

**14:00- 15:30 Exiled Scholars, Knowledge in Exile**

**Pascale Roure** (Bergische Universität Wuppertal) *Erkenntnistheorie und Philosophiegeschichte im türkischen Exil. Ernst von Asters Wirkung an der Universität Istanbul*

**Catherine Gousseff** (EHESS, Paris) *The Reception of Russian Exile Academics in Prague, 1920-1939*

Discussant: **Jakob Vogel** (Centre Marc Bloch)

**15:30- 16:00 Coffee Break**

**16:00-18:00 Literature in Exile**

**Burcu Alkan** (Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen) *The Complex Profundity of the Soul in Exile: Zabel Yesayan's My Soul in Exile*

**Ali Bolcakan** (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) *Leaving Home for the Homeland: Exile Literature in Greece and Turkey*

**Hilmi Tezgör** (Universität Duisburg-Essen) *"Gedanken über die Dauer des Exils": Svendborg Poems of Bertolt Brecht*

Discussant: **Kader Konuk** (Universität Duisburg-Essen)

**Workshop Venue:**

Freie Universität Berlin  
Friedrich-Meinecke Institut  
Koserstraße 20, 14195 Berlin  
Room A. 127

**Keynote Venue:**

Centre Marc Bloch  
Friedrichstraße 191, 10117 Berlin  
Georg-Simmel Room (3rd Floor)

**In cooperation with:**



Photo: The Baggage Smashers. The squad of Russian and Turkish freight handlers at the American Red Cross warehouse on the island of Proti, near Constantinople, May 1920.

Courtesy of the American National Red Cross photograph collection (Library of Congress), LC-A6197- RC-1588 [P&P].

# Post-WWI Exiles in Transregional Context

## Microglobal and Biographical Perspectives



26-27 September 2019

**Venues:**

Freie Universität Berlin / Centre Marc Bloch

**Organizer:**

**Nazan Maksudyan** (Freie Universität Berlin / Centre Marc Bloch)

## Abstract

This workshop aims to explore the population movements during and after WWI from within the conceptual framework of exile. Even though legal and political terminologies such as “displacement”, “deportation”, “forced migration”, or “population exchange” have predominated the scholarship on the issue, they are all top-down interpretations of history, written from the perspective of states and “nations” and they fail to capture the intricacies in the personal and micro level. From the other side of the coin, the scholarship on exile hardly ever focuses on World War I, even though the war and the treaties concluded after it created about 9 million exiles (usually referred to as “displaced persons”, “refugees”, or “stateless persons” in the literature). This workshop intends to situate exile within WWI historiography and thus push back the chronology of exile studies from the 1930s to the 1910s and 20s. The papers in their entirety also intend to challenge the intellectual bias that is inherent to the study of exile and instead focus on social conditions of production not only of scientific but also of “mundane” knowledge. In that respect, the workshop is more interested in the social history of the period from the perspective of the exiles themselves, rather than state-centered legal schemes, population politics, and interwar regimes of social engineering. The meeting stresses the necessity of a transregional perspective and a transdisciplinary approach, bringing together scholars from the disciplines of history, political science, philosophy, ethnomusicology, and literature, focusing on the Middle East, eastern, central and south-eastern Europe, and North America.

## Program and Time Schedule

### Thursday, 26 September 2019

**10:00 Welcome & Introductory remarks**  
Nazan Maksudyan

**10:30 - 12:30 Exploitation of Social Capital: The Useful Exiles**

**Catherine Brégianni** (Academy of Athens), *Exiles Experienced and Narrated: Refugees' Rural Establishment and Related Technical Know-how in the 1920s Greece*

**Pinar Üre** (TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara), *Conditional Welcome: Russian Exiles as a Source of Skilled Labor in Interwar Turkey*

Discussant: **Oliver Janz** (Freie Universität Berlin)

**12:30 - 14:00 Lunch Break**

**14:00 - 15:30 Sounds of Exile**

**Sylvia A. Alajaji** (Franklin & Marshall College, Pennsylvania), *Music in the Exilic Condition and the Possibility of Sonic Armenia*

**Peter McMurray** (University of Cambridge), *The Poetics of Exile-at-Home: Orality in Post-Ottoman Yugoslavia*

Discussant: **Hilmi Tezgör** (Universität Duisburg-Essen)

**18:00 - 20:00 Keynote Lecture**  
**Perpetual Exodus: The Genocide and Multiple Exiles of Armenians**

**Talin Suciyan** (LMU, München)  
Moderator: **Nazan Maksudyan**  
(Venue: Centre Marc Bloch, Friedrichstr. 191)

### Friday, 27 September 2019

**10:30 - 12:30 Intellectuals in Exile and Imagining the Nation**

**Seda Altuğ** (Oxford University), *Surviving and Reviving in Exile: Armenian and Arab Intellectuals' Encounters in Syria and Lebanon, 1921- 1946*

**Nicole Immig** (Bogazici University, Istanbul), *Between Exile and Homecoming: Visual Representations of Home and Migration in Greek Popular Illustrated Journals after WWI*

**Tomas Balkelis** (Lithuanian Institute of History, Vilnius), *Making the Nation in Exile: Lithuanian Refugees in Russia, 1915-20*

Discussant: **Leyla Dakhli** (Centre Marc Bloch)

**12:30 - 14:00 Lunch Break**