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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Displacement, Extinction and Genocide of the Pontic-Greeks. 1916-1923.

Berlin, February 25 & 26, 2016.

Over the last years, the genocide committed against the Armenians has received more and more scientific and popular attention. However, as recent international research has emphasized, the Armenian genocide by the Young-Turkish government has to be understood as only one chapter of an overall campaign of the Young-Turkish and Kemalist government against the non-Muslim (and later non-Turkish) communities. Besides the Armenians, particularly Greek communities in Asia Minor were affected most in terms of forced migration and atrocities, committed in the interests of specific Young-Turkish and Kemalist visions of the Ottoman space between 1913 and 1923. In this regard, the governmental campaign reached its violent climax in the genocide of the Greek communities in the Pontic area at the shores of the Black Sea. Albeit the killing of the Pontic Greek has become increasingly prominent in Anglo-American historical research, it still continues to be a desideratum within the European field of research.

The aim of the upcoming conference is thus both to raise awareness about what happened to the Pontic-Greek community during the Young-Turkish and Kemalist regimen and to promote the international and interdisciplinary collaboration within this field of research. As the displacement and extinction of the Pontic-Greek community has to be contextualized as part of the complex socio-political relations between Muslim/Turkish hegemony and non-Muslim/non-Turkish communities, the conference intends to bring together the expert knowledge of international scholars working within the fields of the late Ottoman, Young-Turkish and Kemalist period, Greco-Turkish relations and the Greek diaspora.

The conference will be held in German and English with simultaneous interpretation.

Guests are very welcome. Please register with pontic@rub.de. There is no registration fee.

For further information, please visit: www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/pontic



HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN



PROGRAM
Thursday, 25 February 2016

10.00-10.30 Christian Voß (Berlin) / Mihran Dabag (Bochum): Welcome and Opening

10.30-11.00 Mihran Dabag (Bochum): *Keynote Speech*

11.00-12.45 **Panel I: Setting the Stage: War and Violence in Late Ottoman History.**

Chair: Kristin Platt (Bochum)

Thea Halo (New York, NY):

From the Balkans to Anatolia: Pogroms to Genocide.

Anush Hovhannisyan (Yerevan):

Prelude to Genocide. The Expulsion of the Aegean Greek Population in 1914.

12.45-14.15 *Lunch Break*

14.15-16.00 **Panel II: Demographic Policy and Genocidal Intent in Late Ottoman Empire.**

Chair: Rolf Hosfeld (Potsdam)

Theodosios Kyriakidis (Rome):

The Assimilation through the Demographic Policy, the Boycott and Confiscation of Greek Properties in Pontus.

Vasilios Meichanetsidis (Thessaloniki):

On the Genocidal Intent against the Greeks of the Ottoman Empire.

16.00-16.30 *Coffee Break*

16.30-18.15 **Panel III: The Pontic Case I: Genocidal Practices in Local Perspectives.**

Chair: Michael Schwartz (Berlin)

Tessa Hofmann (Berlin):

Yalova/Nicomedia 1920/1921. Massacres and Inter-Ethnic Conflict in a Failing State.

Zeynep Turkyilmaz (Hanover, NH):

A Story of Struggle for Survival. Crypto-Christians of Pontos. From Resistance to Expulsion.

18.30 **Public Lecture and Reception**

Cem Özdemir (Member of Parliament about Genocide, Memory Culture und Politics)

Afterwards: Reception with buffet is held

Friday, 26 February 2016

10.00-12.30 Panel IV: The Pontic Case II: The Mass Atrocities in Eyewitness Reports.

Chair: Micha Brumlik (Berlin)

Francesco Pongiluppi (Rome):

Catholics of Pontos. Cirillo Giovanni Zohrabian's Memories on the Black Sea Tragedy.

Robert Shenk (New Orleans, LA):

The 1921 Pontus Depredations in American Naval War Diaries.

Konstantinos Fotiadis (Florina):

Der Genozid an den Pontosgriechen in Kleinasien im Licht deutscher Quellen insbesondere von Dokumenten des deutschen und österreichischen Außenministeriums.

12.30-13.30 Lunch Break

13.30-15.15 Panel V: Framework: The Context of International Order and Geopolitics.

Chair: Christian Voß (Berlin)

Antonis Klapsis (Patras):

The Megali Idea and the Pontic Question. 1919-1922.

Arno Barth (Essen):

»To eliminate those elements of disturbance« - Das Verhältnis von griechisch-türkischem Bevölkerungsaustausch und internationaler Ordnung.

15.15-15.30 Coffee Break

15.30-17.15 Panel VI: Representation and Reconstruction: History, Law and Literature.

Chair: Medardus Brehl (Bochum)

Monika Albrecht (Vechta):

Representations of the Displacement and Extinction of the Pontic Greeks.

Miltiadis Sarigiannidis (Thessaloniki):

International Law against the Politics of Evil. The Case of Genocide of Pontic Greeks 1915-1923

17.15 Résumé & Closing Discussion

Kristin Platt (Bochum)
