



Zentrum für interdisziplinäre
Frauen- und Geschlechterforschung
CvO Universität Oldenburg



CENTER FOR MIGRATION
EDUCATION AND
CULTURAL STUDIES



CARL
VON
OSSIEZKY
universität

LINKING SCHOLARSHIP AND ACTIVISM IN MIGRATION SOCIETIES: *CRITICAL INQUIRIES*

13–15
DECEMBER
2018

[#ActiveAcademia](#)

INTRODUCTION

Dear participants and attendees,

In recent days, the public engagement with migration is shaped by nationalist discourses which are frequently combined with a populist rhetoric and gender-based justifications, calling for increased securitisation and the closure of international borders. The pervasive politicisation of migration issues also finds its way into the current migration research agenda. Being involved as teachers, researchers and students but also as practitioners in the field of Migration Studies, we are confronted with the question: how to actively participate in the social, cultural and political controversies in migration societies?

This conference results from a need to reflect on the role of scholarly work beyond the often exclusive environment of the academy and explores conceptualisations of activist scholarship. Together we will pose a number of foundational questions in migration studies: How do scholars and students engage with the dynamics in the migration societies they study as well as live in? How do academics and professionals position themselves? Should migration scholarship align with activism? Does activism benefit from being grounded in scholarship? Who is producing knowledge about migration and society and how is it used? The conference will address these and other questions, frictions, and gaps connected to different forms and understandings of action and activism, social movements and social justice.

We welcome you to engage in the discussions and workshops and share your opinions and perspectives.

- The EMMIR team





UNIVERSITY OF OLDENBURG CAMPUS

WIFI

Wifi: EMMIR2018
Passcode: econ2018
Eduroam available

TWITTER

@StudyEMMIR
#ActiveAcademia
Facebook.com/studyEMMIR

BUILDINGS & ROOMS

Bibliothek:

Bibliothekssaal (BIS Saal)

Building A1:

A1 0-005, A1 0-007 (ground floor)

Building A6:

A6 2-212 (second floor)

CONTACT

The EMMIR conference office on Friday and Saturday is located in the BIS-Saal.

In case of emergencies please call the EMMIR office:

+49(0)441-798 4157

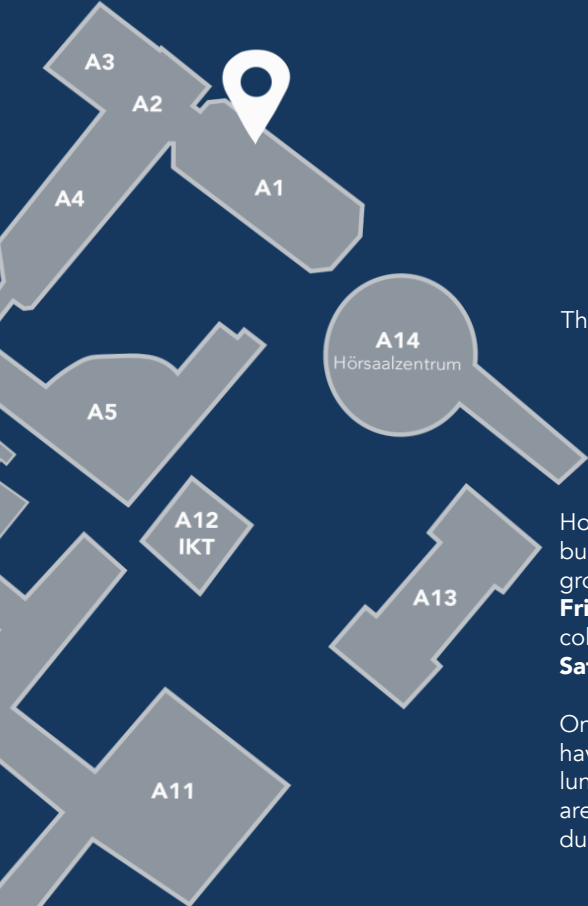
FOOD

Hot and cold food is sold in the Mensa building, next to the Bibliothek, on the ground floor and first floor.

Friday: hot food upstairs 12:45-14:00 and cold food downstairs 8:00-16:00.

Saturday: cold food downstairs 11:00-14:30.

On Saturday there will be the possibility to have Paella (meat and vegetarian/vegan) for lunch at the BIS-Saal. Vouchers for paella are 3,-€ and can be purchased on Thursday during registration.



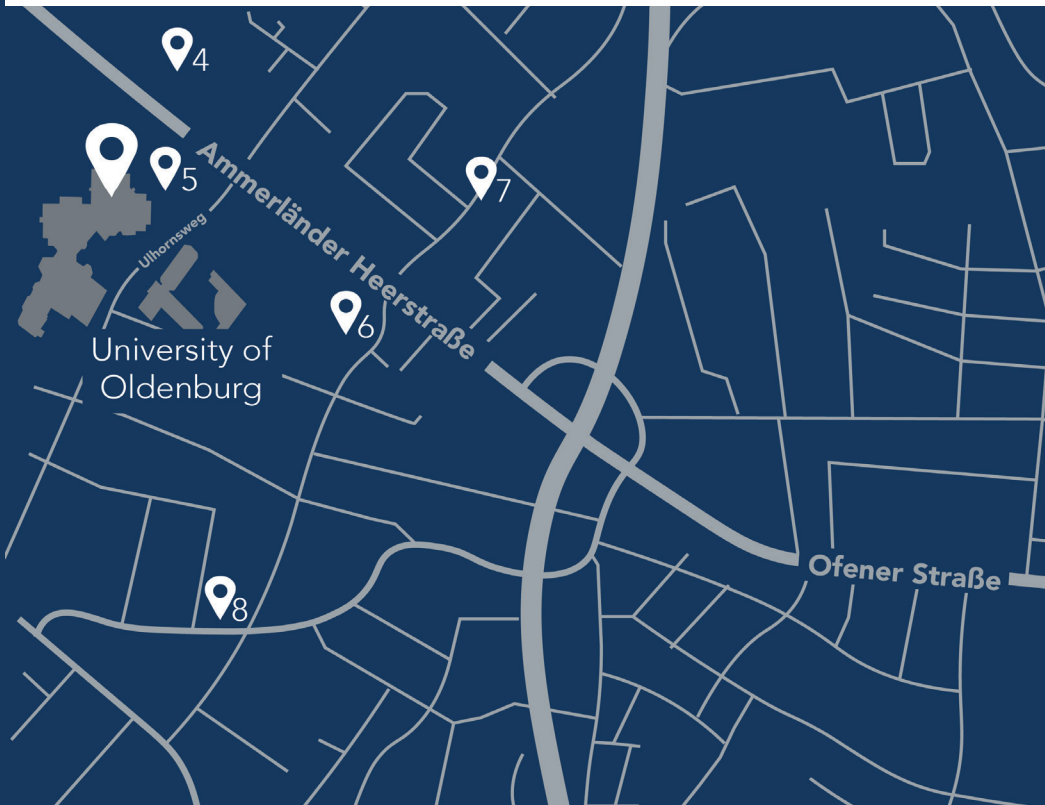
WELCOME TO OLDENBURG

IMPORTANT PLACES:

1. Kulturzentrum PFL (Peterstraße 3)
2. Hotel Antares (Staugraben 8)
3. Hotel Spreng (Heiligengeiststraße 15-16)

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK:

4. Combi: large supermarket (Ammerländer Heerstraße)
5. Biomarkt: 'health-foods' market, organic foods, more expensive (Uhlhornsweg 99)
6. Cedar's: doner kebab and falafel in Oldenburg (Ammerländer Heerstraße 61)
7. Beschtel: burgers and beer (Schützenweg 22)
8. Taj Mahal: upscale Indian restaurant (Bloherfelder Str. 66)
9. Royals&Rice: upscale Vietnamese 'street-food', sharing dishes (Heiligengeistwall 12)
10. Heimathaven: coffee and breakfast, no wifi (Burgstraße 24)
11. Lambertimarkt: traditional Christmas market in the city centre (Rathaus Markt)
12. Patio: tapas, dinner, drinks, good for large groups (Bahnhofstraße 11)



THINGS TO KNOW:

Adaptors: Germany uses the standard European adaptor with two prongs.

Sundays: In Germany, most shops, restaurants, and stores are closed on Sundays.

Money: Most places in Oldenburg take card, but it may be useful to have cash as well.

TRANSPORTATION:

To get to campus, take busses 306, 310, and 324 to the "Ulhornsweg - Ammerländer Heerstraße" stop. Single tickets can be bought from the bus driver with cash only. Two-day bus passes can be bought at ticketing machines at the main train station and at the "Lappan" stop, using card or cash. GoogleMaps usually has updated bus information.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

Emergency: In case of emergency, please call

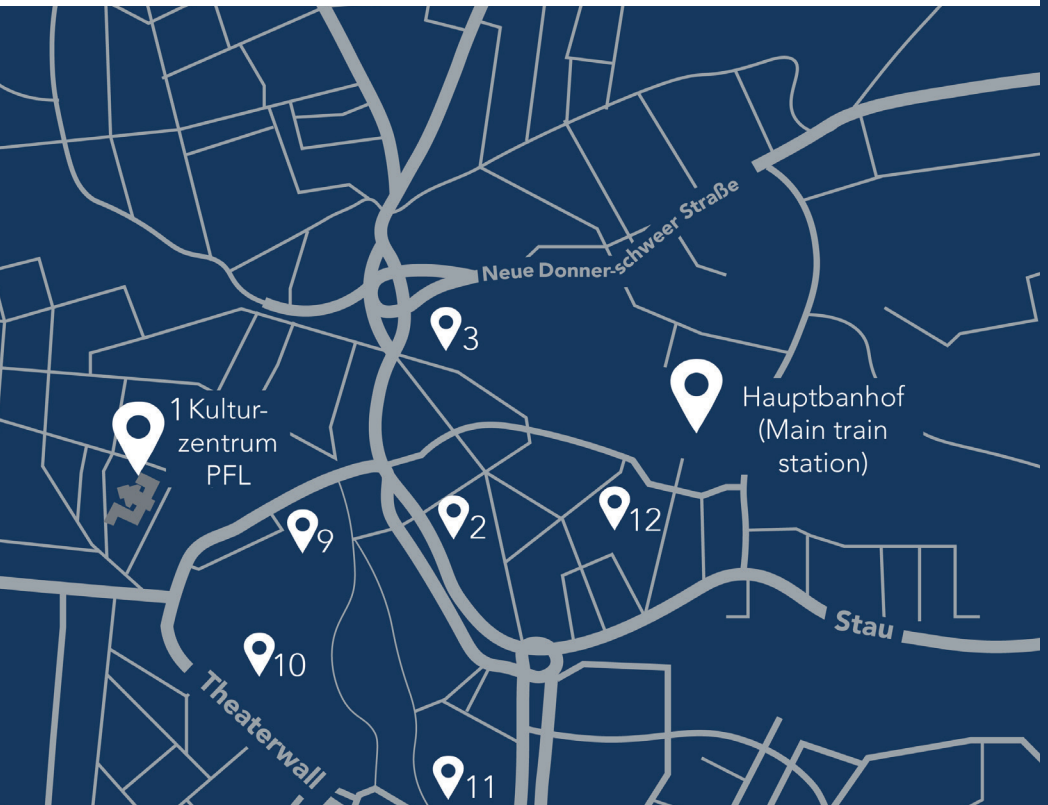
Police: **110**

Fire service: **112**

Ambulance: **112**

Poisoning (Poisoning Information Centre in Göttingen): **0551 / 19 240**

Emergency and Urgent Medical Care (Ärztlicher Notdienst): **116 117**



SCHEDULE

THURSDAY:
15:00-20:00

FRIDAY:
09:00-20:00

SATURDAY:
10:00-16:00

DAY ONE: THURSDAY 13TH DECEMBER

Location: Kulturzentrum PFL

- 15:00 **Registration**
Coffee and tea
- 16:30 **OPENING AND INTRODUCTION**
Welcome by EMMIR representatives
Lydia Potts and **Daniela Arias Vargas**
- Science in the times of populism*
Salim Murad (University of South Bohemia, České Budějovice, Czech Republic)
- 17:00 **OPENING KEYNOTE**
The Structures of Knowledge of Westernized Universities, Global Structures of Power and Migration
Ramon Grosfoguel (University of California, Berkeley, USA)
Moderator: **Salim Murad**
- 18:30 **Reception**
Drinks and snacks

DAY TWO: FRIDAY 14TH DECEMBER

Location: University of Oldenburg

9:00

(BIS Saal)

KEYNOTE

Scholar Activism between and across the Mexico-US border

Alexandra Delano (The New School, New York, USA)

Moderator: Daniela Arias Vargas

10:00

Parallel Panels - slot one

10:00-13:00

(BIS Saal)

PANEL 1: *Gender on/under Fire: Multi-sited Enquiries in the US and India*

Moderator: Katharina Hoffmann

In cooperation with Centre for Interdisciplinary Women and Gender Studies (ZFG)

"If you are not Outraged, You're Not Paying Attention": How the Politics of Masculinization and National Security Defeated the Communist Promise of Social and Gender Justice in Tripura

Purna Banerjee (Presidency University, India)

Tame a Tongue, Detain a Toddler: Literacy Oppugnants and Migrant Policies at the Mexico/U.S. Border

Brian Fehler (Texas Woman's University, USA)

'Muted Voices, Gendered Memories': Exploring the Boundaries of Academia and Activism through the Sylhet Partition

Apala Kundu (Independent researcher, India)

From the Threshold of a Religious Exodus: Unveiling Unveiling the Scheme to Divide a Nation's People.

Preeshita Biswas (Presidency University, India)

Crafting Out Loud: The Need for Intersectional Craftivism

Kathleen Irwin (Texas Woman's University, USA)

10:00-12:00
(A6-2-212)

PANEL 2: Enquiries and Action in African Migration Societies

Moderator: Youssef Zeineddine

Partnership between Academia and Civil Society in Migration Activism

Susan Toolit Aloba (Uganda Management Institute)

Academic Activism in Action: The fight for the right of Marginalized Africans through Inclusive Education: A case study from Botswana

Macdelyn Mosalagae (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)

Between Academic Research and Activism: Identity and Multiculturalism in Sudan

Natalina Yacoub Abbo (Ahfad University for Women, Sudan)

10:00-12:30
(A01-0-005)

PANEL 3: Asylum in Europe? Multi-sited Contestations

Moderator: Sanjana Rastogi

The Ethos of Research in Struggles for Refugee Rights Reflections on the 2017 Occupations of Sappho Square and SYRIZA Offices in Lesbos, Greece

Salim A. Nabi (York University, Canada)

Action-oriented research with “activists” on asylum seekers’ deportability in Finland

Eveliina Lyytinen (Migration Institute of Finland)

Participatory Action Research as an Early Career Researcher: Reflections on Knowledge-Production and Freedom of Movement

Valerie Vitzthum (University of Vienna, Austria)

Alternative Asylum and Refugee Narratives: Deconstructing the Role of NGO’s and Civil Society within an Evolving European Public Sphere

Muhamed Amin (University of Ottawa, Canada)

(continued)

Representing the Other: A Case for a Collaborative Approach between Law and Anthropology in Rethinking the Common European Asylum System: The Example of Italy
Jovana Bogičević (International University College of Turin, Italy)

13:00 **Lunch Break**

14:30
(BIS Saal)

KEYNOTE

Migration Research and the Terms of Engagement: Reflections on Knowledge, Power and Resistance

Aziz Choudry (McGill University, Canada)
Moderator: *Alejandro Salamanca*

15:30
(BIS Saal)

FILM SCREENING: *Phansi: Down with Labour Brokers (2018)*

by Tariq Richards

A film about the struggle of labour broker workers to become permanent in South Africa, and the work of the Casual Workers Advice Office in Johannesburg to support precarious workers to organize themselves (<http://www.cwao.org.za/about.asp>)

16:15 **Coffee/tea break at BIS Saal**

16:45 **Parallel Panels and Workshops - slot two**

16:45-18:45
(A01-0-007)

WORKSHOP: *Migration Studies and Activist Research Practice*

Aziz Choudry (McGill University, Canada) and **Erika Massoud** (EMMIR)

16:45-18:45
(A01-0-005)

WORKSHOP: *The Balkanroute: Past, Present, and Future*

Jure Gombač (University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia) and **Barbara Bezneč** (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia)

16:45-18:45
(BIS Saal)

PANEL 4: Participatory Research and Genders

Moderator: Tommaso Ippoliti

Digital Citizenship and Migrant Activism: Online Alterity and Documentation of Migrant Experience

Baldeep Grewal (University of Würzburg, Germany)

For whose Benefit? Critical Reflections on Participatory Research with LGBTQ+ Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers Living in South Africa

John Marnell (African Centre for Migration and Society, South Africa)

Violence in love: The Story of Three Migrant Women and a Queer Ethnic Native

Alois S. Baleni (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)

The Echo of the 'Knowing Subject': Geopolitics, Methodologies and Transgender Asylum Seekers

B Camminga (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)

19:30
(BIS Saal)

BOOK PRESENTATION

Mengedegna - The Wayfarers

Yordanos Seifu (EMMIR, Ethiopia)

Presented by Joy Sithole

20:30

End of day two

DAY THREE: SATURDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Location: University of Oldenburg

10:00

(BIS Saal)

KEYNOTE

Working through Double-Binds: Refractions on Research with Sex Workers in India

Debolina Dutta (University of Melbourne, Australia)

Moderator: Maria Consuelo Flores Rojas

11:00

Coffee/tea break at BIS Saal

11:30

Parallel Panels - slot three

11:30-13:30

(BIS Saal)

PANEL 5: Forced Migration: A South Asian Perspective

Moderator: Alejandro Salamanca

Political Subjectivity in Forced Migration Studies in the Postcolonial World

Ranabir Samaddar (Calcutta Research Group, India)

Development Induced Displacement in Eastern India: Bengal a Game Changer

Paula Banerjee (The Sanskrit College and University, India)

Trafficking and Migration: Questions of Intermediation

Samita Sen (University of Cambridge, UK)

11:30-13:30

(A07-0-007)

PANEL 6: Media and Art-based Activism in Migration Societies

Moderator: Duduzile Ndlovu

When migration invades the exhibition space: An analysis of the Olafur Eliasson Artistic workshop at the 57th Venice Biennale

Amarildo Ajasse (Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy)

We See You - Storytelling as Activism for Better Asylum Politics in Finland

Linda Bäckman (Åbo Akademi University, Finland), **Ahmad Hosseini**, and **Camilla Marucco** (University of Turku, Finland)

Implications, explorations and sustainability in Applied Theatre with Unaccompanied Minor Asylum Seekers

Cecelia Price Jabarine-Marshall (EMMIR, USA)

Diversity by tokenistic inclusion of refugee stories? Towards a meaningful participation of refugees in media

Jean Ngendahimana (EMMIR, Rwanda)

13:30-14:30
(BIS Saal)

Lunch break

Paella lunch. A lunch voucher can be purchased for 3,-€ on Thursday (PFL).

14:00-16:00

Closing Session

EMMIR Conference Team

Christine Steinseifer-Jeske
Daniela Arias Vargas

Design by

Gabriella Mikiewicz
Elisabeth Roura



**EUROPEAN MASTER IN
MIGRATION AND INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS**

Ammerländer Heerstr. 114-118
26111 Oldenburg, Germany
emmir.org