Lecture Series: The Mediterranean and its Blind Spots | Blinde Flecken im Raum: Das Mittelmeer

Discussion published by Paul Vickers on Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Wednesdays, 16:00-17:30, now until 2.2.2022 - online via Zoom and in person in Regensburg. The lectures take place in either German or English. To register for online access, please contact islands@ur.de. The full program is available below and also here.

“Vast and diverse and yet fixed”. The Italian poet Eugenio Montale used these words to describe the “hazardous law” of the Mediterranean Sea as a metaphor of the human condition. This quotation can also be taken as a metaphor for the traditions of research on the Mediterranean region, oscillating between ambitions of unity and longue durée on the one hand, and fragmentation and asymmetries on the other hand. How can different disciplines engage in dialogue between an introuvable (unfindable, indiscoverable) Mediterranean universe (Moatti) and the need to address this region’s relevance for today’s world? Another key question addressed here is: can the Mediterranean offer a viable meso-level between the exclusivity of nation-centered approaches and the stress on connectivity adopted by global history?

This lecture series engages with concepts in area studies and beyond in the search for topics, people, cultures, languages, and places that have remained at the margins of research. It proposes a Mediterranean perspective to make these underexplored phenomena visible and retrieve their resonance on a wider scale. The Mediterranean and its Blind Spots thus features specialists from different disciplines including history, language and cultural studies, anthropology, and archaeology. The lectures address various periods from antiquity to the present. This broad frame allows for reflexive discussion on the consequences of adopting a Mediterranean prism in current research (and beyond).

The lecture series is organized by members of the University of Regensburg CITAS-Network MS ISLA in cooperation with the Mittelmeer-Plattform at the University of Konstanz. It is aimed at students, the broader research community, and any other interested audiences. The events will take place in a hybrid format and can be attended virtually (on Zoom) or in situ (Regensburg).

Programme - the title for each lecture indicates the language it will be given in:

**20.10.21** Andreas Guidi (Konstanz), Jonas Hock, Laura Linzmeier (Regensburg)
Grundbegriffe der Mediterranean und Area Studies

**27.10.21** Rainer Liedtke (Regensburg)
Metamorphose durch Hellenisierung: Thessaloniki und der Große Brand von 1917

**03.11.21** Rembert Eufe (Tübingen)
Das veneziano de là da mar (in German)

**10.11.21** Sonja Brentjes & Victor de Castro y León (Berlin)
Mittelmeerbeziehungen aus der Sicht von See- und Landkarten (14.-17. Jh.)

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17.11.21    Ulrich van Loyen (Siegen)

24.11.21    Ralf Junkerjürgen (Regensburg)
Der staatenlose Graf von Monte Christo: Insel als Handlungsraum und Symbol im Werk von
Alexandre Dumas

01.12.21    Sarah Nimführ (Linz)
(Im)Mobilität und mediterrane Migration

08.12.21    Jasmin Daam (Bonn)
How to see it: Tourism and Space-Formation in the Arab Eastern Mediterranean in the Early
Twentieth Century

15.12.21    M’hamed Oualdi (Paris)
Ottoman Legacies in Colonial North Africa (1860s-1920s)

12.01.22    Martina Seifert (Hamburg)
Kommunikationsraum Adria: Befunde, Interpretationen, Narrative

19.01.22    Robert Blackwood & Stefania Tufi (Liverpool)
The Mediterranean as a transnational space: a sociolinguistic perspective from France and Italy

26.01.22    Karla Mallette (Michigan) & Daniel König (Konstanz)
Cosmopolitan languages in the Mediterranean: book launch and discussion

02.02.22    Steffen Schneider (Graz)
Die Repräsentation mediterraner Hafenstädte in literarischen Texten der romanischen Literaturen

More details: https://www.uni-regensburg.de/citas/english/events/citas-lecture-series/index.html