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New Junior Research Group at the GWZO Explores Armenia's Entanglements with Central and Eastern Europe

(Leipzig) For centuries, Armenians have been an integral part of the societies of Central and Eastern Europe. They left a lasting mark on politics, the economy, culture and religion, while also building networks that extended far beyond the region. With its newly established junior research group »*Global Armenia/ns: Entangled Histories of Central and Eastern Europe and the Caucasus*«, the Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO) is now dedicating attention to these multifaceted connections. At its core, the project examines how Armenians have lived and worked in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe – past and present – while maintaining close ties with the Caucasus and other parts of the world.

The junior research group is led by global historian Dr. Katja Castryck-Naumann and Armenia expert Dr. mult. Bálint Kovács. With its dissertation projects, the new junior research group »*Global Armenia/ns*« brings fresh perspectives to two main areas of enquiry. In the subject area »*Violence and Humanitarianism*«, the focus is on how different the 20th century looks when the diverse activities of the Armenian diaspora after the genocide are centred – both in Eastern and Southeastern Europe and in the international context. Under the heading »*Production of Spaces*«, the team explores how Armenians in Central and Eastern Europe shaped experiences, conflicts and networks – and what new insights this provides for a more interconnected history of Europe.

In addition to the doctoral projects, several additional research projects at the GWZO are dealing with Armenians or Armenia-related topics. The leaders of the junior research group emphasise that the »*Global Armenia/ns*« team builds on and enriches the GWZO's long-standing research tradition in this field. Existing activities include, among others, the bilingual book series »*Armenier im östlichen Europa – Armenians in Eastern Europe*« as well as various third-party funded projects. Through international cooperation, targeted support for doctoral candidates and global historical perspectives, the junior research group develops new approaches to topics that have so far received little attention.

The junior research group is a collaborative initiative of the GWZO, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (Lisbon), the Armenian Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports as well as other international partners. Its work is supported by an international advisory board.

Find out more about the junior research group and the doctoral projects:

<https://www.leibniz-gwzo.de/en/research/research-departments/jrg-global-armenia-ns>

Support for Early-Career Researchers

The GWZO supports academic careers at all stages of qualification – from graduate studies through to leadership positions in academia. A central element in this is the GWZO junior research groups, which are funded either through third-party resources or the institute's own budget.

Further information: <https://www.leibniz-gwzo.de/en/institute/institute/working-gwzo/promoting-junior-academics-and-careers/junior-research-groups>

The GWZO

The Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO) researches historical and cultural developments in the region between the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea and the Adriatic. Fundamental aspects of the GWZO's work are the broad chronological scope of its cross-epochal research – beginning with the transition from Late Antiquity to the Early Middle Ages and extending into the present – along with an emphasis on interdisciplinarity. | <https://www.leibniz-gwzo.de/en>

Contact (academic):

Dr. Katja Castryck-Naumann
Junior Research Group Leader
katja.castryck@leibniz-gwzo.de

Dr. mult. Bálint Kovács

Junior Research Group Leader
balint.kovacs@leibniz-gwzo.de

Contact (media):

Virginie Michaels
Media Relations
virginie.michaels@leibniz-gwzo.de



This measure is co-financed by tax revenue on the basis of the budget approved by the Saxon State Parliament.