

Press release, 7 July 2020

## Networks and transfer in forced migration and refugee studies: FFVT goes online

<u>ffvt.net</u> is a comprehensive online information portal on forced migration and refugee studies in Germany. The project "Forced Migration and Refugee Studies: Networking and Knowledge Transfer" (FFVT), which began in early 2020 and is supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) presents an interactive overview of the research landscape and offers regularly updated opportunities for networking.

Global crises, brought about by climate change, violent conflicts or the COVID-19 pandemic will be the cause of rising, rather than falling numbers of refugees in the coming decade. Policymakers, practitioners, the media and the public urgently need academic expertise to understand these challenges and find solutions. **"To strengthen forced migration and and refugee studies sustainably, more intensive national and international cooperation is an indispensable prerequisite," Frank Düvell**, project coordinator at the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS) at the University of Osnabrück, describes the remit of the joint project "Forced Migration and Refugee Studies: Networking and Knowledge Transfer". The new FFVT website <u>ffvt.net</u> provides access to all research activities in Germany and is intended to serve as a platform for the formation of further interdisciplinary research alliances.

How do refugees integrate into the city as a "place of refuge"? What experiences of violence do people encounter when fleeing to Germany? What are the potentials and barriers to the integration of refugees into the labour market? <u>ffvt.net</u> facilitates a multifaceted search for projects that pursue these and other questions. This is made possible above all by a regularly updated, interactive map that gives an overview of which projects and institutions in Germany are engaged in forced migration and refugee studies. You can either search in topics, such as "Reception and integration", "Refugee policies" and "Refugee movements", or search for keywords. It is also possible to search along different academic disciplines, from "Urban Studies", Economics, Law, Social and Cultural Anthropology, Religious and Cultural Studies, to Political Sciences and Sociology to Psychology and Educational Sciences. **"The research map on <u>ffvt.net</u> also reflects the growing internationalisation of academic activities in Germany"**, stresses **Elke Grawert**, project coordinator at the Bonn peace and conflict research institute BICC.

It is worth taking a look at the FFVT-website, which continuously provides a wide range of information. This includes announcements of events, such as the virtual conference "Contexts of Displacement, Refugee Protection and Forced Migrants' Lives" (17–19 September 2020), which is still open for registration of interested parties until 31 July 2020. There will also be a newsletter to which you can subscribe at: <u>ffvt.net/en/newsletter</u>. Furthermore, the online service of <u>ffvt.net</u> invites those who are interested to actively participate in the network and will continue to integrate new projects into the database and the virtual research map.

GEFÖRDERT VOM





## On the project "Forced Migration and Refugee Studies: Networking and Knowledge Transfer" (FFVT)

The project (2020–2024) that is supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) aims to strengthen interdisciplinary research on forced migration and refugees. To this end, it links research on migration, development, conflicts and violence, climate change, health, governance and human rights as well as other fields of studies. The peace and conflict research institute <u>BICC</u>, the Centre for Human Rights Erlangen-Nuremberg (<u>CHREN</u>), the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (<u>DIE</u>) and the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (<u>IMIS</u>) at the University of Osnabrück are collaborating to establish academic courses in forced migration and refugee studies, make German forced migration and refugee studies more visible in the international research landscape and facilitate a close exchange between FFVT and academia, politics and practice.

## Further information:

Ann-Christin Komes / FFVT-PR / +49 228 91196-72 / pr@ffvt.net

Visit the FFVT website at https://ffvt.net. Register for the newsletter at <u>ffvt.net/en/newsletter</u> and follow FFVT on Twitter: <u>@FFVT Project</u>

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