Kurdish Migration Conference 2016: From Subordination to Transnational Mobilization

Friday 27 May 2016

Middlesex University, Hendon Campus, The Burroughs, London (UK), NW4 4AX
Hendon Town Hall
Committee Room 2 and 3

Convenors: Dr. Janroj Keles and Dr. Alessio D’Angelo

9:00-9:30 - Registration/ Coffee

9:30 - 10:00 – Welcome

Mr Karwan Jamal Tahir, Kurdistan Regional Government High Representative to the UK
Prof. Richard Croucher, Director of Research, Business School
Prof. Eleonore Kofman, Co-Director, Social Policy Research Centre
BISI representative

10:00 – 10:30 – Plenary session

Dr Minoo Alinia (Södertörn University, Sweden)
At the crossfire: Power, knowledge, and agency in the field of Kurdish studies

10:30 – 12:00 - Parallel sessions

Room C2 - Return Migration and the Labour Market

Panel chair: Celia Jenkins, University of Westminster

- Imagining Future: A Visual Ethnography of Planning, Infrastructure and the State in Iraqi Kurdistan
  
  Lana Asker, University of Manchester
• “Going Home”: Experience of the British-Kurdish highly skilled young people in South Kurdistan
  
  Janroj Keles, Middlesex University

• Welcome Home? Chances and Challenges of Return Migration of Kurdish Adolescents from Germany to Iraqi Kurdistan
  
  Simon Moses Schleimer, University of Leipzig

• Between Today and Tomorrow: The Uncertain Work and Life of Kurdish-Turkish Migrant Steel Labourers in Iraqi Kurdistan
  
  Umut Kuruuzum, LSE,

Room C3- Gender, identities and social capital

Panel chair: Tunc Aybak, Middlesex University

• Kurdish migrant mothers in London enacting citizenship
  
  Umut Erel, Open University

• How does becoming a U. S. Citizen open doors for Kurdish women.
  
  Ghomri Rostampour, University of Southern Maine

• Kurdish community and Social Networks
  
  Alessio D’Angelo, Middlesex University

• Syrian Kurdish exile in Iraqi Kurdistan
  
  Charlotte Watelet, Ehess

12:00 – 13:00 – Lunch Break

13:00 – 14:00 - Plenary session

Prof Floya Anthias, University of East London, UK

Diaspora and Belonging

Prof Jane Holgate, Leeds University, UK


14:00 – 15:30 – Parallel sessions

Room C2- Diaspora and belonging

Panel chair: Umut Erel, The Open University

• Kurdish diaspora and its fragmentations in the case of Austria
  
  Thomas Schmidinger, University of Vienna

• Kurdish Diasporas: Identity Construction and Perceptions of “home” among Kurdish Immigrant generations in the United Kingdom
  
  Ali, Zalme, University of the West of England

• A study of Kurdish diaspora in London
  
  Ayar Ata, London South Bank University
Kurdish immigrants in Europe and in the United States
*Jihan A. Mohammed, Michigan State University*

Room C3 - War, Migration and Health
Panel chair: Ibrahim Sirkeci, Regent’s University London

- Post Migration Living Difficulties among Syrian Refugees in Relationship with Mental Health
  *Asmaa Ibrahim M. Salih, Ibrahim, Jiyan Foundation*

- Remembering trauma in the context of re-awakening violence: A narrative multiple case study with Kurdish refugee families in Belgium
  *Ruth Kevers, Peter Robey, Lucia De Haene, KU Leuven*

- Insecure Political Environment and Migration: Thinking of leaving Kurdistan
  *Sangar Mahmood, Reporter at the Kurdistan Parliament*

15:30 – 16:00

16:00 – 17:30 – Parallel sessions

Room C2 - Kurdish media and cultural production: local, national, and transnational perspectives
Panel chair: Kevin Smets, University of Antwerp and Vrije Universiteit Brussel

- Ethnic media and diasporic cosmopolitanism: young Kurds in London and their mediated experiences of conflict
  *Kevin Smets, University of Antwerp and Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Department of Communication Studies*

- Writing across Kurdistan: Reading Social, Historical and Political Contexts in Literary Narratives
  *Özlem Galip, University of Oxford, Faculty of Oriental Studies*

- Spatial Reflections of Kurdish Identity in Cinema
  *Bahar Şimşek, Ankara University, Faculty of Communication*

Room C3 - Religion and Identity
Panel chair: Janroj Keles, Middlesex University

- How Yârsani define their religion in Sweden
  *Behnaz Hosseini, University of Vienna*

- Effects of the Migration in Transformation of Way of Life for Dersimis
  *Filiz Celik, Independent Consultant on Collective and Historical Trauma on Turkey*

- From a ‘sort of Muslim’ to ‘proud to be Alevi’: the Alevi Religion and Identity Project in combating negative identity among second-generation Alevi Kurds in the UK
  *Umit Cetin, Celia Jenkins, University of Westminster*
17:30 - Concluding remarks