



Annual Theme: Rethinking Urban-Rural Relations in an Age of Migration, Displacement, Environmental Transformations and Fringe Urbanization

**Urban Studies Seminar
2016 - 2017**

**Chaired by Ulrike Freitag, Nora Lafi and Katharina Lange
Monday, 24 April 2017, 5 pm**

Between Neighbourliness and Animosity: Emergence of New Polities during Syrian Migration to Turkish Cities

Lecture by **Hilal Alkan** (EUME/ZMO)

**Twice a month,
Mondays 5 pm - 7 pm**

Venue:

Conference Hall
Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient
Kirchweg 33
14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

Please register
at the following address:
Dr. Nora Lafi
nora.lafi@zmo.de
Phone: (+49) (0) 30 80307- 0

Turkey is now home to nearly three million Syrians who fled the war. More than ninety percent of these migrants reside in towns or cities and have to find their own means of livelihood in contrast to those living in camps. Their resettlement often involves contact with local groups, which provide different kinds of assistance to newcomers.

This talk will explore the construction of new moral polities through these grassroots solidaristic networks, which aim to improve the conditions of Syrian migrants in Turkey. These networks are mostly invisible to the public, as they are not initiated by the state or financed by formal funding schemes. They are autonomous neighbourhood initiatives without professional employees or formal titles. However, the encounters that take place around these initiatives do form new collectives, new sets of relations between Syrians and Turks, and a new sense of "common good" that is exclusionary to some other Syrian and Turkish nationals alike. The ethnographic research, this talk is based on, illustrates that the formation of these collectives, in quite complex ways, feed on the clashes between different polities already existing in the Turkish and Syrian societies.

Hilal Alkan is a EUME Fellow at Forum Transregionale Studien and is based at ZMO. She has been working on welfare provision, social citizenship and charitable initiatives in Turkey. Her current research project is titled "The Dyad of Care and Discipline: Aiding Syrian Migrants in Turkey and Germany".