

Archives of Migration II

Construction and Critical Reading of Archives

Leipzig, June 15-16, 2026

Workshop programme

Venue:

Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO)
Specks Hof, Reichsstr. 4-6, D-04109 Leipzig
<https://mapy.com/s/fudanorasa>
Entrance C, 2. floor
Lecture hall "Nikolai"

The workshops Archives of Migration examine whether and how to confront the hegemonic construction of documentation and support alternative and diversified repositories of knowledge. Following up on the first workshop (December 2025) that focused on current efforts to actively engage migrants and refugees, as well as humanitarians, in documentation and knowledge production, the second iteration turns our attention to historical situations and the construction, as well as critical readings of archives.

Participants from the first workshop will be able to join online and contribute to discussion. They are particularly encouraged to join the Final discussion on the second day to brainstorm about next steps, networking and future cooperation.

Monday, June 15, 2026

13:00–13:30 Introductions

Welcome by Maren Röger, Director of the GWZO

Introduction by Michal Frankl (GWZO)

13:30–15:30 Group Strategies and Archives of Migration

Chair: Ella Rossman (GWZO)

Susanne Lachenicht (Bayreuth University)

Refugees and Diaspora archives – the Case of the Huguenots

Natalia Pashkeeva (CERCEC EHESS)

Studying and Preserving the 20th-Century Archives of Russian Émigrés and Western NGOs YMCA–YWCA–WSCF in Paris

Ann-Catrin Östman (Åbo Akademi University)

Collecting Life Stories of Migrating Minorities – the Chicago-School and an Early Project on Finland-Swedes in America

16:00–18:00 Voices, Aid and Archives

Chair: Megan Maruschke (Leipzig University)

Andrei Zamoiski (Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute for the History of Science)

Dispersed Archives of Migration: The Case of Eastern European Medical Doctors, 1917–1939

Ruth Nattermann (LMU Munich | Leipzig University)

Rescue by Chance. Forgotten Jewish Voices of Internment and Migration in Post-War Europe

Kaja Kumer-Haukanõmm, Katariina Sofia Päts, Aigi Rahi-Tamm (University of Tartu)

Cold War Citizens: Sweden's Estonian Refugee Community Between Two Worlds

Dinner / Reception

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

9:30–10:50 Vernacular Archives

Chair: Anna Piłat (GWZO)

Thục Linh Nguyễn Vũ (Freie Universität Berlin)

The Archival Ordinary. Vietnamese Diasporas in Poland

Pauline Weiland (Martin Luther University)

The Political Dimensions of the Foundation of Islamic Umbrella Organization in the Federal Republic of Germany, 1973–1991

Coffee break

11:20–12:40 Archives and Agency

Chair: TBC

Philipp Strobl (University of Vienna)

Agency and Participation in Postwar Austria: German-Speaking Refugees and the Negotiation of Migration Regimes in Austria (1945–1954)

Prasad Rajesh; Kaushik Anshika (University of Delhi)

Reclaiming the Archive: Migrant Agency, Alternative Documentation, and the Future of Migration Narrative

Lunch buffet

14:00–15:20 Reading Archives "Against the Grain"

Chair: Karina Khasnulina (Leipzig University)

Jennifer Redmond (Maynooth University)

Exploring the HIDDEN Archive: Travel Permit Applications as a Window to Irish Migration Histories

Anna Deriugina (University of Vienna)

Voices Beyond Repatriation: Russian-Speaking DPs and Postwar Mobility

Coffee break

16:00–17:00 Final Discussion and Next Steps

Possible themes for debate:

- Conclusions and questions from the workshop.
- What forms of networking and cooperation do we want to develop?
- What methodological support is needed for the production, preservation and critical reading of archives of migration?
- How to better integrate activities of researchers, archivists, humanitarians and migrants/refugees, dealing with the documentation of both historical and recent situations?