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FRIEDRICH-SCHILLER-
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JENA

Workshop at the Chair of Modern History: “Travelogues of the Orient in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries”

27 November 2020

Online Platform: Cisco Webex

Chair: Prof. Dr. Carola Dietze

Organiser: Uğur Özcan, PhD

Research Assistants: Lisa Gersdorf (Organization and scheduling),
Sebastian Hansen (Layout)

Supported by Academics in Solidarity, Free University Berlin & History
Institute of Friedrich Schiller University Jena

Email: ugur.oezcan@uni-jena.de

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Berlin

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Workshop at the Chair of Modern History:

“Travelogues of the Orient in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries”

Date: 27 November 2020

Location: Cisco Webex

This one-day workshop supported by AIS (Academics in Solidarity) of Freie University Berlin and History Institute of Friedrich Schiller University Jena will focus on travelogues that depict Orient in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Across the ‘longest century’ of the Ottoman Empire, German, English, French, American, Arabian and Turkish diplomats, scientists, academics, and soldiers visited the Ottoman lands as a part of Orient and wrote travelogues to capture their impressions of it for multiple reasons. As primary sources, travelogues offer important insights for both historians and other researchers in various fields.

The aim of this workshop is to increase awareness of the benefit of travelogues for history in particular and research more generally. Scholars will come together to explore the innovative ways travelogues could be used to invigorate new research directions and to revise historical paradigms. Most importantly, the workshop seeks to show its moral and academic support for the integration of academics at risk in German and international academic communities. Moreover, the workshop offers a collegial environment for scholarly exchange among German and international scholars. To offer as broad a spectrum for exchange as possible, efforts have been made to strike a balance between the number of presenters and commentators.

We all know that an actual meeting would be preferred but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the workshop will take place as an online workshop. Restrictions on public events and assemblies, current travel restrictions and not least actual health risks make it necessary to realize this workshop on November 27, 2020 as an online meeting.

Presentations can be in German or in English. The virtual Workshop is free and open to the public but pre-registration is required. For registration and questions please send an email to travelogues.orient@uni-jena.de.

We look forward to see you on November 27, 2020 at our Workshop.

Yours Sincerely

Ugur ÖZCAN, PhD.
PSI Fellow, History Institute
Friedrich Schiller University Jena

Poster

WORKSHOP AT THE CHAIR OF MODERN HISTORY: Travelogues of the Orient in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries



Friday, 27 November 2020

Location: Cisco Webex

For registration please send an email to: travelogues.orient@uni-jena.de

Project manager: Ugur Özcan, PhD. (PSI Fellow)



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OPENING

09:00 Ugur Özcan, PhD.

FIRST SESSION

Chair: Prof. Dr. Carola Dietze

09:15-9:40 Dr. Imad Samir/Jabagh Kablou, PhD. *"The European, American and Russian Travels, Explorations and Archaeological Missions to Syria in the Long 19th Century Background, Motives and Results"*

09:45-10:10 Suat Zeyrek, PhD/Hasan Hakan Ulutin, PhD: *"Analyse und Kritik über zwei deutsche Instruktoren der Osmanischen Truppen im 19. Jahrhundert: Helmuth von Moltke (1839) und Colmar von der Goltz (1897, 1913)"*

10:10-10:50 Discussion

11:20-11:45 Prof. Dr. Isa Blumi: *"Pay to Play: Imperial Adventure Literature on Ottoman Albania and Arabia, 1800-1933"*

11:50-12:15 Yüksel Nizamoglu, PhD *"Die Hauptstadt des Osmanischen Reiches in den Augen George William Frederick Howards: Istanbul im Jahr 1853"*

12:15-12:55 Discussion

SECOND SESSION

Chair: PD Dr. Franziska Schedewie

14:30-15:00 Dr. Stefan Knost / Kristin Victor, MSc.: *"The journeys of the botanist Carl Haussknecht to the Ottoman Empire (1865-67): his observations of change in rural Eastern Anatolia"*

15:05-15:30 Ugur Özcan, PhD *"Montenegrin Women through the Eyes of Foreign Travellers in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries"*

15:30-16:10 Discussion

16:40-17:05 Dr. des. Dennis Dierks *"Habsburg Images of the Ottoman Borderlands. 19th Century Travelogues on Bosnia and Serbia from the Austrian State Archive"*

17:05-17:25 Discussion

CLOSING SPEECH

*Blacklink (image): https://www.flickr.com/photos/vintage_illustration/42077001034/in/photostream/



Speakers and Commentators

Prof. Dr. Isa Blumi, Stockholm University, Stockholm/SWEDEN.
Dr. des. Dennis Dierks, Friedrich Schiller University Jena/GERMANY.
Prof. Dr. Carola Dietze, Friedrich Schiller University Jena/GERMANY.
Jabagh Kablou, PhD., PSI Fellow, Friedrich Schiller University Jena /GERMANY.
Dr. Stefan Knost, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg/GERMANY.
Yüksel Nizamoglu, PhD., PSI Nominee /GERMANY.
Ugur Özcan, PhD., PSI Fellow, Friedrich Schiller University Jena /GERMANY.
Dr. Imad Samir, Friedrich Schiller University Jena /GERMANY.
PD Dr. Franziska Schedewie, Friedrich Schiller University Jena /GERMANY.
Hasan Hakan Ulutin, PhD., Scholar at Risk (SAR) /GERMANY.
Kristin Victor, M.Sc., Friedrich Schiller University Jena/GERMANY.
Suat Zeyrek, PhD., Scholar at Risk (SAR) /GERMANY.

Information

Chair: Prof. Dr. Carola Dietze

Organiser: Uğur Özcan, PhD

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Supported by: 'Academics in Solidarity', Freie Universität Berlin; History Institute, Friedrich Schiller University Jena.

Email: ugur.oezcan@uni-jena.de

The workshop will take place via cisco webex. For more information about how to use the Cisco Webex please check out these links given below:

- In English, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WywiTZEIS8>
- In Turkish, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ix-UFz3s1bY>
- In German, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNbwlmfikLk>

ABSTRACTS OF THE WORKSHOP

PAY TO PLAY: IMPERIAL ADVENTURE LITERATURE ON OTTOMAN ALBANIA AND ARABIA, 1800-1933

Prof. Dr. Isa BLUMI
Stockholm University/Asian, Middle Eastern and Turkish Studies

Abstract

Along the edges of Ottoman West Balkans and SW Arabia, Austro Hungarian, German, Italian, French, British and Ottoman journalists and itinerate men/women of science marketed their literary production to venture capitalists, imperial bureaucracies and for-profit media. Drawing from a wealth of knowledge that others paid for, this comparative study of those writing on their travel experiences in Ottoman era Albania and SW Arabia and the political economy of their knowledge explores new channels of power that directly shaped the intersecting worlds of diplomacy, market forces and social scientific production.

By extending attention to how the value of knowledge was "marketed" prior to, during and after the production of stories, studies and opinions, the authors and their eventual readers proved invariably trapped in the politics of imperial collapse that accompanied their careers. That the texts written throughout this period (1830-1930) would draw attention from political and economic actors, whose interests often included using such traveled information to sell "access" to their readership, helps complicate the study of travelogues, ethnographies, and journalistic advocacy. Crucially the piece expands earlier published work to include several examples of how indigenous authors successfully marketed their own access to knowledge deemed increasingly valuable by those interests mentioned above

THE JOURNEYS OF THE BOTANIST CARL HAUSSKNECHT TO THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE (1865-67): HIS OBSERVATIONS OF CHANGE IN RURAL EASTERN ANATOLIA

Dr. Stefan KNOST
Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg/Centre for Interdisciplinary Regional Studies

Kristin VICTOR, M.Sc.
Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Institute for Ecology and Evolution

Abstract

The German botanist Carl Haussknecht (1838-1903) travelled in 1865 and again in 1866-69 in the Eastern parts of the Ottoman Empire and Western Persia. His main objective was to collect plants for Edmond Boissier's six-volume encyclopedia 'Flora Orientalis' (published between 1867 and 1888). However, his travel diaries (almost a thousand pages long) abound with all kinds of information. Apart from his main interest in botany, he recorded his observations on geology, agriculture, archeology, architecture, foreign merchants and missionaries, local bureaucrats, social and economic conditions, and so on. An interdisciplinary research group at the Universities of Jena (Botany), Halle (Islamic Studies) and Marburg (Iranian Studies) currently prepares an annotated digital edition of the travel diaries.

Hausknecht never published his travelogue although he had initially planned to do so. His travel diaries are particularly rich in information on rural, especially mountainous, areas as well as villages and small towns. Considering the period of his travels (the 1860s), his descriptions open up a window into the Ottoman reform period (Tanzimat) and the reforms' application in these rural areas. This paper focuses on his first journey and his descriptions of the Northern part of Aleppo province between the modern cities of Gaziantep, Kahramanmaraş and Şanlıurfa. It analyses several aspects of the transition from ancien régime to the 'modern' Tanzimat state: assertion of state control against local self-administration, increasing presence of foreign merchants and missionaries, as well as economic relations between the towns and their rural hinterland.

**ANALYSIS AND REVIEW OF TWO GERMAN INSTRUCTORS OF THE OTTOMANS'
TROOPS IN THE 19TH CENTURY: HELMUTH VON MOLTKE (1839) AND COLMAR VON
DER GOLTZ (1897, 1913)**

Suat ZEYREK, PhD
Hasan Hakan ULUTIN, PhD

Abstract

The analysis deals with the findings and assessments of two important personalities who traveled through the Ottoman Empire as instructors in the 19th century: Helmuth von Moltke and Colmar von der Goltz. Helmuth von Moltke arrived in Istanbul towards the end of 1835, when significant changes were taking place in the Ottoman capital at the time. The newly established army particularly needed foreign experience. So von Moltke began training the *Nizamiye* troops and was given the opportunity to travel to various parts of the country. In 1839, the military adviser von Moltke attended the battle of Nizip and learned the defeat of the Ottoman troops up close. Von Moltke's assessments and statements about the defeat of the battle and thus about the general condition of the Ottoman troops at that time are therefore of great importance. Since any criticism against the Ottoman Empire was impossible until the Young Turks movement emerged. Expressions of opinion and criticism in the democratic sense were punished.

During this time, von Moltke wrote over 60 letters to his family and friends in Berlin, which were published in Berlin in 1841. These letters were not translated during the Ottoman period. The translation into Turkish took place much later in 1967, the year of publication of the book with the letters in Turkish libraries being given as 1917. This approach shows that von Moltke's remarks and assessments were never seriously used. Even if no benefit was drawn from his ideas and thoughts, a Moltke myth nonetheless arose in Turkey. Helmuth von Moltke was now familiar with the Turkish system. After his appointment as Chief of Staff of the Prussian Army (1858-1888), he contributed significantly to the dispatch of new troops to Turkey. With a view to the situation in Turkey, von Moltke also arranged for formal interventions. So he spoke out against sending troops if they did not follow von Moltke's instructions.

This created a new myth: Colmar von der Goltz. Von der Goltz reached Turkey in 1883 and published his book in 1889, where he commented on many topics. The translation of the writings that influenced the Ottoman military and politics was over 4,000 pages. These translations were used in the training of the troops, which modernized the Ottoman military, also to the benefit of Germany, and introduced the influence of German training in the Turkish military.

**IN THE EYES OF GEORGE WILLIAM FREDERICK HOWARDS, THE CAPITAL OF THE
OTTOMAN EMPIRE: ISTANBUL IN 1853**

Yüksel NIZAMOGLU, PhD

Abstract

George William Frederick Howard, who introduced himself in his work as "Earl of Carlisle", received his doctorate in classical languages and is known for his political and literary interests. His first published work is the book "Own Travels in America". His impressions of his journey to the Ottoman Empire, known as the "Great East, Magical East", which he undertook in 1853 and which lasted twelve months, he gave in his 358-page book "Diary in Greek and Turkish Waters", in which Istanbul occupies an important place, published in London in 1854.

The trip began a few months before the outbreak of the Crimean War. This enabled Howard to see and assess the Ottoman lands through the eyes of an ally before and during the war. Another special feature of the trip is that it took place during the Tanzimat reforms (Tanzimât, in German: reorganization, arrangements). Thanks to this work, ten years after the Tanzimat reforms, the opportunity arose to analyze the Ottoman institutions and social life in the countryside. Howard benefited from being a citizen of an allied state and was able to see not only palaces, mosques and churches in Istanbul, but also warships and got to know Ottoman officers and bureaucrats.

In this paper an overview of the Seyyahs (travelers) and the Seyahatnames (book of journeys) is given. Then the main points of Howard's journey are broken down into the following topics and highlighted: social life; before and during the Crimean War; the minorities in the Ottoman Empire. Finally, his impressions about it are examined.

**THE EUROPEAN, AMERICAN AND RUSSIAN TRAVELS, EXPLORATIONS AND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MISSIONS TO SYRIA IN THE LONG 19TH CENTURY
BACKGROUND, MOTIVES AND RESULTS"**

Dr. Imad SAMIR

*Friedrich Schiller University Jena, History Institute
Jabagh KABLOU, PhD*

Friedrich Schiller University Jena, History Institute

Abstract

We would like to present our planned project. The project offers a comprehensive study of western travels (Russia included) to Syria in the long 19th century. With the beginning of the 19th century, the number of travelers who left for the Orient increased steadily. Many of them had the goal to visit Syria on the way to the Arabian Peninsula and Yemen or the Holy Land.

The motives and reasons for the trip to Syria were different: the desire to adventure, to explore a new life, or to visit the holy places in Palestine and the surrounding area. Some travelers came as missionaries to preach to Syrian Christians as well as Muslims. Some came from their countries on official missions, under the pretext of protecting followers of a particular sect in the Orient. Travelers include scholars with various research interests: politics sociology, economy, religion and history. Among them were doctors, artists, photographers. The search for biblical monuments and the interest in antiquities in the Orient led to the organization of archaeological expeditions to Syria and the establishment of so-called "biblical archeology" from

the mid-19th century onwards, and subsequently led to the discoveries of ancient civilizations in Syria and in Orient.

Therefore, the reports of travelers are a very important source for the political, social and economic situation of Syria in the 19th and early 20th centuries, for the biological environmental status and climate change in the country and for the documentation of the Syrian cultural assets, which no longer exist because of natural disasters or armed conflicts. They are also important for understanding the policies of the then major powers in the Middle East. All these aspects will be examined in this project.

MONTENEGRIN WOMEN IN THE EYES OF TRAVELERS IN THE 19th and EARLY 20th CENTURY

Ugur ÖZCAN, PhD

Friedrich Schiller University Jena, History Institute

Abstract

Montenegro, a Balkan country surrounded by steep mountains and bordering the Adriatic Sea, differed from other countries in the region in terms of social structure and life in the 19th and early 20th centuries. This difference manifests itself in the social perceptions of women in Montenegrin history. Although the Montenegrin woman was the primary workforce in the family, she did not have this superiority in society. This particular situation that Montenegrin women found themselves in was widely discussed in articles, reports and news, as well as in memoirs and travel diaries written by foreigners.

In this study, the issue of women from Montenegro will be examined through the eyes of travelers who visit the country due to the public interest of 19th century Europe. What kinds of elements attracted travelers traveling to Montenegro and the level of European modernization as well as the influence of Ottoman modernization on Montenegrin women in society will be discussed with examples of travel books in English, German and Turkish.

HABSBURG IMAGES OF THE OTTOMAN BORDERLANDS. 19TH CENTURY TRAVELOGUES ON BOSNIA AND SERBIA FROM THE AUSTRIAN STATE ARCHIVE

Dr. des. Dennis DIERKS

Friedrich Schiller University of Jena, History Institute

Abstract

The paper will analyze the production and circulation of knowledge on the Southeast European borderlands of the Ottoman Empire from the late 18th century until the Austro-Hungarian occupation of Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1878. The “actors of knowledge” (Philipp Sarasin) on which it will focus are members of the Habsburg military who systematically collected information on the border. The sources the paper will analyze are manuscripts of travelogues and cartographical visualizations of the borderland collected in the Viennese “Kriegsarchiv.” Investigating the knowledge production on these regions in a long durée perspective that also takes into account the early-modern period, the paper asks how the bodies of knowledge generated by the military differ from historical and geographical accounts and travelogues produced in other contexts. Besides that, the paper will discuss the role of expertise and the question when arcane knowledge became public, and to which extent these travelogues, when being published, informed imaginations of the borderland of a broader public.

PARTICIPANTS

Dr. Isa Blumi is Docent/Associate Professor of Turkish and Middle Eastern Studies at Stockholm University Institute for Turkish Studies within the Department of Asian, Middle Eastern and Turkish Studies. He holds a PhD in History and Middle Eastern/Islamic Studies from New York University and a Master of Political Science and Historical Studies from The New School for Social Research, New York. Dr. Isa Blumi joined Stockholm University in late 2015 after spending the previous 10 years teaching and researching in universities located in Germany, Belgium, Turkey, the USA, United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, and Albania/Kosovo. Dr. Blumi researches societies in the throes of social, economic, and political transformation. His latest work covers the late Ottoman period and successor regimes. Beyond his historical research, Blumi also regularly writes, and lectures on contemporary Balkan and Middle Eastern politics (especially Kosovo, Turkey and Yemen) and political Islam.

Dr. des. Denis Dierks: Dennis Dierks is an academic at the Chair for Eastern European History at FSU Jena. From 1999 to 2005 he studied history, Islamic studies, Turkish studies and Slavic studies at the universities of Mainz, Dijon and Vienna as a scholarship holder of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation. He received his MA Degree from the University of Vienna in 2005. From 2009 to 2011 he worked as a project employee at the Institute for European History in Mainz and received his PhD in 2014 with the dissertation titled "*National history/ies in a multicultural space. Historical constructions and cultures of remembrance in Habsburg Bosnia-Herzegovina (1878-1914)*". Since 2011 he has been teaching and researching at the Chair for Eastern European History at FSU Jena. He is also a Member of the humanities network "Ottoman Europe - Methods and Perspectives of Early Modern Research on Southeast Europe" funded by the DFG.

Prof. Dr. Carola Dietze: is the Chair of the Modern History at the History Institute of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena. From 1993 to 1999 she studied Middle and Modern History, Politics, Slavic Studies, Sociology and Philosophy at the Georg-August University in Göttingen and the Tripos Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic at the University of Cambridge (Corpus Christi College). After obtaining her doctorate in Göttingen in 2005, she became a research assistant at the German Historical Institute Washington DC from 2006 to 2010. From 2010 to 2015 she was an academic advisor (temporary) at the University of Giessen. After her habilitation in 2013 for Modern and Contemporary History, Justus Liebig University Gießen, she was head of the subproject Bo4 from 2014 to 2017: '*State security and security against the state in Europe, Russia and the USA in the 19th century*' in the SFB / TRR 138: '*Dynamics of Security. Forms of securitization from a historical perspective*' at the Universities of Gießen and Marburg. Since 2017 she has held the Chair of Modern History at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena.

Dr. Jabagh Kablou: is a PSI Fellow at the Historical Institute of the FSU Jena. He studied history at the University of Damascus in Syria. He got his PhD. in Ancient History at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University in Tbilisi/Georgia with the dissertation title "*Assyrian-Aramaic relations in northern Syria up to the middle of the 9th century BC*". He gave lectures as Professor of Ancient History at Damascus University before the ongoing conflict in Syria. He is currently making his research as PSI Fellow and Visiting scholar at the Historical Institute of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena.

Dr. Stephan Knost: is a Professor at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Regional Studies at Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg. He received his Ph.D. Degree in Islamic Studies from the Humboldt-Universität (Berlin) in 2004 with the Dissertation title "*The 'sacred space' in Aleppo. The role of Islamic religious foundations (auqâf) in the society of a provincial capital of the*

Ottoman Empire". He worked as an Associate researcher at the Orient-Institut Beirut until 2013. 2013-2014 and 2016-2017 he gave lectures as a Visiting Professor (Vertretungsprofessor) in Islamic Studies at the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg. His main research areas are History of the Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire, particularly social and legal history, as well as urban history focusing on religious institutions. Dr. Knost researches mainly in Arabic, Turkish and French archives on these subjects. His second major is Art and Architecture of the Bilad al-Sham (Greater Syria) from Ayyubid to Ottoman times. He has various articles and two monographs.

Dr. Yuksel Nizamoglu, studied History at Dokuz Eylul University in Izmir and Istanbul University in Istanbul. He got his PhD from Istanbul University in 2010 with the dissertation titled "*The life and military activities of Vehip Pasha (Kaçı)*". For many years he had worked as a history teacher and as director at various Private high schools in Turkey. Between 2008-2012 he taught History of Turkish Republic and History of Ottoman Empire at Fatih University. In 2012 he became Associate Professor at the same University. From 2013 until 2016 he had worked as an Associate Professor and Director of Social Science Institute at Turgut Özal University which was shut down by the Turkish Government. Since 2016 he has been living in Germany and taking German courses at C1 level. Currently he is nominated by University of Leipzig as a PSI Fellow.

Dr. Ugur Özcan: is a PSI Fellow and visiting scholar at History Institute of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena. He received his Ph.D. degree from the Süleyman Demirel University in 2009 in Turkey, with the dissertation thesis "*Political Relations between Ottoman Empire and Montenegro in the Era of Abdulhamid II*". He worked as an Assistant Professor first at the History Department of Ahi Evran University and Istanbul University's Eurasian Institute and then Istanbul University's Institute of Atatürk Principles. Dr. Özcan received the title of 'Associate Professor' in March 2015 in İstanbul University. He gave Graduate courses on Balkan History at the same University. He has published papers, articles, books and editorial studies on the Modern Ottoman History, the Balkans and especially Ottoman-Montenegro Relations. He is currently doing his researches at the History Institute of the FSU Jena, as a visiting scholar and PSI Fellow. He is also the member of the Centre for Mediterranean Studies (Zentrum für Mittelmeerstudien) of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum.

Dr. Imad Samir: is a visiting scholar at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena. He studied history and archeology at the University of Damascus Syria and the University of Saarland. He got his PhD in History and Cultural Studies at the University of Saarland in Saarbrücken/Germany in 2001 with the dissertation topic: "*Bookkeeping on textiles: annotated first processing of a group of economic texts from the Ebla archive L.2769*". 2002-2012 he gave lectures in History of Civilization, History and Archeology of the Middle East at the University of Damascus, Syria. 2012-2016 he had worked as a Visiting scholar and researcher at the Max-Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. Currently he is fellow at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena.

PD Dr. Franziska Schedewie: is a member of the Chair of Modern History of the History Institute at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena. Between 1988-1996, she studied Intermediate and Modern History and English in Heidelberg and Siena. In 2004, she received his PhD at Heidelberg University with the dissertation titled "*History of Eastern Europe and Social Change in Russian States. Peasants and Zemstvo, Voronež, 1864-1914*". Between 2009-2012, she gave lectures at Heidelberg University in the Eastern European history seminar. In 2012, he took part in the edition project "*Relations from the Russian Court: Reports of the European Diplomats, 1690-1730*" by the German Historical Institute (DHI) in Moscow. In 2013, she completed her habilitation Project titled "*European stage. Russian diplomacy and German policy in Weimar, 1798-1819*" in FSU Jena with the work. After working as vice chair of Eastern Europe History at

FSU Jena between 2015-2019 PD Dr. Schedewie has been working as a member of Chair of Modern History at the History Institute of FSU Jena, since 2020.

Dr. Hasan Hakan Ulutin: Dr. Ulutin received his PhD Degree from the Institute of Turkic Studies at Marmara University in Istanbul/Turkey. His dissertation was on a problematic issue in Turkish History with the title "*Dersim in II. Constitutionalism and the Republican Period (1908-1938)*". He has worked at Fatih University as a research assistant and as a Lecturer at Eskişehir Osmangazi University in Turkey. He has given courses on *Atatürk Principles and History of Revolutions* as a Lecturer at İstanbul University from 2012 to 2016. He is also specialized on the administration of the Balkan region during the Ottoman Constitutionalism period, the practices of secularism in the Republican period, the ethnic and religious anthropology of the Turkish, Kurdish, Alevi tribes and the History of Dersim. He has been living in Germany since July 2018. Currently he is having German courses at Paderborn University in Paderborn/Germany.

Kristin Victor, M.Sc, is the qualified biologist who has been working as a research assistant at the Herbarium Haussknecht Chair of the Institute for Ecology and Evolution at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena in various projects since 2007. She has been the collection coordinator in *the Herbarium* since 2020. She is also working in an interdisciplinary project on the creation of a digital edition of the Orient travel diaries of the founder of the Herbarium Carl Haussknecht, together with Dr. Stefan Knost (ZIRS, University of Halle-Wittenberg) and Christine Kämper (Iranian Studies, University of Bamberg). The project is funded by the DFG.

Dr. Suat Zeyrek: He studied history at Istanbul University in Istanbul. He got his PhD Degree from Istanbul University in 2009 with the dissertation titled "*Internal and External Causes Of The First Balkan War Defeat*". He worked as a lecturer, Assistant Professor and Associate Professor for many years at Istanbul University till 2016. He wrote three books and various articles published in international journals in his field. Now taking German language courses, Dr. Zeyrek, researches on especially political history of the Modern Era, Ottoman modernization, and the construction of the Republic of Turkey.