

## Online Workshop

### Realising Understanding

#### *Language in Cross-cultural Migration/Integration and Secular–Religious Contexts*

Achieving mutual understanding between individuals and groups is one of the main objectives of human communication. Language as an important medium and facilitator of communication, however, can also constitute a major obstacle to realising understanding and, in consequence, interaction and cooperation. This dual role of language becomes particularly pertinent in cross-cultural communication in the context of migration and integration where it deserves special scholarly attention: How can the language be both a medium of understanding and a source of misunderstanding and which measures can be undertaken to facilitate communication and realize genuine understanding? The workshop will discuss the use of language in multi- and cross-cultural contexts shaped by different linguistic and cultural backgrounds of the communicating parties analyze (mis-) understandings in the context of migration and integration with the intention to identify factors that can support genuine understanding. The workshop will direct special attention to the role of “thick concepts” and diverging yet implicit (normative) assumptions and to the often overly simplistic opposition between secular and religious backgrounds of “hosts” and “migrants” in the context of migration to Europe.

**Date:** Thu 18, February 2021: 10am-4.30pm

**Convenors:** Dr. Housamedden Darwish (University of Leipzig) PD Dr. Jan-Christoph Heilingner (RWTH Aachen University)

**Registration:** [housamedden.darwish@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:housamedden.darwish@uni-leipzig.de)

**The announcement is posted on the following website:** <https://www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/academicsinsolidarity/news/Realising-Workshop.html>



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<p align="center"><b>Realising Understanding</b>  <i>Language in Cross-cultural Migration/Integration and Secular-Religious Contexts</i>  <b>Online Workshop – 18 February 2021, 10:00 – 16:30 CET</b></p>		
10:00-10:05	Welcome (Housamedden Darwish and Jan-Christoph Heilinger)	
<b>10:05-12:20 – Session 1</b>		
10:05-10:50	Refugees as Witnesses: Ethical Aspects of Mutual Translation in Testimonial Transaction	André Grahle (Munich)
10:50-11:35	Giving Uptake Across Thick Concepts: the Role of Relational Agency in Realizing Understanding	Anna Bergqvist (Manchester)
11:35-12:20	Integration as Thick Normative Concept: Obstacles to Refugees Integration in Germany	Housamedden Darwish (Leipzig)
12:20-13:15	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
<b>13:15-14:45 – Session 2</b>		
13:15-14:00	Some Reflections Upon the Peculiarity of Sexual Language in a Non-Confessionary Society: The Case of Non-Heteronormative Iranian People	Mehran Rezaei (Sussex)
14:00-14:45	The Emotional Communication Across- Cultures	Shahira Sharaf (Amsterdam)
14:45-15:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>15:00-16:30 – Session 3</b>		
15:00-15:45	The Role of Language in Establishing Social Cohesion & Inter-Cultural Harmony in Society: The Case of Pakistan	Saifullah Bhutto (Quaid-e-Awam University)
15:45-16:30	Religious Minority Migration and Legacies of British Imperialism in Atlantic Canada	Karly Kehoe (Halifax)