

**Annual Theme: Refugees in the City****Chaired by Prof Ulrike Freitag and PD Dr Nora Lafi****Monday, 18 July 2016, 5 pm****Double Lecture and Conclusion Roundtable****The Emergence of a Welcoming Culture: Emergency Refugee Shelters in Berlin-Moabit and the Importance of "Third Places" in Local Opinion Formation**Lecture by **MA Svenja Marie Linnemann** (Humboldt University Berlin)**Twice a month,
Mondays 5 pm - 7 pm****Venue:**Conference Hall
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In recent years, war and conflict in the Middle East and North Africa have dramatically increased the number of refugees arriving in Europe. In Berlin the rising number of asylum seekers has led to emergency accommodations opening up almost overnight. In some parts of the city, the opening of refugee shelters has been met with anti-refugee demonstrations, while in others "refugee welcome initiatives" have been founded. Anti-refugee rhetoric and attitudes have often been explained with reference to vague anxieties provoked by a lack of concrete information or by stereotypes promoted by some mass-media outlets. This argument often has been connected to the assumption that early provision of concrete information about planned refugee shelters might help to reduce misinformation and thereby lay the groundwork for (at least) a peaceful coexistence. To an increasing degree, informational meetings are now being held for neighbourhood residents when a refugee shelter is set to open up. However one question remains: Who actually finds out about these meetings? Taking the example of an emergency refugee accommodation opened in the Berlin district of Moabit, the presentation explores if and how the attendant information measures, together with other factors such as experiences of (in-) direct contact with refugees might reduce stereotypes, assumptions of threats, and intergroup anxieties. The presentation will draw on research conducted in two traditional Berlin pubs, both located in Moabit and are frequented by a clientele that is often identified with populist attitudes and simplistic sloganism.

Do Urban Settings Enhance 'Refugees Livelihood' and 'Local Integration'? The Case of Urban Refugees in DakarLecture by **MA Agathe Menetrier** (MPI for Social Anthropology)

The United Nations' refugee agency (UNHCR) has only recently officially admitted that the majority of its "people of concern" live in cities and acknowledged the need to find long term solutions for these urban refugees that remain under-represented in literature. Senegal is reputed for demonstrating 'good refugee governance' in West Africa, based on the number of refugees for whom the UNHCR has found 'durable solutions' ('repatriation', 'local integration', and for a few 'resettlement') and on the degree of involvement of local partners. Over the last twenty years, Dakar has been home for Liberians, Sierra Leoneans, Ivoirians, Gambians and Mauritians seeking asylum. The UNHCR has supervised their protection and assistance over this period but is now engaged in an 'exit strategy'. Considering that long-term refugees could easily integrate into the Senegalese society (culminating in naturalisation), the UNHCR asks its implementation partners in the field to gradually withdraw from a system of direct assistance to refugees. Refugees and asylum seekers who live in Dakar find themselves in an ambiguous situation. Presented as conducive to their financial empowerment, living in an urban setting also implied for them to follow the rhythm of regular visits to UNHCR's and partners' offices in the city. Refugees' relationship with these street-level humanitarians has not stopped together with the cessation of aid. This presentation will explore the evolution of this relationship at a time in which long-term refugees are expected to become 'independent'.

Conclusion roundtable with **Frédéric Bocquet** (Médecins du Monde)