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Sophie Wagenhofer studied History, Jewish and Islamic Studies in Vienna and Berlin. She is especially interested in the intersections of these fields of study, as in the case of the Nazi regime and its impact on the Arab World as well as Jewish communities in the Arab World. She wrote her MA thesis on depictions of Arabs in Nazi Propaganda. After completing her studies in 2005, she spent one year in Morocco, where she was working for the Jewish Museum in Casablanca. Since May 2006 Sophie Wagenhofer has been a researcher at the Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) in Berlin and works in the joint research project “Representations of a Changing Social Order” (SFB 640) at Humboldt University, focussing on identity politics in Morocco and Iraq. Her PhD project deals with contemporary representations of Jewish history and culture in Moroccan museums.

Working Experience:

Since 2006 Research Fellow at the Zentrum Moderner Orient and Humboldt University, Berlin.

2001-2009 Independent contractor at the Jewish Museum in Berlin: Pedagogical and conceptual design of guided tours and workshops with focus on an educational program on Jewish-Muslim dialogue.

1997-1999 Freelance journalist writing for several local newspapers in Berlin

Teaching Experience:

Summer Term 2010 (with Kerstin Hünefeld): BA course: The Jews in the Arab World in Modern Times, Institute for Jewish Studies, Free University Berlin. [German]

Winter Term 2010/11 (with Magdalena Waligórska) MA course: Jewish Heritage Tourism in Europe and Beyond, Institute for Cultural Studies, Humboldt University Berlin. [English]

Academic Projects:

Conceptual design and organisation of the international workshop 'New Voices, New Media, New Agendas? Pluralism and Particularism in the Middle East and North Africa' at the Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin (February 2011).

Conceptual design and organisation of the international conference 'Representations of Jews in European popular Culture' at the European University Institute, Florence (November 2008).

2004 Reorganisation and classification of the personal papers of the late Prof. Gerhard Höpp at the Zentrum Moderner Orient.

Publications:

Books:

Zwischen „rassischem Feind“ und „politischem Freund“? zur Inszenierung und Instrumentalisierung des Araberbildes im Nationalsozialismus, Berlin: Klaus Schwarz-Verlag 2010.

with Magdalena Waligórska (eds.): Cultural Representations of Jewishness at the Turn of the 21st Century, EUI Working Paper Series, Florenz 2010.

Articles:

'In Search of Identity: Jewish Heritage and the Idea of Maroc Pluriel'. In: Irene Maffi and Rami Daher (eds.): Practices of Patrimonialization in the Arab World, I.B. Tauris: London (forthcoming 2011).

'The Jewish Museum in Casablanca: Formation and Reflection of contemporary Moroccan-Jewish Identity.' In: Magdalena Waligórska and Sophie Wagenhofer (eds.): Cultural Representations of Jewishness at the Turn of the 21st Century, EUI Working Paper Series, Florenz 2010.

'Parallelkonstruktionen von Jewish Space. Das Jüdische Museum in Casablanca'. In: Petra Ernst and Gerald Lamprecht (eds.): Jewish Spaces. Die Kategorie Raum im Kontext kultureller Identitäten, Innsbruck: Studien Verlag 2010.

Presented Papers (selection):

'Jewish Voices in the Debates on Pluralism in Morocco', Workshop 'New Voices, New Media, New Agendas? Pluralism and Particularism in the Middle East and North Africa', Zentrum Moderner Orient Berlin, November 2009.

'Ein „Jewish Heritage Boom“? Zum Interesse am Jüdischen in der arabischen Welt', Ben Gurion University Beer Sheva, Israel, August 2010.

'The Jewish Museum in Casablanca - Memory and Forgetting', WOCMES Barcelona, July 2010.

'Contested Narratives: Debates on the Second World War and Vichy in Contemporary Morocco', Conference 'Beyond Camps and Forced Labour: Current International Research on Survivors of Nazi Persecution', Imperial War Museum London, January 2009.

'Das "Jüdische" im marokkanischen Identitätsdiskurs', Lecture at the Institute for the Research of Antisemitism, Technical University Berlin, January 2009.

'Identitätsdiskurs und Geschichtspolitik in Marokko', Herbsttagung des Arbeitskreises Politik und Geschichte in Dresden, October 2007.

