Workshop

Culture and Foreign Policy in Refugee Camps

Date: 30 June 2015, 9:15 – 17:30
Place: BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion), Pfarrer-Byns-Straße 1, 53121 Bonn
Registration (until 25 June): Dorothea Grassmann, ifa, grassmann@ifa.de

In refugee camps it is necessary to guarantee fundamental rights, among those to provide cultural and educational programmes. Refugees have experienced violence, they have fled their homes, their relationship with their host society is often a difficult one, and it is not possible for them to return to their home country or to gain a measure of economic security. In such a context, cultural activities provide more than mere entertainment. They offer an opportunity to come to terms with traumatic experiences and to create a narrative of the individual conflict experience, in addition to providing a context in which it is possible to (re)define one’s identity and to maintain cultural practices. Furthermore, cultural activities make it possible for the refugee community to articulate needs and criticism in a context in which the opportunities for development, participation, and expression are rare.

In the context of the workshop, selected experts such as researchers, policymakers and implementers will discuss the role of Foreign Cultural and Educational Policy in the refugee camps in Lebanon. The aim of the workshop is to identify potentials and risks for German Foreign Cultural and Educational Policy in Lebanon in particular, and for refugee situations in general. Furthermore, the discussion is to shed light on the question of which themes and formats need to be chosen to achieve an effective and sustainable Cultural and Educational Policy along the needs and interests of the refugee communities.
Order of the day

9:15 Registration

9:30 Welcome words
Professor Dr Conrad Schetter (BICC) and Dr Odila Triebel (ifa)

9:45 Changing Dynamics in Protracted Refugee Situations (tbc)
Bram Jansen (Wageningen University)

10:30 Between Cultural Policy and Cultural Relief
Abdullah Alkafri (Ettijahat)

11:15 Coffee break

11:30 Art and Culture in the Palestinian Camps in Lebanon
Farzin Yekta (Studio Camps)

12:15 Cultural and Educational Policy in Refugee Camps in Lebanon
Leila Mousa (ifa-Research Programme “Culture and Foreign Policy”)

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Information on the World Café

14:05 World Café
  ▪ Which beneficiaries and benefits do we have on mind?
  ▪ Transferability and limitations of projects
  ▪ How to design projects that recognize refugees as political subjects?

15:45 Coffee break

16:00 Presentation of the Results and Discussion

17:00 Summary and Farewell
Dr Odila Triebel (ifa)

Moderation: Susanne Heinke (BICC)
ifa – connecting cultures

The ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen – Institute for International Cultural Relations) is committed to a peaceful and enriching coexistence of people and cultures worldwide. It is promoting art and cultural exchange in exhibitions, dialogue and conference programmes. As a competence centre for foreign cultural diplomacy, ifa is connecting civil societies, cultural practices, art, media and science. It is initiating, moderating and documenting discussions on the international cultural relations. Within ifa’s Research Programme “Culture and Foreign Policy” experts analyse current topics in foreign cultural and educational policy.

Contact:
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BICC

As an independent, non-profit organisation, BICC (Internationales Konversionszentrum Bonn—Bonn International Center for Conversion) deals with a wide range of global topics in the field of peace and conflict research centering on Conversion Studies. BICC’s vision is a more peaceful world. The mission is to conduct critical, problem-oriented, policy relevant research in response to the problems posed by organised violence. To do so, BICC engages in active exchanges with scholars and politicians as well as stakeholders in everyday practice and civil society. As a think tank, BICC seeks to engage in a dialogue with NGOs, governments, private organisations, research institutes and universities and well as with interested individuals.

Contact:
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How to get to BICC

From the main station, take bus No 606 or 607 direction 'Malteser Krankenhaus' and get off at 'Von-Hymmen-Platz' (approx. 10 mins. drive). Continue walking and turn into the next road on your right, called 'Pfarer-Byns-Straße'. At the end of the road on the right hand side you will find the new BICC premises. BICC’s offices are situated on the first floor.