Panel title:	Eritrea – a country losing its people
Names and affiliations of panel proposers:	1. **Dr. Hartmut Quehl (Researcher at Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institute for socio-cultural research at the University of Freiburg / Germany; Director of Felsberg Institute for Education and Academic Research FIBW e.V. / Germany)** 2. **Dr. Mussie Tesfagiorgis (Researcher at the University of Winnipeg, Department of Urban and Inner-City Studies / Canada; and FIBW / Germany)**
Names and affiliations of possible panel participants:	**a) Prof. Dr. Magnus Treiber, University of Bayreuth / Germany** **b) Prof. Dr. Tricia Redeker Hepner, University of Tenesse / USA** **c) Mekonnen Mesghenna; Heinrich-Böll-Foundation / Germany** **d) Dr. Mussie Tesfagiorgis; University of Winnipeg / Canada** **e) Dr. Bettina Conrad; BICC / Germany**
250 words outline of panel topic:	*(s. below.)*

Panel 1:
Eritrea – a country losing its people.

Since long Eritrea has been a country in which migration has played an important role. Without doubt migration, and especially forced migration had considerably increased due to the advent of the Eritrean decolonisation movement and the long war for independence, and reached its peak in the 70s and 80s of the last century, when refugees reached Europe and oversea countries for the first time in large numbers. The end of the war in 1991 brought hope that the problem of refuge and migration could come to a halt, but these expectations proved an illusion when the second Ethiopian-Eritran war broke out in 1998.

Since then Eritrean migration has reached a new dimension: although legal paths to leave the country are practically non-existant, we can classify this new migration movement as exodus. Mostly young people accept unimaginable hardships and dangers on their way out of the country. They got stranded in South Africa, in Turkey, in Libya, Russia or other countries, sometimes it takes them years to reach their final destination, sometimes they fail. On the other hand this new generation of migrants is networking amongst each other as never before. Next to paths of migration, we may find sophisticated paths of communication, and both are subject to extremely dynamic changes.

This panel aims at regarding the facts of migration and exodus from Eritrea under various aspects, and we expect analytical contributions as well as presentations of case studies.

Panel title:	The Horn of Africa at the brink of the 21st century – coping with fragmentation, isolation and marginalisation in a globalising environment
Names and affiliations of panel proposers:	1. Dr. Hartmut Quehl (Researcher at Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institute for socio-cultural research at the University of Freiburg / Germany; Director of Felsberg Institute for Education and Academic Research FIBW e.V. / Germany) 2. Günter Schröder (VID Frankfurt and Researcher at FIBW / Germany)
Names and affiliations of possible panel participants:	a) Dr. Hartmut Quehl, FIBW + ABI Freiburg / Germany b) Günter Schröder, VID + FIBW / Germany c) Prof. Fouad Makki; University of Ithaca / USA d) Dr. Assia Abdulkader; University of Köln / Germany
250 words outline of panel topic:	*(s. below.)*

Panel 2:
The Horn of Africa at the brink of the 21st century – coping with fragmentation, isolation and marginalisation in a globalising environment

A first look at the states of the Horn in the year 2010 exposes an area which seems to have lost contact to the global political and economical developments of the rest of the world.

The failed Somalia intervention of the allied forces in the early 1990s, followed by a fragmentation of the country, and the failure of the Western concepts of democratisation through the support of the so-called "new generation of African leaders" like in Eritrea and Ethiopia, as well as the isolation of Sudan as "terrorist regime" again put the stamp of a region in permanent turmoil on the Horn of Africa. As of 1998 as the latest, all hope on securing stability in the area had been lost, and at the brink of the 21st century the entire region appeared as an "ungovernable area" which at its best could be partially controlled, but had to be strategically considered as an object of permanent containment.

Does this view on the political events during the last two decades match reality?

This panel aims at investigating to what extent the assumed marginalisation of the Horn of Africa is realistic or rather unidimensional. We expect papers which on the one hand contribute to an historical, economical, political and socio-cultural analysis of the region, and on the other hand welcome contributions which document case studies of current developments of the Horn societies within the above given frame.

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