

## Academics in Solidarity Network Conference

### Regaining Lost Knowledge – Connecting Research at Home and in Exile

21-22 November 2019

Venue: Henry Ford Building, Garystraße 35, Freie Universität Berlin

*Academics in Solidarity (AiS)* is a peer-mentoring program that connects exiled researchers and established scholars in Germany, Lebanon and Jordan. It seeks to create a network of solidarity, strengthen the value of cross-cultural research cooperation and open up new perspectives within the academic environment of the host country. The program offers support to displaced and endangered scholars through mentoring, academic counseling, systematic network building, and funding of small research endeavors. It further benefits mentors by offering them special training as well as administrative and technical support both prior to and throughout the mentoring process. The project is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The network conference will signify the launch of a new stage of *Academics in Solidarity*. As of today, more than 80 displaced and endangered scholars have registered as mentees with AiS. The conference will give them the opportunity to present their research to a wider community, bring them together with established scholars and mentors and expand their professional and academic networks. The conference will further serve as a platform for exchange among key stakeholders representing support programs for at-risk scholars, research funding organizations, expert communities and AiS partner institutions in Germany, Lebanon and Jordan.

### Program

DAY I: THURSDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2019		HENRY FORD BUILDING
<b>From 09:00</b>	Registration	Foyer
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Conference opening</b>  <u>Welcome:</u> <b>Prof. Dr. Günter M. Ziegler</b> , President, Freie Universität Berlin  <u>Opening remarks:</u> <b>Peter Webers</b> , Head of Division Cooperation with Africa and the Middle East, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)  <u>Introduction to AiS:</u> <b>Dr. Florian Kohstall</b> , Head Academics in Solidarity, Freie Universität Berlin	Lecture Hall A (ground floor)
<b>10:30 – 11:15</b>	<b>Keynote speech: Research in Exile: Recent Histories of Displaced Scholarship</b>  <b>Prof. Dr. Azade Seyhan</b> , Fairbank Professor in the Humanities and Professor of German and Comparative Literature, Bryn Mawr College / The American Academy in Berlin	Lecture Hall A (ground floor)

<b>11:15 – 12:30</b>	<b>Panel discussion: Regaining lost knowledge and academic solidarity</b>  <u>Panelists:</u> <b>Dr. Adnan Kanbar</b> , Karlsruhe Institute of Technology <b>Dr. Isabella Löhr</b> , Universität Osnabrück <b>Dr. Nil Mutluer</b> , Humboldt Universität zu Berlin <b>Prof. Dr. Azade Seyhan</b> , Bryn Mawr College  <u>Moderator:</u> <b>Prof. Dr. Stefan Gosepath</b> , Freie Universität Berlin	Lecture Hall A (ground floor)
<b>12:30 – 14:00</b>	Networking lunch & poster exhibition	Foyer upper floor
<b>14:00 – 15:30</b>	<b>Parallel interdisciplinary research workshops and an e-poster presentation session</b> Presentations by mentees of <i>Academics in Solidarity</i>  <b>Workshop 1: Innovative approaches in Earth Sciences and Environmental Studies</b> <u>Chair:</u> Prof. Dr. Michael Schneider, Freie Universität Berlin  <b>Workshop 2: Recent discoveries in Microbiology, Genetics and Virology</b> <u>Chair:</u> Prof. Dr. Jens Rolff, Freie Universität Berlin  <b>Workshop 3: Uncertainty in times of migration, revolution and war</b> <u>Chair:</u> Prof. Dr. Carola Richter, Freie Universität Berlin  <b>Interdisciplinary e-poster presentation session</b> <u>Chair:</u> Prof. Dr. Thomas Stodulka, Freie Universität Berlin	Conference rooms & Senate Assembly Hall  Conference room # 1  Conference room # 2  Conference room # 3  Senate Assembly Hall
<b>15:30 – 16:00</b>	Coffee break	Foyer upper floor

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<b>16:00 – 18:00</b>	<b>Roundtable: Creating niches for scholars in exile</b> Stakeholder discussion on current and future opportunities for displaced scholars in German and European academia and beyond	Senate Assembly Hall
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Speakers:

**Prof. Dr. Verena Blechinger-Talcott,**

Freie Universität Berlin

**Dr. Anne Jordan,** Einstein Foundation Berlin

**Mechthild Köhler,** German Research Foundation

**Dr. Florian Kohstall,** Academics in Solidarity

**Prof. Dr. Kader Konuk,** Universität Duisburg-Essen  
& Academy in Exile

**PD Dr. Daniela Niesta Kayser,** University of Potsdam

**Dr. Barbara Sheldon,** Alexander von Humboldt  
Foundation, Philipp Schwartz Initiative

**Dr. Ertuğ Tombuş,** Humboldt University of Berlin  
& Off-University

Moderator: Dr. Olga Hünler, Freie Universität Berlin

Rapporteur: Dr. Anikó Gregor, Freie Universität Berlin

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<b>18:00 – 20:00</b>	Networking dinner	Foyer upper floor
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DAY II: FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2019		Henry Ford Building
<b>From 08:30</b>	Good morning coffee & informal exchange	Foyer upper floor
<b>09:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Expert discussion: Opportunities and challenges of cross-regional cooperation</b> Focus on the situation of displaced scholars in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey – discussion by experts in the field  <u>Speakers:</u> <b>Celine Taminian</b> , Scholar Rescue Fund, Jordan <b>Prof. Dr. Ralf Roszkopf</b> , German-Jordanian University <b>Dr. H. Pinar Senoguz</b> , Universität Göttingen  <u>Moderator:</u> Prof. Dr. Konrad Hirschler, Freie Universität Berlin <u>Rapporteur:</u> Dr. Dhiah el Diehn I. Abou-Tair, German-Jordanian University	Senate Assembly Hall
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	Coffee break	Foyer upper floor
<b>11:00 – 12:00</b>	<b>The way ahead &amp; concluding remarks</b> Summary of the two days by rapporteurs. <b>Official end of the conference</b>	Senate Assembly Hall
<b>12:00 – 13:00</b>	Networking lunch	Foyer upper floor
<b>13:00 – 14:30</b>	<b>Coaching for mentors &amp; room for exchange</b> Focus: Intercultural aspects of mentoring and expectation management  <u>Led by:</u> Dr. Dhiah el Diehn I. Abou-Tair, German-Jordanian University With inputs from Olga Palinkasev Gregorian, Scholar Rescue Fund	Conference room # 1
<b>13:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Small group trainings for mentees</b> <b>Training 1:</b> The specifics of job applications in Germany <u>Led by:</u> Dr. Síofra McSherry, Scienza Berlin  <b>Training 2:</b> Preparing research project proposals <u>Led by:</u> Bertram Welker, Dahlem Research School	Senate Assembly Hall  Conference room # 3