CARE IN CRISIS –
ETHNOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVES ON HUMANITARIANISM

This conference introduces the notion of care into studies of humanitarianism. Care is a social activity produced by combinations of intimate and institutional practices. All of us need to be cared for, but care requirements are revealed more starkly and are often amplified in moments of acute need or emergency. At the same time, in emergency and disaster situations, quotidian care arrangements can themselves undergo a crisis. Everyday routines may need to be adapted and radically changing conditions can call into question established procedures, or demand alternative modes of action.

Humanitarian intervention reconfigures caring institutions through new ways of knowing and representing suffering that emerge alongside organizational responses; it produces shifts in the organization and practice of care that profoundly reshape the sociality of those involved; and it is implicated in the production of new material environments that restructure the possibilities and limits of caring interventions. Contributors draw on ethnographic fieldwork to explore the mutual construction of entitlements, responsibilities and governance that shape practices of care in humanitarian contexts, as well as the moral underpinnings, materiality and lived realities of these dynamics.

VENUE
Department of Anthropology and African Studies (ifeas)
Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany
Alter Musiksaal,
Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz,
Forum Universitatis 1, Raum Nr. 02-115

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GUESTS
We welcome guests, but have only limited space. Therefore, we ask those interested to send their request to: Care_in_Crisis@uni-mainz.de and wait for a confirmation before booking their journeys.

For non-invited guests we will charge 20,- €, which will cover coffee- and tea-breaks for both days.

ORGANIZERS:
Heike Drothom
Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
Hannah Brown
Durham University

22 – 24 February 2018

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Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany
Alter Musiksaal, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz,
Forum Universitatis 1, Raum Nr. 02-115
Thursday, February 22nd

18:30 h | Welcoming remarks
Thomas Bierschenk, dean of the faculty

Keynote: CARE BEYOND INNOCENCE
Miriam Ticktin, New School for Social Research, New York City

20:00 h | dinner

Friday, February 23rd

09:00 – 9:30 h | Welcome and introductory remarks
Helke Drothbohm & Hannah Brown

SESSION I – Emerging knowledge: translating morality and politics
Moderator: Johannes Paulmann, Leibnitz-Institute for European History (IEG)
09:30 – 10:00 h | Hard to reach: crisis, logistics and care in Papua New Guinea’s health system
Alice Street, University of Edinburgh
10:00 – 10:30 h | The funnel effect: The ethical unraveling of care under the power of the ban
Cristiana Giordano, UC Davis
10:30 – 11:00 h | Navigating idle principles and necessary narratives: implications of professionalization in faith-based humanitarian intervention in post-earthquake Haiti
Andrea Steinke, Free University Berlin
11:00 – 11:30 h | coffee & tea break

11:30 – 12:00 h | ‘Change the Consciousness’: Humanitarians, Europe, and Supervision in an IDP Camp in Montenegro
Carna Birkovic, University of Regensburg
12:00 – 12:15 h | Discussant note
Katharina Inheuteen, University of Siegen
12:15 – 12:30 h | General discussion on session I
lunch & after-lunch walk

SESSION II – Emerging materialities: fixing contingent temporalities
Moderator: Thomas Bierschenk, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
15:00 – 15:30 h | ‘Refugee integration’ as contingent practice in Eastern Chad
Andrea Behrends, Free University Berlin
15:30 – 16:00 h | Sticky technologies: Plumpy’nut, emergency feeding, and the rise of viscous humanitarian designs
Tom Scott-Smith, University of Oxford
16:00 – 16:30 h | coffee & tea break
16:30 – 17:00 h | Care, compassion, conflict: a walk in the fever museum
Adia Benton, Northwestern University
17:00 – 17:15 h | Discussant note
Hansjoerg Dilger, Free University Berlin
17:15 – 17:30 h | General discussion on session II
19:00 h | dinner

Saturday, February 24th

09:00 – 10:00 h | Keynote: CONSTRUCTING HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES TO PEOPLE ON THE MOVE: REFLECTIONS FROM RESEARCH AND PRACTICE
Oliver Bakewell, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester

10:00 – 10:30 h | coffee & tea break

SESSION III – Emerging socialities: negotiating affective asymmetries
Moderator: Konstanze N’Guessan, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
10:30 – 11:00 h | Working on emotion: trauma training for humanitarian interventions
Pia Maier, University of Konstanz
11:00 – 11:30 h | Crisis – care – empathy: emerging socialities and the politics of solidarity in Greece
Elisabeth Kirtsoglou, Durham University
11:30 – 12:00 h | I’m not that kind of person’ – bringing warmth to the cold bureaucracy of the Danish welfare state
Simon Turner, University of Copenhagen
12:00 – 12:30 h | Beyond duty, solidarity and mission: sensitive encounters in Cuba’s international medical cooperation with Brazil
Maria Lidola, University of Konstanz
12:30 – 12:45 h | Discussant note
Amanda Hammar, University of Copenhagen
12:45 – 13:00 h | General discussion on session III
lunch & departure
13:00 – 13:30 h | Open final discussion