

CONGRESS

Asylum and Migration

How do we achieve integration?

Friday, 24 June 2016 - Saturday, 25 June 2016
Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Schumannstr. 8, Berlin-Mitte

Forced migration, immigration and integration are currently some of the most intensively debated political issues in Germany and in many areas of Europe. These issues have divided European societies along lines of advocates and opponents of tolerant immigration policies. The continuing increase in the number of refugees adds impetus to this controversial debate. Some one million people came to Germany as refugees last year. The situation was met with an impressive welcoming culture on one hand and arson attacks on refugee homes on the other. At the same time, the number of immigrants reached a new record last year: 800,000 people arrived in Germany to find work, study or join family members. A significantly high percentage (75%) of this group came from European countries. Demographic change and its effects on the labour market and social welfare systems will increase the need to manage immigration in the near future. To integrate hundreds of thousands of migrants presents the political, economic, and societal spheres with massive challenges. The key to a society that achieves successful immigration is an integration policy geared towards the advancement of social cohesion.

“How do we achieve integration?” is the title of this year’s problem-area conference at the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung. Among the central topics for the conference are:

- What opportunities does migration offer our society against the backdrop of demographic change?
 - What challenges and conflicts are linked to growing migration and the admission of refugees?
 - How can local authorities manage to integrate immigrants and refugees quickly and sustainably?
 - What politics and resources are required? Do we need an immigration law? How can we interlock refugee politics and labour migration?
 - How can fear and insecurity be successfully allayed?
- How can refugees and immigrants be supported in their successful participation of education, work and politics?

Programme

24th June 2016

14.30 Registration

15.00 Poetry & Intervention

Sarah Gaad, Temye Tesfu & i,Slam (Faten El-Dabbas, Youssef Adlah)

15.20 Opening

Ralf Fücks – Executive Board Member Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

15:30 h Discussion

Responsibility – Opportunities – Borders?

Germany is now one of the major countries of immigration. Some one million refugees and roughly 800,000 immigrants in search of work opportunities have come to Germany. What opportunities will arise from this situation for Germany? And what does this mean for society, politics and the economy? What scope for action and organisation do politics have against the background of global competition and profound demographic change? How can a balance be achieved between humanitarian responsibility and the possibilities of admission and integration?

Dr. Achim Dercks – German Industry and Commerce (DIHK)

Zeynep Babadagi – Entrepreneur; PETEK (Business Network for Migrant Women)

Martin Lauterbach – Federal Agency for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)

Moderation: **Ralf Fücks** – Executive Board Member Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

16.30 Break

16.40 Panel discussion

The Immigration Republic of Germany

Self Perception – Challenges – Cohesion

Politically, demographically and economically, Germany has been a country of immigration for decades. Today, 17 million people – 20% – of the total population have a migration background. Yet there are scarcely any other topics that are discussed as controversially and emotionally as immigration and integration. Why are fears and uncertainties growing today among the population that hinder the acceptance of immigration and integration? Why is radicalisation increasing among various population groups? How can social and political cohesion be successfully achieved? Why is it difficult to think beyond ethnic groups in Germany?

Katrin Göring-Eckardt MdB – Co-chair of the Green Party Faction in the Bundestag

Prof. Dr. Naika Foroutan – Berlin Institute for Integration and Migration Research

Seyran Ateş – Lawyer, Author

Gari Pavkovic – Integration Commissioner of the city Stuttgart

Moderation: **Peter Siller** – Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

Poetry & Interventionen

Sarah Gaad, Temye Tesfu & i,Slam (Faten El-Dabbas, Youssef Adlah)

18.00 Vernissage

Environmental Migrants: The Last Illusion

Long-term environmental changes have already contributed directly or indirectly to violent conflicts around the world. The photography project “Environmental Migrants: The Last Illusion” documents climate-induced migration in Kenya, Mongolia and Bangladesh. Alessandro Grassani, a finalist of the 2012 Sony World Photography Awards, will be present at the opening of the show and will give a tour detailing his work.

Tour with **Alessandro Grassani** (Artist)

18.15 Reception

19.00 **Shifting Perspective:**

A one-to-one tour through Neukölln

What is one’s relationship to the word “home” in the context of global mobility? On the tour, each participant will be invited to explore the heart of Neukölln through a set of personal stories, the reduction of the senses and an exchange of trust. These personal encounters between two people and the shared everyday anecdotes reflect in their own way the complexity of socio-political experiences.

B_Tour in collaboration with **Ilona Marti**

19.00 Omnibus film:

Research Refugees

Students at Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf, and Bauhaus Universität Weimar, create their own multi-perspective and polyphonic picture of 2015 autumn in Germany. The filmmakers, representing eight different countries, illuminate short reflections telling ballads of golden foil lullabies, the course of things, Greek tragedies, dragon riders, mono-dialogues and phone-charging stations. Stories of arrival, of goodbyes, and of the long wait in between. Poetic, powerful and personal.

25th June 2016

10.00 Dialogic reading & discussion
Von Flucht, Suchen und Ankommen
Yasmine Merei: The Survivor – **الناجية**
Rasha Khayat: Weil wir längst woanders sind

11.00 Parallel Workshops
Engagement – Empowerment – Good Practices

Workshop 1: **How can refugees be successfully integrated on an educational level?**

Workshop 2: **Being a refugee is not a profession – How integration can be achieved in vocational training and work?**

Workshop 3: **What work do migrant organisations carry out to integrate refugees and what do they need in order to do it?**

Workshop 4: **Communities and volunteers – how do they work together?**

Workshop 5: **Radical elements in immigrant societies – conflicts and counter-strategies**

Workshop 6: **“This is the way we did it!” – Integration as a historical experience.**

A discussion among contemporary witnesses

NOTE: There will be simultaneous translation for Workshop 6.

13.00 Lunch

14.00 **Asylum Dialogues – Actors for Human Rights**

Actors for Human Rights tells stories about people who have overcome limits, found allies, have never accepted "no" for an answer and have always carried on, regardless of their lack of perspective – with the aim of living life in safety and with human dignity.

14.45 Political Discussion
How do we achieve integration?
Education – Work – Demographics

The acceptance of immigration and a culture of welcome depend largely on a policy of integration and participation, which can be politically communicated and which provide people with education and work. Demographic change and its impact on the labour market and social security systems will be among the driving forces of migration to Germany in the near future. How can new immigrants and refugees benefit from access to education, training, and the labour market at early stages? How can integration be promoted and implemented as a social project? What institutions, structures, and resources are needed to interlock different departments successfully?

Input 1 - **Felizitas Janzen** – Prognos AG

Input 2 - **Prof. Dr. Holger Bonin** – Center for European Economic Research, author of

the study, "Gains of Integration", by Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

Dr. Oliver Junk – Mayor of the city of Goslar

Sybille Haußmann – District administration Düren, Head of Office for Schools, Education and Integration

Moderation: **Breschkai Ferhad** – New German Media Makers

- 16.15 Empfang - Austausch - - - Abschluss der Konferenz
- 17.00 **“Shifting Perspective”: A one-to-one tour through Neukölln**

Accompanying Programme

Exhibition

“Environmental Migrants: The Last Illusion”

Climate forecasting predicts a worldwide rise in temperatures and increase in water shortages. Long-term environmental changes such as these have already contributed directly or indirectly to violent conflicts around the world. The photography project “Environmental Migrants: The Last Illusion” by the Italian photographer Alessandro Grassani documents climate-induced migration in Kenya, Mongolia and Bangladesh. It is a reminder that those fleeing from the climate crisis first escape to cities. Here, new problems arise, one of which is the development of slum areas.

The aim of the exhibition is to raise awareness and make an emotional appeal for those affected by climate-induced migration. Alessandro Grassani will be present at the opening of the show and will give a tour detailing his work.

“Shifting Perspective”: A one-to-one tour through Neukölln

On the tour, each participant will be invited to explore the heart of Neukölln through a set of personal stories, the reduction of the senses and an exchange of trust. These personal encounters between two people and the shared everyday anecdotes reflect in their own way the complexity of socio-political experiences. The tour is created by [B. Tour](#) in collaboration with the artist [Ilona Marti](#).

Omnibus film: “Research Refugees”

(Filmkollektiv Recherche, Filmuniversität Konrad Wolf, Bauhaus Universität Weimar)

Students at Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf, and Bauhaus Universität Weimar, create their own multi-perspective and polyphonic picture of 2015 autumn in Germany. The filmmakers, representing eight different countries, illuminate short reflections telling ballads of golden foil lullabies, the course of things, Greek tragedies, dragon riders, mono-dialogues and phone-charging stations. Stories of arrival, of good-byes, and of the long wait in between. Poetic, powerful and personal. A work in progress on the Current Situation, initiated and curated by Michael Klier.

Sonntag, 26. Juni 2016

EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

Finding our Voice

Building Leadership, Solidarity, and Power for Migrants, Refugees, and Minorities

This workshop brings together political organizers and activists from immigrant, refugee, and minority communities across the US and Germany. It will offer an in-depth discussion about building leadership within diverse communities, building solidarity across immigrant, refugee, and minority organizations, and achieving greater visibility in political discussions. US organizers will share models that have proven effective in an American context and participants will work together to develop new strategies for the German context.

Information

Start: Friday, 24 June 2016 (15:00)

End: Saturday, 25 June 2016 (16:15)

Sunday, 26 June, 09:30 – 14:00 (Empowerment Workshop)

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Schumannstraße 8, 10117 Berlin

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