



COSIMENA

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

PROGRAMME

OIB-COSIMENA Research Colloquium II

“What went wrong with Islamic Historiography? On the Need for a
Global Perspective”

Monday, 23rd September 2024



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Monday, 23rd September 2024

5.30– 6.00 p.m.
[Entrance]

Registration

6.00–6.15 p.m.
[„Kino“]

Greeting Words

Dr Carsten-Michael Walbiner (*Director, DAAD Regional Office Cairo*)
Lorena Mohr (*Head of Science & Protocol, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany to Egypt*)

6.15–7.00 p.m.

PRESENTATION

“What went wrong with Islamic Historiography? On the Need for a Global Perspective”

INPUT

Prof. Dr Florian Zemmin (*Freie Universität Berlin*)

7.00–7.30 p.m.

Q & A Session

MODERATION

Dr Yasmin Amin (*Orient-Institut Beirut*)

7.30–8.30 p.m.

JOINT NETWORKING RECEPTION

Concept Note & Biography of the Speaker

Concept Note

“What went wrong with Islamic Historiography?
On the Need for a Global Perspective”

“Why are Muslims backwards?” and “What caused the decline of Islam?”. These questions stem from the high age of imperialism. Typically, the paradigm of modernization as Westernization was coupled with that of an Islamic decline. Both paradigms have by now been refuted, the first mainly by social theorists, and the second by historians of the Islamic Middle East. However, no alternative model or narrative to these obsolete paradigms has yet been established. This contributes to the lasting purchase of notions of Islamic decline and Western progress in non-specialized academic fields and amongst the public. This lecture will revisit the main trends and options in the writing of modernity in the Middle East and discuss especially their underlying premises. Against internalist perspectives and culturalist explanations, it will argue for the need for connected histories, departing from the synchronic emergence of modernity in the colonial encounter.

sociology of religion and sociology of knowledge, he mainly works with approaches to conceptual history.

Prof. Dr Florian Zemmin

Univ.-Prof. Dr., Freie Universität Berlin (FU-Berlin)
Florian Zemmin is a Professor of Islamic and Middle East Studies (Islamwissenschaft) at Freie Universität Berlin and Director of the Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies. Previously he was a Senior Researcher at the Humanities Center for Advanced Study “Multiple Secularities: Beyond the West, beyond modernities” at the University of Leipzig.

His main field of research is religion and society in the modern and contemporary Arab and Islamic world. In that field, more specific topics include Islamic reformism, theories of secularity, and Arabic sociologies of religion. Next to the

Participants' Feedback

Scan and share with us your feedback!



COSIMENA Network

If you would like to join our COSIMENA network and receive news about upcoming events, please scan this QR-Code:



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email us at: cosimena@daadcairo.org

OIB-COSIMENA Research Colloquium II

In the first joint colloquium in 2023-2024, the research focus was on new approaches to religious ethics, which was divided into three sections (gender, environmental and biomedical ethics). The 12 lectures were held by Egyptian and German scholars. Attention was paid to the plurality of perspectives: man - woman, Muslim - Christian, Sunni – Shiite, and Catholic - Orthodox - Evangelical. The contributions of the 12 scholars will be published in an anthology in autumn 2024. The success of the colloquium was confirmed by various indicators, in particular the great interest of the audience and the interest of the carefully selected speakers in taking part.

The OIB (Cairo Office) is organizing a new series in cooperation with the DAAD Regional Office Cairo in the period between June 2024 - April 2025 on a new topic, namely “Knowledge transfer, its history and its future in the age of digital humanities” or briefly “Knowledge transfer between history and innovation”.

In the new series, the topic will also be treated in an interdisciplinary manner from different perspectives, namely history, religious studies, sociology, modernity and computer science.

This time also, there will be three clusters of 4 lectures each. The first cluster addresses the question of what knowledge transfer is. The second focuses on the questions of how, why and by whom. The final cluster will address modern times. The following dates are planned for the events:

1st Cluster

- Thursday, 13th June 2024
- Wednesday, 26th June 2024
- Monday, 23rd September 2024
- Wednesday, 30th October 2024

2nd Cluster

- Dienstag, 5th November 2024
- Wednesday, 27th November 2024
- Wednesday, 18th December 2024
- Wednesday, 29th January 2025

3rd Cluster

- Wednesday, 26th February 2025
- Wednesday, 16th April 2025
- Wednesday, 30th April 2025
- Wednesday, 28th May 2025

Partners

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)

It was in 1960 when the DAAD Regional Office was established on the basis of the German-Egyptian Cultural Agreement. Since then, the academic relations between Egypt and Germany have evolved steadily. The close cooperation has unwrapped new horizons for the scientific bonds of both countries to further develop and flourish. Thousands of Egyptian scholars have benefited ever since from these ties. <https://www.daad.eg/>

Clusters of Scientific Innovation in the Middle East and North Africa (COSIMENA)

In the scope of COSIMENA the DAAD Office Cairo realises interdisciplinary events on current issues in science and innovation, such as workshops, conferences, roundtable discussions, the German Science Day, the COSIMENA Science Night and a Summer School. The several activities aim to bring together various stakeholders from science, business, government, and civil society. Especially scientists are promoted and supported through networking opportunities. www.daad.eg/cosimena

Orient Institut Beirut

The Orient-Institut Beirut (OIB) is an independent academic research institute, belonging to the Max Weber Foundation. It is mainly funded through the Federal Ministry of Education and Research in Germany. It conducts interdisciplinary research on the Arab world and the region of West Asia and North Africa at large. Its research community comprises long-term research associates from Germany and short-term visiting fellows from all over the world, who represent the major disciplines of the humanities and social sciences, including Islamic and Arab studies, history and anthropology of the Middle East, as well as sociology and political sciences. <https://orient-institut.org>

IMPRINT

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DAAD Außenstelle Kairo
DAAD Regional Office Cairo
11 El-Saleh Ayoub St.
off 26th July, Zamalek,
11211, Cairo

Project Coordination

Nermine Abdelaty, DAAD
Dr Yasmin Amin, OIB

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