

THIRD ANNUAL LECTURE
IN EUROPEAN ETHNOLOGY
Cultural Anthropological Perspectives on Europe

16.11.2022

18:15 Uhr

Alfred Hessel Saal, Paulinerkirche

Papendiek 14, 1. Stock

Prof. Dr. Marie Sandberg

(Saxo Institute, Copenhagen University)

“With a view to temporary stay.”

**An ethnological perspective on Europe’s
politics of exception after the “return turn”**

A SMALL RECEPTION FACILITATING EXCHANGE WITH PROF.
SANDBERG WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER THE LECTURE

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Marie Sandberg is Associate Professor, PhD, in European Ethnology, and the Director of the Centre for Advanced Migration Studies (AMIS) at the University of Copenhagen. Since 2021, she serves as the President for the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF). Marie Sandberg was the joint editor-in-chief of *Ethnologia Europaea – Journal of European Ethnology* 2013–2020. As PI and co-PI she has a record of managing a range of research projects and networks. She has worked systematically with integrating teaching and research. Her publications have appeared in journals such as *Journal of European Studies* and *Identities*. She has held Visiting Scholar positions at the University of British Columbia and Radboud University, and she has been a Senior Fellow at University of Zürich. Marie Sandberg is engaged in discussions within international as well as Nordic fields of migration and border studies covering a research expertise in European borders, civil society initiatives and migration practices. She has conducted ethnographic studies of the ways borders in/of everyday life are continuously negotiated, overcome, and rebuilt in interactions such as volunteer work in support of refugees coming to Europe during the 2015 “refugee crisis”.

Abstract for Sandberg's Annual Lecture in European Ethnology in Göttingen:

“With a view to temporary stay.” An ethnological perspective on Europe’s politics of exception after the “return turn”

The significant “return turn” (Schultz 2020) of the Global North has replaced re-settlement and integration as core immigration values, resulting in prolonged uncertainty and intensified deterrence measures (DeGenova 2013). After the 2015 European refugee reception crisis, Denmark, for instance, announced a so-called Paradigm shift away from integration of newcomers and towards a focus on self-reliance and return policies. Hence, since 2019 all residence permits are issued “with a view to temporary stay” as the blanket approach for all refugees, regardless of protection status (Tan 2021). Based on preliminary research insights from the collaborative research-practice project “Boundary work. New interfaces between state and civil society: Volunteerism and refugees in a self-support and repatriation context”, I will focus on everyday life consequences of the permanent temporariness for both refugees and civil society volunteers. With inspiration from Georgina Ramsay’s (2020) critique of exceptionalizing displacement through the lens of “crisis”, I will discuss how we can make the European politics of exception into ethnological inquiry without reproducing logics of difference and othering. Further, I will reflect on what effect the enhanced deterrence measures might have on the future of Europe.

“Boundary work. New interfaces between state and civil society: Volunteerism and refugees in a self-support and repatriation context” is developed in collaboration with the Danish Red Cross, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), University College Absalon, and the Centre for Advanced Migration Studies (AMIS), University of Copenhagen. The project is funded by the VELUX Foundations 2021–2024, and led by Marie Sandberg.