

## REGISTRATION

Please note the **deadline for registration is March 19th.**

We may not be able to confirm registrations received after this date.

Yes, I will attend the conference of the Refugee Council of BW on March 24th in Stuttgart, and will take part in the following workshop:

W 1

W 2

W 3

W 4

W 5

I hereby make a binding reservation for the vegetarian lunch (no fixed price - donations requested)

I need a translation into the following language:

(Note: Native speakers of English, Dari and Arabic will provide a summary. We will do our best to provide other languages on request.)

I would like to become a member of the Refugee Council. Please send me a membership form.

Name

Address\*

E-Mail\*

Group / Organisation\*

Date / Signature

\* Details need not be given if you are certain that we already have them

Please fill out and send to

**Flüchtlingsrat Baden-Württemberg**  
Hauptstätter Str. 57  
70178 Stuttgart

You can also register online at:

[www.fluechtlingsrat-bw.de](http://www.fluechtlingsrat-bw.de)

## HOW TO GET THERE

With public transport:

Take the U1 tram to Vaihingen-Schillerplatz or the Bus 81 or 84 to Schwabengalerie.

Parking in the area:

There is a multistory carpark in the Schwabengalerie. A possible alternative is the underground carpark at Vaihinger Markt. You can find more information on the website of the city of Stuttgart. [www.stuttgart.de](http://www.stuttgart.de)



The Refugee Council of Baden-Württemberg is a member of the nationwide working group PRO ASYL and is supported by the European Social Fund (ESF), the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), the state of Baden-Württemberg, Evangelische Kirche Baden, Diakonisches Werk Württemberg, the diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart und PRO ASYL.

### Current projects:

**Welcome to Baden-Württemberg** – Funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund of the EU. [www.w2bw.de](http://www.w2bw.de)

**NIFA - Network for the integration of refugees in the workplace** – Funded as part of the "Integrationsrichtlinie Bund" programme by the Federal Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs and the European Social Fund. [www.nifa-bw.de](http://www.nifa-bw.de)

**Active for Refugees** – Advice, information, networking and education for (volunteers) working with refugees in Baden-Württemberg. Funded by the state of Baden-Württemberg. [www.aktiv.fluechtlingsrat-bw.de](http://www.aktiv.fluechtlingsrat-bw.de)



**PRO ASYL**  
DER WIRTSCHAFTS- UND  
ARBEITSMARKT  
[www.proasyl.de](http://www.proasyl.de)



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## Invitation to the Conference and Annual General Meeting of the Refugee Council of Baden-Württemberg

### Crossing borders

**Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 2018,  
9.30 AM – 5 PM**

**New location!**  
Häussler Bürgerforum,  
Schwabensplatz 1,  
70563 Stuttgart-Vaihingen

## AGENDA

9.30 AM Arrival and registration (with coffee)

### 10 AM Greeting

**Lucia Braß**

(Chairperson, Refugee Council BW)

### 10.15 Main lecture and discussion "Upheaval in the Arab World?"

The Turkish military offensive against the Kurds in Syria, the Kurdish referendum in Iraq, the continuing suppression of press freedom and freedom of speech in Turkey, Chaos in Libya, and various other countries pursuing their own geopolitical interests in these conflicts. These are only a few of the recent developments in the Middle East which seem to indicate that it is likely that people from this region will continue to seek protection elsewhere, for a variety of different reasons. Professor Dr. Mayer will speak about the main political, economic and social developments in the region, as well as their origins and will explain the global implications of the current conflicts.

Speaker: **Prof. Dr. Günter Meyer** (Director of the Centre for Studies on the Arab World, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz)

### 11.15 Workshops

#### W 1 Family reunion – current developments

March 16<sup>th</sup> 2018: The date which countless refugees longed for – the date when the suspension of family reunions for people with subsidiary protection was supposed to end – *was supposed to ...* It has now emerged that the suspension has been extended and shall be followed by a quota system. In this workshop, the new laws in the area will be presented and some initial practical conclusions shall be drawn. In addition, some current information regarding "running issues" such as family reunion of siblings or the visa process of German embassies will be presented. The issue of family reunions via the Dublin III directive will also be touched upon.

Speaker: **Ulrich Dewald** (Network Family reunion)

#### W 2 The political situation in Iran and consequences for refugees in the asylum process

Since December 2017, a strong movement of protest against the Iranian regime has been forming. This talk places the current events in their historic context and emphasises their special character. Subsequently, the speaker will present the relevant influential actors and their political aims and demands, as well as the role played by the German political and economic world and the possibilities for action by the German population in support of a movement striving towards emancipation. Against the backdrop of this, there will follow a critical look at the current decision practice of the BAMF and the courts.

Speakers: **Hassan Marfi Pour** (Political activist), **Vera Kohlmeier-Kaiser** (Speakers Council of the Refugee Council of Baden-Württemberg)

#### W 3 Female refugees – their living situation and possibilities for support

Refugee women, particularly those travelling alone or who are single mothers, are particularly vulnerable. In many cases, they are in particular danger of becoming victims of violence due to non-gender-segregated accommodation. In addition, they face specific barriers which hinder their opportunities for participation, for example due to lack of childcare. What are the most common problems? How can support be provided? Which legal possibilities are there? What do professionals and volunteers have to bear in mind while dealing with this sensitive issue? These and other questions will be dealt with in this workshop.

Referentinnen: **Nele Diether** (Fraueninformationszentrum Stuttgart), **Tosin Johnson** (Refugees4Refugees)

#### W 4 The appeals process – How can volunteers be of assistance?

Many refugees appeal against the rejection of their asylum claims. Manfred Weidmann will explain, based on his experience as an asylum lawyer, how volunteers can be of assistance during the appeals process.

Speaker: **Manfred Weidmann** (Speakers Council of the Refugee Council of Baden-Württemberg)

#### AG 5 Hostility towards refugees and supporters – what can I do?

People who work with refugees can come into contact with hostility on many different levels, for example if they themselves are attacked in connection with their work or if they witness hostility towards refugees. This workshop aims to create sensitivity amongst the participants and enable them to recognise right wing, racist and antisemitic violence, as well as looking at the specific characteristics and degrees of impact of right-wing violence. The speakers will also provide information about available support for those affected by right-wing violence and about possibilities for civil society support for such people. The aim is to enable participants to recognise the specific need for assistance in cases of right-wing violence and to assist those affected, according to their own resources.

Speakers: **Kerstin Müller** (LEUCHTLINIE BW, TGBW), **Yalçın Tekinoğlu** (Lawyer)

1.15 PM Lunch

#### 2.15 PM Annual General Meeting

By-election to the Speakers Council

Report on 2017

Strategic position for 2018

How to support the Refugee Council

3.15 PM Kaffee und Kuchen

#### 3.30 PM Declaration of election result

#### 3.45 PM "Members meet members"

Space for networking and exchange among members in small regional groups in order to plan activities

5 PM End