

Europe's Broken Border and Integration Politics: A Critical View from Greece and Germany

Lecture Series

3:00 – 6:30 pm / Zoom

The lecture series aims to bring attention to the dehumanizing conditions which refugees experience at the EU borders. Through a combination of presentations of research outcomes, the discussion of social workers' experiences and activists' social and political engagement on the Island of Lesbos as well as theoretical reflections about participation and fundamental rights in the context of flight and migration different views and perspectives will be introduced.

23.5. Refugees living at the EU borders: Political and Social Developments in Greece

Prof. Dr. Nikos Xypolytas

Social Work under dehumanizing conditions in Lesbos, Greece

Konstantinos Zafiris

5.6. Getting active - Being Part of Change

Speakers from various initiatives aiming to improve the situation in the refugee camps on the Aegean Islands introduce their work and share their personal process of becoming active.

27.6. Participatory Human Rights and (Re)gaining/activating Power

Dr. Rebecca Gutwald, Lena Schützle & Prof. Dr. Tanja Kleibl



**The number of participants is limited. Please register for each session:
mrm-abroad.fas@fhws.de**

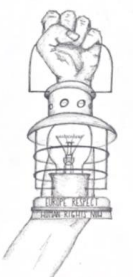
Responsible for the webinar: Tanja Kleibl, Professor of Social Work, Migration and Diversity

FH·W-S

University of Applied Sciences
Würzburg-Schweinfurt

In cooperation with:

IHS Munich
School of
Philosophy
Center for Social and
Development Studies



Europe's Broken Border and Integration Politics: A Critical View from Greece and Germany

23.5. Refugees living at the EU borders: Political and Social Developments in Greece

Prof. Dr. Nikos Xypolytas ([University of the Aegean](#)) & Konstantinos Zafiris (Social Worker from Lesbos)

The webinar will give an overview on the development of the refugee situation in Greece from 2015 till now. Data from research in Lesbos that focuses on the refugee crisis, which is understood as a long process of marginalization will be presented. Through this process, that spans through the countries of origin, Turkey and Greece, refugees are familiarized with the social position that is associated with the refugee status. This is done by undermining the sense of available options and choices as well as through the placement in low status jobs in various stages of their journey. The effects of this process are detrimental for the future social position of refugees in European countries.

Furthermore, Konstantinos Zafiris from Lesbos will share his work experiences and strategies of providing social assistance in a context where basic human rights of refugees are being denied; especially the work with unaccompanied minors will be discussed, including the associated Greek and European policy and administrative challenges which cause great difficulties for human-right based social work.

5.6. Getting active - Being Part of Change

Members of various initiatives, dedicated to changing the situation in the refugee camps on the Aegean Islands, introduce their work and share their experiences. They will talk about their approaches to change the complex situation in the camps for the better and they will speak about their individual processes of becoming active. Invited Speakers, inter alia:

Efi Latsoudi ([Lesvos Solidarity](#)) *Lesvos Solidarity* is a Greek NGO supporting locals and refugees in Lesbos.

Raed Alobd ([Moria Corona Awareness Team](#)) The *Moria Corona Awareness Team* was founded by a group of people from various professional backgrounds who live in the Camp in Moria/Lesvos and who organized themselves in order to face the Corona Crisis.

Hannah Kiesewetter, Katrin Oberhauser, Shani Gantz- ([EUrope Respect Human Rights NOW!](#)) *EUrope Respect Human Rights NOW!* is a student's initiative aiming to raise awareness in the academic context on the Human Rights violations in the refugee camps on the Aegean Islands.

Apart from the above experience exchanges the seminar will discuss the rise of nationalism and the extreme right which present the social position of refugees as the result of innate inadequacies and claim that their presence is undermining European societies and cultural values.

27.6. Participatory Human Rights and (Re)gaining/activating Power

Dr. Rebecca Gutwald ([ZGF/HfPh](#)), Lena Schützle ([ZGF/HfPh](#)) & Prof. Dr. Tanja Kleibl ([FHWS](#))

The right to political participation ranks among the most basic human rights, however, it does not operate in a non-coercive space. Claiming rights, questioning the status quo and participation are closely interlinked. Similar provisos for participations can be found in other rights, e. g. the so-called third-generation solidarity rights. In the webinar, we will discuss the meaning of radical compassion, participation and solidarity both from a top-down and a bottom-up perspective. In particular, we will explore what the human right to participation might mean for local social work in Lesbos that operates on the basis of respecting and implementing the human right to participation under dehumanizing conditions.

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