

Dates:

Friday, 4 May 2012, 9.00h –
Saturday, 5 May 2012, 18.00h

Venue:

Heidelberg University
Transcultural Studies
Marshallstraße 6, 4th floor (room 413)
D-69117 Heidelberg

The workshop is part of the joint project with the Department of Medieval Studies at Central European University (CEU), Budapest, supported by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Hungarian Scholarship Board (MÖB).

On May 4-5, 2012 the first workshop of the collaborative research project “Trans-European Diasporas: Migration, Minorities, and diasporic Experience in East Central Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean 500-1800” will be hosted by the Transcultural Studies Programme at Heidelberg University.

The workshop will explore the trans-regional dialogue and transfer of textual and visual idioms as well as material culture by tracing networks of knowledge within the traveler, scholarly and diplomatic Diasporas. There is increasing evidence that what under the influence of Edward Said’s landmark study has been characterized as one-sided, self-involved production of literature and scholarly works on the Orient by European scholars should be reconsidered—especially starting in the fifteenth century—in light of the activities of various intermediaries, such as scholars, diplomats, translators, captives and travelers venturing to the Eastern Mediterranean, who interacted with local Muslim, Jewish and Orthodox Christian literati. These latter may have had much more input in the formation of the images about the Orient in the early modern period than previously imagined and acknowledged. However, the situation for the medieval period may be significantly different. The workshop will engage new directions in research and explore differences between medieval and early modern situations by focusing in particular on Diasporas from East Central Europe sojourning in the Eastern Mediterranean and vice versa, and the visual and textual genres that they generated.



Trans-European Diasporas: Migration, Minorities, and diasporic Experience in East Central Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean 500-1800

International Conference Heidelberg May 4-5, 2012 **Migration of Knowledge through Traveler, Scholarly and Diplomatic Diasporas**



SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 4 MAY 2012

9:00-10:00h

Welcome address: Prof. Dr. Johannes Heil (First Vice-Rector, Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg)

Introduction: Georg Christ (Heidelberg)

PANEL I: TRAVELERS (10-12:30H)

Chair: Frederek Musall (Heidelberg)

10:00-11:00h Katalin Szende (Budapest): "Hungary is One of the Countries where Life is the Best and Easiest": Reports on the Carpathian Basin in Twelfth-Century Arabic Sources

11:00-11:30h Coffee break

11:30-12:30h Gerhard Jaritz (Budapest): Constructing New Images of Fauna? Travellers and the Development of Knowledge about Animals

12:30-14:00h Lunch break

PANEL II: SCHOLARS (14-18:00H)

Chair: Tijana Krstic (Budapest)

14:00-14:30h

Word of welcome: Prof. Dr. Andrea Jördens (Institute of Papyrology, Heidelberg)

14:30-15:30h Andrea Colella (Heidelberg): Literary and non-Literary References about the Palestinian Jewish Tradition in Southern Italy (5th-9th centuries)

15:30-16:30h Julia Dücker (Heidelberg): 'Men of the deepest belief'? Angevin kings, Franciscans and Migrations of Knowledge in 14th Century Hungary

16:30-17:00h Coffee break

17:00-18:00h Marcell Sebök (Budapest): A Habsburg Diplomat, Humanist Scholar and Traveler: The Case of Oghier Ghislain de Busbecq

SATURDAY, 5 MAY 2012

PANEL III: COMMUNITIES (9-12:30H)

Chair: Jörg Peltzer (Heidelberg)

9:00-10:00h József Laszlovszky (Budapest): Eastern Monastic Communities (11th-13th Century): Religious/Cultural Diaspora?

10:00-11:00h Tijana Krstic (Budapest): The Transylvanian Connection: German- and Hungarian-speaking Anti-Trinitarians as Religious Intermediaries in Sixteenth-Century Ottoman Istanbul

11:00-11:30h Coffee break

11:30-12:30h Carsten Wilke (Budapest): Kabbalistic Fraternities of Galilee and their Central European Members, Funders and Successors

12:30-14:00h Lunch break

PANEL IV: POWERS (14-18:00H)

Chair: Carsten Wilke (Budapest)

14:00-15:00h Stefan Burkhardt (Heidelberg): Weaving the Network of Power. Migration, Minorities, and Diasporic Experience of Byzantines, Italians and Hungarians around 1200

15:00-16:00h Teresa Sartore (Heidelberg): Hospitallers' Rhodes: Transcultural Identities in a Frontier Island (XV century)

16:00-16:30h Coffee break

16:30-17:30h Tamás Kiss (Budapest): A Re-enactment of the Conquest of Cyprus? Dialogic Decodings of the Ottoman Imperial Circumcision Feast of 1582

17:30h Summary / closing