An archipelago of connectivity: Port-cities, hinterlands, and islands in the Modern Mediterranean

Due to current conflicts, crises and wars, the Mediterranean is back on the agenda of the social sciences. Yet, in the field of modern history this paradigm is almost absent. The Research Network Modern Mediterranean: Dynamics of a World Region 1800 | 2000 funded by the DFG aims to transcend the fragmentation of separate historiographies and to get a more integrated view of the modern Mediterranean. It focuses on the dynamics and transformations that have shaped the region since the nineteenth century.

For further information see: modernmediterranean.net

The fifth workshop of the DFG Research Network Modern Mediterranean: Dynamics of a World Region 1800 | 2000 is organized by Andreas Guidi and Daniel Tödt
The fifth workshop of the Research Network Modern Mediterranean: Dynamics of a World Region 1800 | 2000 leans on the genius loci – Venice as port-city and hub of an “archipelago” – to discuss the connectivity of spatial categories.

How did connections between Mediterranean port-cities and islands as well as hinterlands evolve during the nineteenth and twentieth century? What maritime connections in this region remained a dynamic factor contributing to social transformation? What previous connections, in turn, weakened or faded in the period?

The workshop brings together expertise on different areas and methodologies to discuss connectivity as a fruitful lens for the history of the Mediterranean within a world in flux. A historicizing, more inclusive look on apparently fixed spatial categories such as port-cities, islands, and hinterlands reassesses the links between still largely separate area studies, between (post-)colonial and (post-)imperial historiographies, as well as economic, intellectual, and migratory phenomena.