

Flucht: Forschung und Transfer

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Launch of new website: Network of forced displacement and refugee studies in Germany

Since 2015 at the latest, the topic of “forced displacement” has been in the focus of numerous political and public discussions. Yet researchers in Germany have been concentrating on this topic for a long time: They look into causes and routes of displacement, changing legal, political and economic framework conditions of refugee movements, expectations and experiences of refugees as well as challenges to integration. The website of the project “Forced Displacement: Research and Transfer” of the Institute for migration research and intercultural studies (IMIS) at the University of Osnabrück and the Bonn-based peace and conflict research centre BICC now presents for the first time an interactive map of the diversity of research on forced displacement and refugees in Germany: <https://flucht-forschung-transfer.de>

In view of the rapidly rising number of people who are affected by forced displacement worldwide, an increasing number of research projects on this topic have been conducted in the past few years. Due to the substantial demand for their expertise, researchers also engage in active dialogue with decision-makers from politics and practice. **Dr Olaf Kleist** (IMIS) points to the goals that the new research project “Forced Displacement: Research and Transfer” wants to achieve and explains: **“The number of projects on displacement and refugees in Germany has risen rapidly in the last two years. While many researchers work alongside each other, they don’t cooperate. There is thus the need to build and strengthen academic networks in this field. Additionally, the results and knowledge of recent research needs to be adapted and made available to political decision-makers and practitioners who work with and for refugees”**.

This is why networking and the transfer of knowledge are the goals of the research project “Forced Displacement: Research and Transfer”. 380 projects have already been registered in the steadily growing data base on its website. Keywords allow a targeted search for projects from various disciplines and with specific regional focal points. By navigating in the interactive map, individual research locations can be chosen directly. **“Finally, we have a tool at our disposal that allows researchers as well as politicians and practitioners to quickly and easily get an overview of the current research activities on displacement and refugees, but also to recognize gaps in our research”**, Dr Benjamin Etzold, BICC, comments.



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The two-year project, financed by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF), is at the nexus of research and transfer. The overview map is only one early result. The topics of forced displacement and violent migration, refugee policy as well as reception, integration and return will be covered by a total of ten detailed reports on the current state-of-the-art of academic debates, important outcomes and gaps in the research. The reports will be published and made available to policymakers, administration, civil society, the media and the public.

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Forced Displacement: Research and Transfer – Refugee studies in Germany

Website: <https://flucht-forschung-transfer.de>

