Call for Papers
Panel series on the nexus of migration, youth, and knowledge
2018 Annual Conference of the German Studies Association
Susanne Fabricius

Ort: Pittsburgh
Veranstalter: Andrea Westermann (GHI West, Berkeley), Onur Erdur (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Datum: 27.-30. September 2018
Bewerbungsschluss: 15.12.2017
URL: http://www.ghi-dc.org

The German Historical Institute Washington DC is organizing a panel series on the nexus of migration, youth, and knowledge for the 2018 Annual Conference of the German Studies Association, to be held September 27-30, 2018 in Pittsburgh.

We invite proposals for presentations that address the intersection of migration, youth, and knowledge in any time period. While our focus is on historical research, we also encourage proposals from scholars within the social sciences, cultural and literary studies, or ethnography. We are particularly interested in the knowledge young people on the move – be it forced or deliberate displacement – had about past and present state politics; we are interested in their economic rationalities and assessments and also invite explorations of their creation and uses of media outlets, activist groups, or consumer and pop culture to voice and promote concerns.

Possible topics include but are not restricted to:

1. When states are wasting their young generation: What do young migrants in or from German-speaking parts of Europe know of (national and international) governmental actions and failures; and of (world) market opportunities and failures?
2. Consequences and calculations: What are young people’s emotional and political reactions vis-à-vis perceived discriminating governmental action taken by either their home states or host countries? How do they gauge their economic and educational chances and scopes of action against the financial, emotional, maybe life-threatening costs of migration? Is this assessment made individually; to what extent are there family decisions and household or generational calculations involved?
3. “Scopes of action” as an own field of knowledge: How do migrant youth assess, explore, and expand their individual scopes of action; which experiences do they mobilize and what strategies do they deploy?
4. Time scales: How do young migrants experience the temporalities of transit, new beginnings, refugee camps, or asylum procedures? How do they reschedule life plans and think about the past or possible futures (for a contemporary experience, see for instance, the documentary Raving Iran of 2016 whose protagonists ultimately are stranded in an accommodation for asylum seekers in Grisons, Switzerland, http://www.ravingiran.com)? May we analyze these temporal experiences from a history of knowledge perspective and what do we gain in doing so?

Please send a brief CV and a proposal of no more than 300 words by December 15, 2017, to Susanne Fabricius (fabricius@ghi-dc.org).

Proposals for complete panels are preferred and should include 3 papers, a moderator, and a commentator (if necessary, we can help find moderators and commentators). The panel series will be organized and coordinated by Andrea Westermann/GHI West, Berkeley and Onur Erdur/Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin).

The GHI will provide lump sum travel grants to successful applicants from Europe (1,400 Euro per participant) and North America (up to USD 750).

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