various peace-building, reconciliation and human rights projects. Vanja worked with a Geneva-based organization reporting on the United Nations Human Rights Council, covered war-criminal Ratko Mladic's court plea to the International Criminal Tribunal for a Sarajevo-based NGO and has spent a year as a Fulbright Scholar researching social policies on rural-to-urban women's migration in Turkey.

Özhan Önder holds a PhD in Sociology. Instructor on Social Policies at Middle East Technical University and Marmara University. Audio-visual producer, performer. Member of VideA - Video Audio Visual Research Association and GDA - Migrant Solidarity Network and founder board member of Hamisch - Syrian Cultural House Association in Istanbul.

Jean-François Pérouse is the director of the French Institute for Anatolian Studies (Istanbul) since September 2012. He teaches at the University Jean Jaurès (Toulouse, France). He has written in various academic journals and reviews on the multiple facets of the Istanbul's urban development, especially on urban transformation and urban rehabilitation (see for example EJTS, European Journal of Turkish Studies, www.ejts.org). Among other interests related to Turkey and the Middle East he is lately researching on Turkish political changes, on the Turkish border town of Urfa and on Kurdish migration. His work is written in Turkish, French and English.

Barbara Pusch studied Sociology, Turkology, Philosophy and Ethnology at the University of Vienna from 1986 to 1991. In 1996 she completed her PhD thesis on the Green movement in Turkey. The Austrian *Fonds zur Förderung wissenschaftlicher Forschung* financed her post-doctoral project on Muslim women in Turkey. From 1998 to 2000 she participated in various international research projects in Turkey and Germany. From 2000 to 2001 she taught at the Technical University of Istanbul. From 2001 to 2009 she served as Research Assistant to the Director at the Orient-Institut Istanbul and took part in the project "Cultural Capital during Migration". Afterwards she worked for five years as research associate at the Orient-Institut Istanbul and was lecturing at the University of Vienna and the Bahçeşehir University (Istanbul). Since November 2014 she is a Mercator-IPC fellow at Sabanci University and the Orient-Institut Istanbul. Her work focuses on various aspects of international migration to Turkey and the German-Turkish transnational space. Her Mercator-IPC Fellowship focuses on the topic "Dual citizenship and other modes of legal membership in the transnational German-Turkish space" (http://ipc.sabanciuniv.edu/en/about_fellowship/).

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