The first Global Humanitarianism Research Academy (GHRA) 2015, organized by FABIAN KLOSE (Leibniz Institute for European History Mainz), JOHANNES PAULMANN (Leibniz Institute for European History Mainz), and ANDREW THOMPSON (University of Exeter) in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and with support by the German Historical Institute London, took place from July 13 to 24, 2015 at the Leibniz Institute of European History in Mainz and the Archives of International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. The GHRA 2015 had 10 Ph.D. candidates who came from Israel, the Netherlands, the United States, Australia, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, and Denmark. The participants represented a wide range of disciplinary approaches (History, International Law, Media Studies, and Development Studies).

**First Week:**
On Day One recent research and fundamental concepts of global humanitarianism were critically reviewed. Participants discussed crucial texts on the historiography of humanitarianism and human rights. Themes included the historical emergence of humanitarianism since the eighteenth century and the troubled relationship between humanitarianism, human rights, and humanitarian intervention. Further, twentieth century conjunctions of humanitarian aid and the colonial entanglements of human rights were discussed. Finally, recent scholarship on the genealogies of the politics of humanitarian protection and human rights since the 1970s was assessed, also with a view on the challenges for the 21st century.

During Day Two, participants presented their own Ph.D. and Postdoc projects while getting constructive collective feedback. These projects showcased the richness and variety of research currently undertaken by a new generation of academics who are set to make a critical contribution to the field. Day Three was reserved for the guest lecture by Professor MICHAEL GEYER (Chicago), who was talking on the topic: „Humanitarianism, Humanitarian Law, and Human Rights: A Difficult Relationship“. The ensuing lively discussion was enriched by the former Head of the ICRC Archives JEAN-LUC BLONDEL (Geneva) who has been an ICRC delegate since 1982 and is a former regional delegate in Buenos Aires and special advisor to the previous ICRC president. During the afternoon, there was also the opportunity for individual tutorials by the GHRA leaders and free study time.

During Day Four & Five the GHRA worked on the „Online Atlas of Humanitarianism and Human Rights“. This is an open access publication by the GHRA participants from successive years. The Online Atlas will consist of an interactive world map displaying approximately 50 locations in Africa, America, Asia, Australia and Europe where significant events took place and shaped the development of humanitarianism and human rights in a crucial way. It will define key terms of both research fields and will display the worldwide entanglement of various places across geographical borders and historical epochs. The Online Atlas addresses a broader public. It is a valuable resource for those engaged in the field of humanitarian action and human rights as well as students and academics.

**Second Week:**
After the first week of academic training at the Leibniz Institute for European History in Mainz the GHRA 2015 travelled for a week of research training and discussion with ICRC members to the Archives of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. The First Day at Geneva started with an introduction to the public archives.
and library resources by ICRC staff. JEAN-
LUC BLONDEL (Geneva), former Delegate,
Head of Division, and currently Adviser to
the Department of Communication and In-
formation Management welcomed the group.
DANIEL PALMIERI (Geneva), the Historical
Research Officer at the ICRC, and FABRIZIO
BENSI (Geneva), Archivist, explained the de-
velopment of the holdings, particularly of
the recently opened records from 1966–1975.
The Librarian VERONIQUE ZIEGENHAGEN
(Geneva) introduced the library with its en-
compassing publications on International Hu-
manitarian Law, Human Rights, Humanitarian
Action, international conflicts and crises.
The ICRC also possesses a superb collection
of photographs and films which FA-
NIA KHAN MOHAMMAD (Geneva), Photo
Archivist, and MARINA MEIER (Geneva),
Film Archivist explained. In the afternoon,
the GHRA group had the chance to discuss
with JACQUES MOREILLON (Geneva), Di-
rector General of the ICRC between 1984 and
1988. He gave a presentation on his long ex-
perience with special insights into Red Cross
prison visits with political detainees. Dr. Mor-
eillon was one of the ICRC delegates to visit
Nelson Mandela on Robben Island and shared
his vivid memories with the participants. On
the Second Day, the participants of the GHRA
worked intensively at the archives and li-
brary. The staff members assisted them fully
in tracing holdings relevant for their individ-
ual Ph.D. research. The students discovered
the rich material in documents and audio-
visual record; some found huge amounts of
new material and will certainly return again.
Archival work continued on the Third Day
which in the afternoon was spent in discus-
sion with CHARLOTTE LINDSEY-CURTET
(Geneva), Director of Communication and In-
formation Management, who produced the
topical report on the impact of armed conflict
on women „Woman Facing War“ in 2001. She
presented the challenges the ICRC faces re-
garding its relations not only with the wider
public and the press but also with the par-
ties to conflicts. In the debate with the GHRA
participants, it became clear that the long-
term relations which the ICRC establishes in
regions of crises makes historical knowledge
and research highly relevant to humanitar-
ian action today. The Fourth Day started
again with work on individual projects in
the archives and continued with a workshop
at the University of Geneva. IRENE HERR-
MAN (Geneva), Professor of Transnational
Swiss History, delivered a stimulating paper
on the „Concepts of Humanitarianism and
their Consequences for Academic Research“. The
theoretical reflection linked the empiri-
cal leg of the GHRA week in Geneva per-
fectly with the discussion of recent research
and fundamental concepts of global humani-
tarianism during the first week in Mainz. The
Fifth Day was dedicated to a concluding dis-
cussion of the achievement of the Global Hu-
manitarianism Research Academy 2015 and
to further archival reading.
After two intensive and enjoyable weeks in
Mainz and Geneva, the GHRA participants
sadly had to say good-bye but they will surely
stay connected with each other and with the
Research Academy. Their next joint project
is already in preparation: an Online Atlas of
the History of Humanitarianism and Human
Rights to be published in the autumn.

The next GHRA 2016 will take place, dur-
ing its first week, at the Center for Impe-
rial and Global History at the University of
Exeter and again at the ICRC in Geneva
in the second week. A Call for Application
will be published in late September this
year on <http://hhr.hypotheses.org/> and

Conference Overview:

GHRA Academic Leaders
Fabian Klose, Leibniz Institute for European
History Mainz
Johannes Paulmann, Leibniz Institute for Eu-
ropean History Mainz
Andrew Thompson, University of Exeter

ICRC Geneva
Fabrizio Bensi (Archivist)
Jean-Luc Blondel (Adviser to the Department
of Communication and Information Manage-
ment)
Charlotte Lindsey-Curtet (Director of Com-
munication and Information Management)
Marina Meier (Film Archivist)

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Jacques Moreillon (Director General of the ICRC between 1984 and 1988)
Fania Khan Mohammad (Photo Archivist)
Daniel Palmieri (Historical Research Officer)
Veronique Ziegenhagen (Librarian)

Guest Lecturers
Irène Herrman (Geneva): „Concepts of Humanitarianism and their Consequences for Academic Research”

GHRA Participants
Cédric Cotter (Geneva)
Boyd van Dijk (Florence)
Brian Drohan (Chapel Hill)
Jaclyn Granick (Geneva)
Natalia Jevglevskaja (Melbourne)
Sonya de Laat (London, Canada)
Peter Ridder (Cologne)
Tehila Sasson (Berkeley)
Sander Tetteroo (Leiden/Gadjah Mada)
Mie Vestergaard (Roskilde)

Tagungsbericht First Global Humanitarianism Research Academy (GHRA) 2015.