

Islamic Studies and Turkology as Disciplines: Dynamics of two Research Fields in Upper Rhine Universities (DIslaTurk)

Project partners
Universität Freiburg, Université de Strasbourg
Project duration / Awarded funding
01/02/2022 – 31/05/2024 / 30,000€
Short description of the project
<p>In Europe, studies on Islam and the Muslim worlds are experiencing divergent academic dynamics depending on countries and national traditions. In this respect, the way in which Islamic studies and Turkish studies are conceived – two disciplinary fields that are simultaneously autonomous and connected – testifies to interesting dissimilarities. Well represented in the Upper Rhine within the Eucor universities – particularly in Strasbourg and Freiburg –, these two fields show divergent operating methods between Germany and France, with the particular case of Alsace-Moselle. While Islamwissenschaft in Germany is often interdisciplinary and integrates Turkology in the same way as Persian or Arabic studies, in France Islamologie is a discipline almost exclusively connected to studies on the Arab world while Turkish studies are strongly associated with a secularist perspective. Similarly, if Islamic theology has been officially integrated as a discipline in various German universities, in France, the place of theology – in particular Islamic – as a university discipline, is still widely debated. The DIslaTurk project is innovative for the history of science in that it proposes to analyse how Islamic and Turkish studies, two academic fields born from Orientalisms of the 19th century, were formed and developed in France and Germany, crossing but also sometimes ignoring each other.</p>
Concrete implementation of the project (What was the funding used for?) (max. 500 characters)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We hired a research assistant who worked on the catalogue of the archives of Josef Matuz in Freiburg and assisted us in the organization of the main events. - We organized several workshops, conferences, panels and colloquium in Strasbourg, Freiburg and elsewhere (Tunis, Vienna), see details in the report
Project result(s) and continuation of collaboration (max. 500 characters (including spaces))
<p>The events organized during the project will open the way to two publications (two special issues, one in <i>Die Welt des Islams</i> (Brill) and the other in the <i>Archives de sciences sociales des religions</i>). We are currently working on the preparation of these publications and hope to publish one of them in 2025, the other in 2026.</p> <p>We have constituted a solid international network (about 30 persons) and privileged relations with a group of 16 researchers who will be part of our team in the case of a successful application to an ANR-DFG</p> <p>We have already applied to an ANR-DFG but were unsuccessful in our first try. We will apply again in 2025</p>
Further information (links, articles, photos)
- https://institut-islamologie.fr/turkish-and-islamic-studies-unistra-16-17-juin/