FLIGHT AND REFUGE: The European Crisis in Global Perspective

An Interdisciplinary Conference at the University of Virginia

April 12-13, 2016
Tuesday, April 12

4:00-5:00 PM
New Cabell Hall 236

Welcome

Asher Biemann, Director, Center for German Studies, Professor of Religious Studies
Francesca Fioriani, Associate Dean for the Arts and Humanities, Professor of Art
Dr. Michael Signer, Mayor, City of Charlottesville

Refugee Voices: A Panel with Charlottesville Residents
Moderator: Alyson Ball, International Rescue Committee

Kristina Constantine, Armenia
Beyan Johnson, Liberia
Bimal Chhetri, Bhutan

5:30-7:00 PM
New Cabell Hall 236

Welcome
Jeffrey W. Legro, Vice Provost for Global Affairs, Taylor Professor of Politics

Introductory Remarks
David Leblang, Professor of Politics, Director of the Global Policy Center

Opening Lecture and Reading
Fled...Newly Arrived...Immigrated
Inside / Outside / Home
Esther Dischereit, Author, Berlin/Vienna

Followed by Reception
New Cabell Hall First Floor Lounge

8:30 PM
Conference Dinner for Invited Guests
Wednesday, April 13

9:15-9:45 AM: Breakfast, New Cabell Hall 236

10:00-11:45 AM
German Conference Room, New Cabell Hall 236

Roundtable 1: The European Crisis—The Crisis of Europe

Moderator:
Manuela Achilles, Associate Director, Center for German Studies

Minister and DCM Dr. Philipp Ackermann, Deputy Chief of Mission, German Embassy, Washington, DC

Bastian Hermisson, Executive Director, Heinrich Böll Stiftung North America

Kemal Kirisci, TUSIAD senior fellow and director of the Center on the United States and Europe's Turkey Project, Brookings Institute, Washington DC

Esther Dischereit, Author, Berlin/Vienna

12:00-1:00 PM: Lunch, Nau Hall 342 Lounge

1:00-3:00 PM
German Conference Room, New Cabell Hall 236

Roundtable 2: Global Perspectives

Moderator:
Elizabeth Thompson, Professor, Corcoran Department of History, University of Virginia

Israel: From Aliyah to Immigration Country
Yoav Peled, Visiting Professor of Israel Studies at UVa, Jewish Studies Program; and Professor of Political Science, Tel Aviv University

Joint Migration Challenges of the United States and Germany: Refugees and Rising Populism
Victoria Rietig, Policy Analyst, Migration Policy Institute, Washington, DC

Syrian Refugees Between a Rock and a Hard Place
Hanadi Al-Samman, Associate Professor, Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages & Cultures, University of Virginia

Decentering Europe's "Crisis" in Global Refugee History: Lessons from Uganda
Ashley Rockenbach, Fellow, Carter Woodson Institute, University of Virginia
3:15-5:00 PM
*German Conference Room, New Cabell Hall 236*

**Roundtable 3: Consequences and Solutions**

Moderator:
**Will Hitchcock**, Randolph Compton Professor, Director of Academic Programs, Miller Center

**Charles Benjamin**, President, Near East Foundation

**Hannah Winnick**, Program Director for Transatlantic Dialogues on Democracy and Social Policy, Heinrich Böll Stiftung North America

**David Martin**, Warner-Booker Distinguished Professor of International Law, University of Virginia

**Fern Hauck**, Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Virginia

5:00-6:30 PM

Concluding Reception and Presentation of Student Projects
New Cabell Hall First Floor Lounge

All events, unless otherwise noted, are free and open to the public.
Manuela Achilles is the associate director of the Center for German Studies at the University of Virginia. She teaches in the Corcoran Department of History and the Department of German and has published at the intersections of history and literature, with a focus on modern Germany. Her edited volume, *Environmental Sustainability in Transatlantic Perspective: A Multidisciplinary Approach*, co-edited with Dana Elzey, explores the German energy transition (Energiewende) within the broader context of transnational partnership and cooperation. She is currently completing a book on constitutional patriotism and the desire for democracy in Weimar Germany.

Minister and DCM Dr. Phillip Ackermann is the Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany. DCM Dr. Ackermann joined the German Foreign Service after he received a Ph.D. in art history from Bonn University. Previously he headed the Task Force Afghanistan/Pakistan for the German Foreign Office in Berlin. Among other appointments, DCM Dr. Ackermann has served at the German Embassy in Rabat, Morocco, at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations in New York, and became the principal speechwriter to former Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer and Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier from 2002 to 2006. DCM Dr. Ackermann accepted a civilian assignment as head of the German PRT in Kunduz, Afghanistan, from 2006 to 2007, and later oversaw the Political Department of the German Embassy in New Delhi, India, from 2007 to 2010.

Hanadi Al-Samman is an associate professor of Arabic Language and Literature in the Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Virginia. Her research focuses on contemporary Arabic literature, diaspora and sexuality studies, as well as transnational and Islamic feminism(s). She published several articles in the Journal of Arabic Literature, Women's Studies International Forum, *Alif: Journal of Comparative Poetics*, and Mapping Arab Women’s Movements edited collection. She is also co-editor of an International Journal of Middle East Studies’ special issue “Queer Affects,” and author of *Anxiety of Erasure: Trauma, Authorship, and the Diaspora in Arab Women’s Writings* (Syracuse University press, 2015). She has received a Fulbright Scholarship (1990-1992), Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship (2009-2010), Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Residential Fellowship (2009-2010), Mellon Humanities Fellowship (2015-2016) recipient, and President-Elect of the Association for Middle East Women’s Studies (AMEWS).

Charles Benjamin has over twenty-five years of experience in international development, with extensive experience in community development and natural resources management though the Middle East and Africa. As President of the Near East Foundation, he leads its mission to help build more sustainable, prosperous, and inclusive communities in the Middle East and Africa through education, community organizing, and economic development. Dr. Benjamin began his affiliation with the Near East Foundation in 1993 as Country Director in Morocco. Before joining NEF he spent several years in Morocco as a Fulbright Scholar and as a Peace Corps Volunteer. After leaving Morocco, Dr. Benjamin was Senior Manager for a large international development consulting firm based in Washington DC and a Professor of International Environment Issues and Development at Williams College in Williamstown (MA). Dr. Benjamin became NEF’s President in 2010. Under Dr. Benjamin’s leadership, NEF has seen steady growth. Dr. Benjamin holds a PhD from the University of Michigan with a focus on decentralization and local institutional development in West Africa. He is a published author in the areas of natural resource management and policy.

Esther Dischereit, described by her publisher, Suhrkamp Verlag, as “possibly the preeminent German-Jewish voice of the post-Shoah generation”, lives in Berlin. She has published fiction, poetry and essays, as well as plays for radio and the stage. She is the founder of the avant-garde-project WordMusic and has worked as a curator for various projects in contemporary art/new media. She has collaborated with the dancer and choreographer Holly Handman-Lopez, the composer and percussionist Ray Kaczynski, Djane İpek İpekçıoğlu, the concept artists Riccardo Ajossa, Beate Maria Wörz and many others; most recently with the calligrapher Veruschka Goetz. She has been a Fellow at the Moses Mendelssohn Centre for European and Jewish Studies and holds frequent lectures and readings in the United States, Canada, Israel, South America and Europe. Her most recent publications include *Vor den Hohen Feiertagen gab es ein Flüstern und Rascheln im Haus / Before the High Holy Days the House was Full of Whisperings and Rustlings* (AvivA, 2009), the book adaptation of a sound-installation Holocaust memorial, which also became an installation at Goethe Institut in Jerusalem et al. Esther is Professor of Language Arts at the University of the Applied Arts in Vienna, and was in 2013 Max Kade German Writer in Residence at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, USA.
Fern R. Hauck, M.D., M.S. is the Spencer P. Bass, MD Twenty-First Century Professor of Family Medicine and Professor of Public Health Sciences at the University of Virginia. Dr. Hauck’s medical degree is from St. Louis University School of Medicine and her residency training was conducted at the Maine-Dartmouth Family Practice Residency. She has worked in Southeast Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, including as a refugee camp doctor on the Thai-Cambodian border. In October 2002, Dr. Hauck founded the International Family Medicine Clinic in the University of Virginia Department of Family Medicine, which she continues to direct. In this clinic, she and colleagues provide comprehensive primary health care for the growing number of refugees in central Virginia. She is involved in ongoing research in refugee health, healthcare access and quality improvement. She participates in several local and international organizations related to global and refugee health.

Bastian Hermisson has been executive director of the Heinrich Böll Foundation’s North America office since 2015. Prior to that, he directed the Heinrich Böll Foundation’s European Union office in Brussels, and was head of the EU/North America department as well as the department for Foreign and Security Policy at the Heinrich Böll Foundation’s headquarters in Berlin. Previously, he directed the program for Transatlantic Relations at the foundation’s office in Washington, DC. Before joining the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Bastian served for three years as advisor on foreign, security and environmental policy to MP Katrin Göring-Eckardt, caucus leader of the Greens in the German Bundestag. He holds an M. A. summa cum laude in cultural anthropology and geography, having studied at the Humboldt-University as well as the Free University, Berlin, the Albert-Ludwigs-University, Freiburg, and Connecticut College, New London, CT.

William I. Hitchcock is Professor of History at the University of Virginia and Director of Academic Programs at the Miller Center. His work and teaching focuses on the international, diplomatic and military history of the 20th Century, with a particular focus on the era of the world wars and the cold war. He has written widely on trans-Atlantic relations and European history and politics. His most recent book is The Human Rights Revolution: An International History (co-edited with Petra Goede and Akira Iriye, Oxford: 2012), which features an essay by Hitchcock on the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the evolution of the laws of war. He is now at work on a book called The Age of Eisenhower: America and the World in the 1950s.

Kemal Kirisci is the TÜSİAD senior fellow and director of the Center on the United States and Europe’s Turkey Project at Brookings, with an expertise in Turkish foreign policy and migration studies. Within the project, Kirisci runs the Turkey Project Policy Paper series and frequently writes on the latest developments out of Turkey. His upcoming monograph titled “The Consequences of Chaos: Syria’s Humanitarian Crisis and the Failure to Protect” (Brookings Institution Press, April 2016), co-authored with Elizabeth Ferris, considers the long-term economic, political, and social implications of Syria’s displaced and offers policy recommendations to address the humanitarian crisis.

David A. Martin is the Warner-Booker Distinguished Professor of International Law at the University of Virginia, where he has been a member of the faculty since 1980. He has published numerous books, scholarly articles, and op-ed essays on immigration, refugees, constitutional law, and international law, including a leading casebook (co-authored) on immigration and citizenship law, now in its seventh edition. As Principal Deputy General Counsel of the Department of Homeland Security from January 2009 to December 2010, and in earlier government service at the Department of State and the Department of Justice (including appointment as General Counsel to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1995-98), he was closely involved in critical legal and policy developments in the immigration field. These included the Refugee Act of 1980, a major alteration of U.S. asylum procedures in 1994-95, implementation of the 1996 statutory amendments to the immigration laws, and the federal government’s 2010 lawsuit against Arizona’s restrictive immigration enforcement law. He was appointed to the Homeland Security Advisory Council in 2015.

Yoav Peled is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Tel Aviv University and a Visiting Professor of Israel Studies at the University of Virginia. His book, co-authored with Gershon Shafir, Being Israeli: The Dynamics of Multiple Citizenship (Cambridge University Press, 2002) won the 2002 Albert Hourani Award of the Middle East Studies Association of North America for best book in Middle East studies published that year. He is co-author, with Horit Herman Peled, of The Religionization of Israeli Society (Routledge, forthcoming). In 2016-2017 he will be Leverhulme Professorial Fellow in the School of Global Studies at the University of Sussex in the United Kingdom.
Victoria Rietig is a Policy Analyst at the Migration Policy Institute, where she works for the Regional Migration Study Group and the Transatlantic Council on Migration. She is also a Nonresident Fellow with Migration Policy Institute Europe. Her research expertise includes forced migration, human trafficking, labor migration, and international development. She conducted field research on forced migration in Mexico, analyzing the impact of organized crime and violence on human trafficking. Her research results were published in the Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration.

Ashley Rockenbach is an advanced doctoral student in African History at the University of Michigan. Her dissertation looks at the inter-generational and gendered histories of mobility and settlement in central Africa, drawing on a case study of Rwandan migrants and refugees who came to Uganda during the long twentieth century. She is currently based at the Carter G. Woodson Institute at UVA as a pre-doctoral fellow in residence.

Elizabeth F. Thompson is professor of history at the University of Virginia. She is a specialist on modern Syria. Her first book, Colonial Citizens: Republican Rights, Paternal Privilege and Gender in French Syria and Lebanon (2000), examined the gendered construction of political space and women’s diminished rights as citizens under French rule. Her second book, Justice Interrupted: The Struggle for Constitutional Government in the Middle East (Harvard, 2013), is a history of popular movements against tyranny, poverty and foreign rule since the 19th century. She is currently working on a book about the European destruction of an Islamic, democratic government in Syria after World War I.

Hannah Winnick is director of the Transatlantic Dialogue Program on Democracy and Social Policy at the Heinrich Böll Foundation North America. Her work focuses on enhancing transatlantic policy exchange on migration and integration policies, and on deepening cooperation between US and German cities to promote the full social inclusion of refugees and immigrants. Prior to joining the foundation, Hannah worked as Transnational Liaison at Hispanics in Philanthropy (HIP), an organization dedicated to strengthening the Latino non-profit sector in the US and Latin America. She has also worked with LEAD, the Mercator Capacity Building Center for Leadership and Advocacy in Berlin, to examine new models of leadership in German diplomacy. Hannah holds a Master’s degree in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School, where she focused on international negotiation and conflict resolution, and a Bachelor’s degree magna cum laude in Political Science from Amherst College.
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