

Academics, unite!

Academic labour struggles and collective organization – a dialogue between Turkey and Germany

18. February 2018 | 14–16h
Salon | Rosa-Luxemburg Stiftung
Franz-Mehring-Platz 1, 10243 Berlin

In recent years, protest against precarious labour conditions in Germany has been growing. Despite an extremely low degree of unionization, more and more initiatives have started to self-organize, especially against the high proportion of short-term contracts. We want to take up these developments, strongly supported by ROSAumni, and enter into a dialogue about the Turkish experiences with the collective organization of academic labour.

Attacks against academics in Turkey are very present in the media. Undoubtedly, these attacks deserve our attention. While in German media, Turkish academics are mostly portrayed as victims of repression, another aspect is largely absent from the current discussion: their astonishing strength, their solidarity and their experiences of collective resistance in Turkey. Against this background, a different dialogue between activists can be developed in order to share knowledge and look for possibilities of joint activities.

To this end, we invite you for a panel discussion with Zeynep Kivılcım and Peter Ullrich. After providing a succinct overview of current conflicts and developments in Germany and Turkey, we will reflect on past struggles and traditions so that we can better understand differences. Finally, we would like to stimulate knowledge transfer and a collective discussion on possible common activities.

Zeynep Kivılcım is an Associate Professor of Public International Law and Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. She works on social movements, human rights and refugees' rights with a gendered and critical perspective. Until 2016 she taught law and gender, international human rights law and critical approaches to public international law at Istanbul University, where she has been dismissed on the basis of a state of emergency decree. She is one of the signatories of the Academics for Peace petition.

Peter Ullrich is a sociologist and cultural scientist, working on social movements, protest and antisemitism at the TU Berlin. He is one of the founding members of the Netzwerk "Prekäres Wissen" (<https://prekaereswissen.wordpress.com/>) and the Netzwerk Gute Arbeit in der Wissenschaft (<http://mittelbau.net/>). He is also one of the founding members of ROSAumni e.V.

Eine öffentliche Veranstaltung von ROSAumni e.V.
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