



## WORKSHOP

# Forging Administration

June 18-19, 2008, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Kirchweg 33, 14129 Berlin

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### **In co-operation with**

Etudes Turques et Ottomanes, EHESS-CNRS-Collège de France, Paris; Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin; Institut d'Études de l'Islam et des Sociétés du Monde Musulman, Paris

### **Convened by**

**Marc Aymes** (Fellow of Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe, Berlin)

**Benoît Fliche** (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, "Études turques et ottomanes", Paris)

The present two-day workshop is part of a project which aims at constituting a research group dealing with the 'forging of administration'. This rather sibylline phrase points to an endeavour to address the issue of *faked and forged documents* as a pathway for investigating administration backstage, in a variety of imperial, national or local situations. Our disciplinary span straddles historical, anthropological and sociological perspectives, along with legal or literary ones. We will also strive to maintain a diachronic approach, as a way to interweave aspects of past and present administration, in former empires as in the states which took over. While first inspired by an analysis focused on Ottoman and post-Ottoman case studies (in which both the workshop's organizers share a primary interest), the idea also is to bring about a comparative criss-crossing of variously situated studies.

A word about the project's broader backdrop is in order. Administration produces idiosyncratic ideologies and singular behaviors; it also enacts ad hoc logics of writing and reading. When relating to it, the 'administered' ones contrive particular sets of abilities and competences: i.e., they develop techniques of accommodation-, patronage- and favor-securing. Fakes and forgeries are part and parcel of this large body of administrative knowledge and know-how which one needs to tease out. (Think for instance of ID-trafficking, if not identity-trafficking, which sometimes comes up as a tactical expedient for circumventing administrative constraints in today's Turkey.) They are to form the privileged topic of inquiry during the Berlin meeting. Several dimensions may be explored and intertwined:

- the forged documents themselves, and their characteristics;
- their users and producers, be they from within or outside the administrative circles;
- the counter-measures developed by authorities for devising fakeproof items

The main working languages of the sessions will be English and French.

The participants include eight paper presenters and eight discussants. Papers having been circulated in advance, each paper presenter will be given 30 minutes to provide an overview of his/her research, followed by 45 minutes of discussion (first by two discussants, then by all the participants and audience) for each paper.

[Ein gemeinsames Forschungsprogramm](#)

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## **JUNE 18, 2008**

9:00 Greetings & Toolkit-Introduction | Marc AYMES & Benoît FLICHE

### **Session 1 Forgeries in Many Guises**

10:00-11:15 "Forging Ottoman Administration: Examples from the Christian Orthodox Monasteries of Mount Athos" | "Falsifier l'administration ottomane. Exemples en provenance des monastères chrétiens orthodoxes du Mont Athos" | Elias KOLOVOS (University of Crete)

discussed by Magdi GUIRGUIS ("Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe", Berlin Free University) & Benoît FLICHE (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris)

*Coffee Break*

11:30-12:45 "Contourner l'administration locale en Turquie. L'exemple d'Adana" | "Bypassing local administration in Turkey: the Adana example" | Élise MASSICARD (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris)

discussed by Nora LAFI (Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin) & Martha MUNDY (London School of Economics)

*Lunch at ZMO*

### **Session 2 Uses and Misuses**

14:30-15:45 "The honour of the state. Uses and misuses of the Ottoman sultans' symbols of legitimacy" | "L'honneur de l'État. Usages et mésusages des symboles de la légitimité des sultans ottomans" | Güneş ISIKSEL (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris)

discussed by Magdi GUIRGUIS ("Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe", Freie Universität Berlin) & Yael NAVARO-YASHIN (University of Cambridge)

*Tea Time*

16:00-17:15 "Fakes and forgeries in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Ottoman Mediterranean" | "Faux et usages de faux en Méditerranée ottomane au XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle" | Marc AYMES ("Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe", Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin)

discussed by Elias KOLOVOS (University of Crete) & Pascale LABORIER (Université de Picardie, Amiens / Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin)

*Rest at Will, then Dinner*



**JUNE 19, 2008**

**Session 3 Border Crossing**

9:30-10:45 "Les transferts de populations liés au changement du tracé des frontières polono-ukrainiennes" | "Population transfers at redesigned Polish-Ukrainian frontiers" | Catherine GOUSSEFF (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris / Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin)

discussed by Benoît FLICHE (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris) & Christiane REINECKE (Humboldt-Universität, Berlin)

*Coffee Break*

11:00-12:15 "The 'self-forging' of Turkish administration with regard to the settlement of migrants from Western Thrace" | "Les usages de l'a-légalité par l'administration turque : la gestion des migrants originaires de Thrace occidentale" | Jeanne HERSANT (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg)

discussed by Marc AYMES ("Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe", Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin) & Nora LAFI (Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin)

*Lunch at ZMO*

**Session 4 Sham States?**

14:00-15:15 "The Make-Believe Environment and Its Objects: Affect in the Realms of Space, Law, and Administration" | "Le faire-semblant et ses objets : affects spatiaux, juridiques et administratifs" | Yael NAVARO-YASHIN (University of Cambridge)

discussed by Marc AYMES ("Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe", Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin) & Christiane REINECKE (Humboldt-Universität, Berlin)

*Tea Time*

15:30-16:45 "Identités des administrés et administration turque" | "Administered identities in Turkey" | Benoît FLICHE (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris)

discussed by Élise MASSICARD (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris) & Martha MUNDY (London School of Economics)

17:00-18:00 Conclusions

*Dinner*