PRESS RELEASE
16 September 2020

Largest conference on Forced Migration and Refugee Studies in Germany "Contexts of Displacement, Refugee Protection and Forced Migrants’ Lives"

From 17 to 19 September 2020, the Chair of Youth Welfare and Social Work at the University of Cologne, the German Network of Forced Migration Researchers and the BMBF-funded cooperation project “Forced Migration and Refugee Studies”: Networking and Knowledge Transfer (FFVT) are organising the virtual international conference “Contexts of Displacement, Refugee Protection and Forced Migrants’ Lives”. Many researchers of the peace and conflict research institute BICC will also be participating in the numerous workshops, round tables and online panels.

With more than 80 individual events in German and English and more than 900 participants from 47 countries, the 3rd Conference of the German Network of Forced Migration Researchers will be the largest conference on Forced Migration and Refugee Studies in Germany to date. The virtual format has been made possible by the cooperation of the Network with the cooperation project "Forced Migration and Refugee Studies: Networking and Knowledge Transfer (FFVT), which is supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

“We are pleased to support the conference as a first large part of the cooperation project. It promotes not only networking but also the further internationalisation of research on forced migration in Germany, which we consider as our main mandate”, Dr Elke Grawert, one of the coordinators of FFVT at BICC, comments.
BICC will actively contribute with its expertise in forced migration research to the programme of the conference:

- Among others, **Benjamin Etzold** and **Maarit Thiem**, responsible at BICC for the [EU Horizon 2020 project Transnational Figurations of Displacement (TRAFIG)](https://www.bicc.de/), will be discussing at the World Café “Research ethics in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies - International perspectives” (in English). Field research in Ethiopia, conducted in the framework of this project, will be presented by **Markus Rudolf** in the panel “The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and the local integration of refugees” (in English).

- In the round table discussion “Forced Migration and Refugee Studies: Networking and Knowledge Transfer” (in German), **Elke Grawert** with other cooperation partners will introduce the new [cooperation project](https://www.bicc.de/).

- **Katja Mielke** and **Ester Serra Mingot** who are members of the BICC research project “[Trajectories of reintegration: The impacts of displacement, migration and return on social change](https://www.bicc.de/)”, will participate in the panel discussion “(How) Does class matter in reintegration processes of refugees and migrants?” (in English).

- **Simone Christ** will contribute her insights gained in the research project “[Between civil war and integration - The reception of refugees as chance and risk for societal change in NRW](https://www.bicc.de/)” to the panel “Translocal lives and connectivity under conditions of displacement”. **Tim Röing** will also address these findings in the panel “(Dis-)continuities of experiences of conflict and violence” (in German).