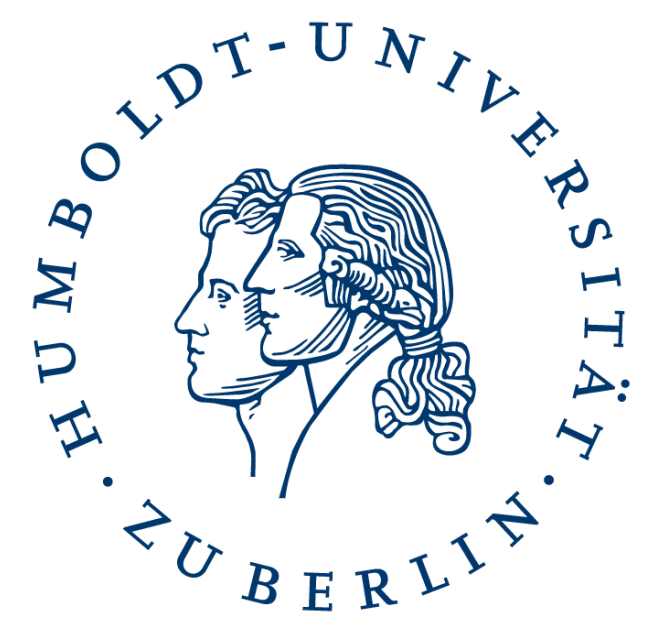


# Focus area 3 Cities of Academic Exile and Their Translocal Networks



## Musealizing exile

Memory-making, narration and epistemological order in museums on exile history

By: Domenic Teipelke

Additionally, the project draws on visual anthropology to study visual representations. This means that I observe in exhibitions and in the conversations in which roles exiles are perceived. Are exiles framed as victims? Are current exiles displayed but with the images of historic exiles in head? Does the display rely on a specific knowledge of the visitors?

### Preliminary findings

All interview partners agreed so far that the topic 'exile' has gained new attention within the last years. In the case of the Philipp Schwartz-initiative, this actually lead to its foundation as an expansion of the pre-existing Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung. Practically, the different institutions have all chosen to tell the history of exile via biographical examples. This approach is chosen in order to render exile comprehensible.

They are debating, however, how much biographical material should be used compared to so-called 'superordinate' information which connects different biographies and, thus, highlights common themes. They attempt to find a balance between famous exiles whose stories are already known and lesser known exiles. As institutions at least partially depending on public funding, the interview partners have pointed out the necessity to engage with exile alongside their public commission's definition. This poses some limitations when they would want to deal with other exiles outside their denomination.

### Conversations December - April

#### Institutions

Exilmuseum (in Gründung), Berlin  
Jüdisches Museum, Berlin  
Leo Baeck Institute, Berlin  
Philipp Schwartz-Initiative/Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung, Bonn  
Deutsches Exilarchiv 1933-1945, Frankfurt am Main  
Archiv Akademie der Künste, Berlin  
Deutsche Hochschulrektorenkonferenz, Bonn  
Stiftung Flucht, Vertreibung, Versöhnung, Berlin  
Körper-Stiftung „Tage des Exils“, Hamburg  
Volkswagenstiftung „Akademie im Exil“, Hannover  
Gesellschaft für Exilforschung e.V., Würzburg  
Deutsches Auswandererhaus, Bremerhaven

### Further questions?

*Which role should an intersectional framework have in the research project?*

*How to define ,academic exile'?*

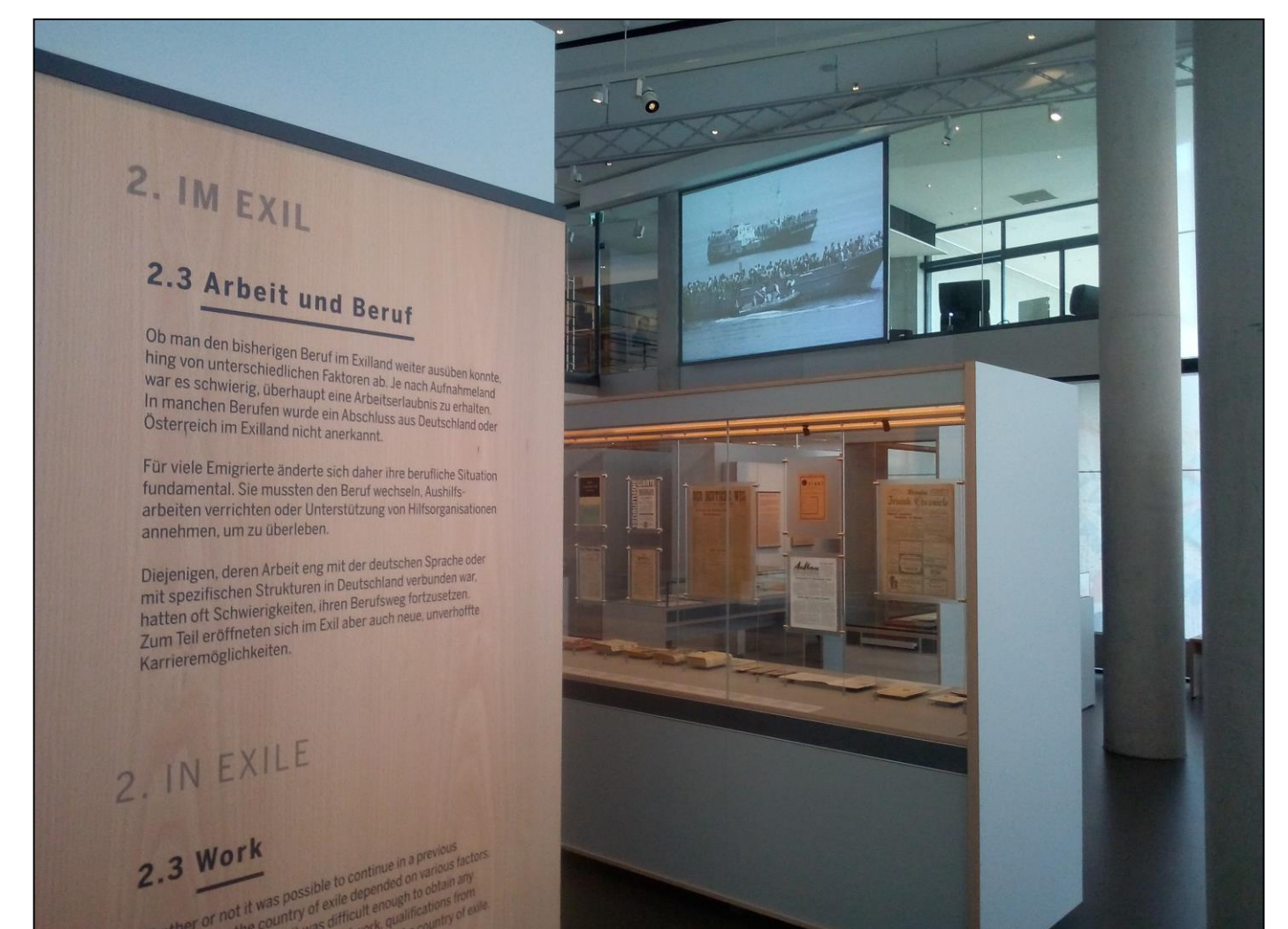
*In which spatio-temporal categories can we talk about ,exile'?*

*How to deal with the multiple geographical sites of exile?*

*Which role does imagination (as i.e. in Appadurai 2013) have in writing about ,exile'?*

### About

Domenic Teipelke is a second year MA-student at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in Modern South and Southeast Asian Studies. His regional focus has been mainly on India, recently expanded to Thailand. Domenic has previously conducted his undergraduate studies in History and Area Studies Asia/Africa at the Humboldt-University and Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi.



View inside the permanent exhibition „Exile. Experience and Testimony“ of the German Exile Archive 1933-1945 (photo: D. Teipelke).

#### Footnotes

Arjun Appadurai. 2013. *The Future as Cultural Fact. Essays on the Global Condition*. Verso.