

Presenter: Habbo Knoch, University of Cologne

Title: **“Violent Symbols, symbols of violence. Visual Communication and Genocidal Racism into the 21st Century”**

Panel: Media Studies, Journalism and Visual Culture

Covering almost one century, the paper will address how genocidal racism has been expressed in contemporary visual representations from the Armenian Genocide until today. In particular, three perspectives will be discussed: perpetrators, bystander and observer, (international) media. The main argument will be that from its beginnings, genocidal racism has been visually communicated though in highly symbolic visual codes which were used either to justify or to uncover this kind of ultimate violence. While the perspectives mentioned have been related to each other, international media have become an ever more important and present player raising the following question: Do media and their image policies play a relevant and sufficient role in prevention genocidal racism?