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 Minoo 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

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
Room C3 - 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 Ibraim 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 Yārsanî 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