Vortragsreihe »Grenzen, Flucht, Menschenrecht«

Lecture in English by Dr. Gilad Ben-Nun, Leipzig:

The UN 1951 Refugee Convention
Between Nation-State Sovereignty and the Non-Refoulement Principle

Montag, 12. Dezember 2016, 18:15 Uhr
Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Campus Westend,
Norbert-Wollheim-Platz 1, Casino-Gebäude, Raum 1.811

Since its adoption, none of the 1951 Refugee Convention's principles has been so vehemently contested and debated as its Article 33 – also known as the Non-Refoulement Principle. This simple stipulation of not returning a refugee back into the hands of his tormentors has been subject to deeply conflicting interpretations by supreme courts, national legislators, and popular public opinion. Fundamentally, all these debates revolve around one single question: Did the drafters of the 1951 Refugee Convention intrinsically intend for Non-Refoulement to override nation-state sovereignty – in favour of this normative bedrock for universal refugee protection?

Dr. Gilad Ben-Nun is an EU Commission Marie Curie Individual Fellow at the Law Faculty of Verona University – department for Public International Law, and an Associate Senior Researcher at Leipzig University's Centre for Area Studies. Between 2012 and 2015 he taught Global Studies and refugee and migration history both at Leipzig University and at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies of the University of Addis Ababa – Ethiopia. He holds a PhD from the Leipzig university with undergraduate degrees from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Between 2001 and 2008 he served in the UN, as a FORD Foundation Middle east research fellow, and then as a senior program officer for the United Nations development Program (UNDP). In his talk at the Fritz Bauer Institute Dr. Ben-Nun will be presenting his new book *Asylum in Israel: Refugees and the history of Migration Law* (London: I. B. Tauris, 2017)

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