

## EVENING LECTURE SERIES

Tuesday, 20.05.2025, 7.00 pm  
Zentralcampus\HS B (ZHG)

Assist. Prof. Dr. Bengi Atun

### Living memory as heritage in danger

Potential for peacebuilding in today's divided city of Nicosia, Cyprus

Nicosia is the last divided capital of Europe and the location on the island of Cyprus where intercommunal strife first began in the 1950s. Peacebuilding is difficult in regions of conflict and Cyprus is no exception to this but living memory compiled through oral history has the potential to act as a peacebuilding tool in these regions. An oral history study was conducted with past residents of the neighborhood of Ayios Loukas in the divided capital city of Nicosia which revealed a picture of this period in the 1950s that is neither black nor white but grey in color reflecting the nuances and complexity of the troubles. Such complexity and color has the capacity to create empathy and open up paths of communication between conflicting communities. Living memory not recorded is a lost opportunity vis-à-vis peacebuilding, and needs to be viewed, for this reason, as "heritage in danger."



Assist. Prof. Dr. Bengi Atun is a native of Cyprus and an architect with a research focus on Museum Studies and Cultural Heritage. She is currently teaching at the Medipol University in Istanbul and continues to look for ways to fully realize her proposition for a new discipline and practice she terms "the Museology of Peacebuilding."

GEFÖRDERT VOM