

Academics in Solidarity Network Conference

Teaching in Exile: Transnational Experiences in the Digital Age

18.-19. November 2021

The dissemination of knowledge is key to academic life. The strive to connect scientific knowledge across disciplines and borders has altered the way the field of teaching is conceptualized and practiced: Although transnational networks, multi-language courses and digital tools have considerably changed the face of teaching in academia, restrictions to academic freedom or differential access to lectureships still pose challenges to how teaching is lived today.

The conference **Teaching in Exile: Transnational Experiences in the Digital Age** wishes to highlight the complex assemblage of opportunities and challenges in the field of knowledge transfer by focusing on different teaching experiences of exiled scholars internationally. It begins with the insight that the perspective of exiled scholars offers a crucial understanding of individual and structural issues of disseminating knowledge across and beyond academic circles. The conference also explores how digital media has opened new avenues for transnational teaching models. **Teaching in Exile** sheds light on these issues by encouraging a dialogue on three broad conference themes:

Taking Action in Teaching focuses on taking responsibility for exiled scholars and thought by discussing initiatives dedicated to emancipatory research and teaching. Academics flee conflict or war, are banned from institutions for their opinions, or restricted in their research – circumstances that call for creative solutions to education and scientific work. *Taking Action* invites scholars to critically discuss current issues and initiatives related to more democratic education and research with special reference to transformations in teaching platforms.

Showing Off Science gathers experiences of exiled scholars and offers presentations on best practices in teaching. This section gives the community of *Academics in Solidarity* and its partner organizations involved in teaching the chance to present their work to a wider network. *Showing Off* focuses on assembling a range of individual approaches to teaching and especially encourages Mentees and Mentors of AiS to share their teaching formats and strategies with the audience.

Infrastructures of Inclusion aims at advancing democratic involvement in teaching. Scholars in exile face many obstacles on their path to teaching in quality and scale: they range from local administrative hurdles, over long-standing university cultures up to societal differences in openness to intellectual content. *Infrastructures* strives to generate joint ideas for advancing the involvement in teaching for exiled scholars by opening a discussion between actors, institutions and stake-holders that shape how teaching can be structurally promoted for everyone and by investigating how we can jointly contribute to a better dissemination of knowledge before and during exile.

Teaching in Exile launches an open dialogue on the matter of teaching in exile and invites participants to contribute to the different conference themes. We encourage scholars from various disciplinary areas internationally to partake in the conference to enrich the solution-finding process and discussions on teaching. We especially welcome contributions by refugees and at-risk scholars as well as students (from the graduate level).