



Between Choice and Command: Migration and Return Across and Beyond Colonial Empires

Workshop

How far can we really call colonial migration to and from Europe voluntary? When millions from the colonies were pulled into European armies and labor forces during the World Wars? When Africans and Asians went to Europe to fight or join fascist movements? When students and labor migrants arrived after 1945 under unequal terms? This conference sketches out indigenous agency by probing what 'voluntariness' means in subaltern (return) migration across and beyond colonial empires.



MON, December 1, 2025

9:00 am – 05:30 pm | C23 – Senatssaal

Workshop Part I (Please Register)

With Contributions by: Anindita Bhattacharya (Maynooth), Nicola Camilleri (Maynooth), Lena Engel (Erfurt), Gisela Ewe (Hamburg), Dónal Hassett (Maynooth), Ronald Hirte (Weimar/Buchenwald), Elise Mazurié (Freiburg), Silvan Niedermeier (Erfurt), Patrice Poutrus (Berlin), Baijayanti Roy (Frankfurt), Jan Schubert (Florence), Mathilde von Bülow (St. Andrews), Gifty Nyame Tabiri (Erfurt), Florian Wagner (Erfurt)

MON, December 1, 2025

05:30 – 07:00 pm | C23, 10th floor – Senatssaal | No Registration Necessary

Public Keynote by Dónal Hassett, Maynooth University/COLVET

The Great War of Movement. Thinking Critically about Mobility, Displacement, Coercion and Consent in the French Empire's First World War

Organizer:
Florian Wagner, Erfurt University/Collaborative Research Unit "Voluntariness"

Venue:
Erfurt University Campus
Please register for Program and Online Participation

Workshop Registration:
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