Zentrum Moderner Orient



ZMO-EUME-Colloquium

Twice a month, Mondays 5 pm - 7 pm

Venue:

Conference Hall Zentrum Moderner Orient Kirchweg 33 14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

Please register at the following address: Dr. Nora Lafi nora.lafi@zmo.de Phone: (+49) (0) 30 80307- 0

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Chaired by Prof Ulrike Freitag and Dr Nora Lafi

Annual Theme: The City and its Margins

Monday, May 12th, 2014, 5 pm

The Migration of Frontiers in Contested Cities

Lecture by Wendy Pullan (University of Cambridge)

In modern times, borders and frontiers have been mostly associated with nation states and their sovereignty. Clashes between ethno-national groups have often been exacerbated by ill-advised or hastily drawn borders that did not respect divisions based upon the populations' own cultures and perceptions of their identities. In recent years many ethno-national disputes have migrated into cities, making conflicts more immediate to civilian life. Yet, cities are ontologically different to nation-states: they are not simply 'small states' and require analysis of their own specific qualities. It is worth asking what are the characteristics of ethno-national borders and frontiers inside cities and why are they unlike state borders? Likewise, where are ethno-national conflicts found in cities? Some disputes are generated and perpetuated from within, where differences are embedded inside the urban fabric and erupt into city-generated struggles. And finally, what role is played by the urban everyday with respect to these conflicts and their borders, frontiers, buffers zones, compounds, checkpoints and mobility restrictions? This paper will consider the above questions and concerns focusing on Jerusalem, Beirut and Nicosia.

Dr Wendy Pullan is Head of Research and Director of the Martin Centre for Architectural and Urban Studies in the Department of Architecture at the University of Cambridge. She was Principal Investigator for 'Conflict in Cities and the Contested State', an international and multidisciplinary research project based in the UK and funded by the ESRC's Large Grants Programme, and is now Director of the Centre for Urban Conflicts Research. She received the Royal Institute of British Architects' inaugural President's Award for University-Led Research for work on Conflict in Cities. Dr Pullan has published widely on Mediterranean and Middle Eastern architecture and cities, especially Jerusalem, and has advised on issues to do with urban uncertainty. Her recent publications include: *Locating Urban Conflicts* (co-edited, 2013) and *The Struggle for Jerusalem's Holy Places* (co-authored, 2013). She is a Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge. Further details: www.conflictincities.org; www.urbanconflicts.arct.cam.ac.uk

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