



# **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**

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

**10:00 - 10:30 - Plenary session**

Dr Mino 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 Jepkins, 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*

### **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*

Visual methods for exploring work, identities and belonging: the case of Kurdish workers in London

### **14:00 – 15:30 – Parallel sessions**

#### **Room C2- Diaspora and belonging**

Panel chair: Umut Erel, The Open University

- Kurdish Diasporas: Identity Construction and Perceptions of “home” among Kurdish Immigrant generations in the United Kingdom  
*Ali, Zalme, UWE Bristol*
- 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*

### **RoomC3 - 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 Rober, 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 Yärsani 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 Jepkins, Westminster*

**17:30 - Concluding remarks**