



Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

PROF. DR. EDHEM ELDEM
(I S T A N B U L)

6,000 Ottoman Bank employees, 1890-1930: A Sample of a Cosmopolitan Petty Bourgeoisie?

Vortrag (englisch)



Mit freundlicher Unterstützung

HCU

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Hamburg



TÜRKEI-EUROPA-ZENTRUM
HAMBURG

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The Ottoman Bank archives in Istanbul hold a very rich series of staff records, consisting of some 6,000 individual files kept between the early 1890s and the early 1930s. The very detailed and highly standardized data contained in these files enable a reconstitution of individual profiles, based on such precise information as identity, nationality, religion, linguistic skills, education, former employment, professional skills, family links with bank employees, and references/ recommenders. To add to this wealth of information, almost each file comes with a full-body photograph of the employee. The project involves the treatment of this rich database as a possibly representative sample of a white-collar petty bourgeoisie in a religiously, ethnically, and culturally plural environment, confronted to the radical transformations of the period, from the relative stability of a quasi-colonial situation of depend-

ency (1890-1912), to the tragic and ideologically loaded decade of conflict before and after the Great War (1913-22), and finally to the dawning of a nationalist, modernist, and authoritarian regime under the Kemalist Republic.

Prof. Dr. Edhem Eldem studierte Politische Wissenschaft und Geschichte an der Bogaziçi Universität Istanbul und in Aix-en Provence. Er ist Professor für Geschichte an der Bogaziçi Universität, Istanbul und forscht zurzeit am Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

Publikationen (Auswahl): *Un Orient de consommation*. Istanbul, Musée de la Banque ottomane 2010 ; *Un Ottoman en Orient. Osman Hamdi Bey en Irak (1869-1871)*, Paris, Actes Sud, 2010 ; *Le voyage à Nemrud Dağı d'Osman Hamdi Bey et Osgan Efendi*, Istanbul-Paris, IFEA-De Boccard, 2010 ; *Osman Hamdi Bey Sözlüğü*, Istanbul, Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı, 2010 ; *(Mit Günay Kut) Rumelihisarı Şehitlik Dergâhı Mezar Taşları*, Istanbul, Boğaziçi Üniversitesi Yayınevi, 2010.