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Zwischen dort und hier – eine explorative Annäherung an Landschaftskonstruktionsprozesse bei nach Deutschland Geflüchteten

Between There and Here – Exploring Refugee Landscape Construction Processes

Summary: “Landscape” is – after decades of widespread absence – once more taking on a more significant research profile in German-speaking anthropogeography. However, in contrast to the phase preceding the 1969 Geographentag (Geographers’ Day) in Kiel, the approaches developing today are more strongly theoretical in orientation and constructivist in alignment. The key question here concerns “landscape” as a construct: What meanings are attributed to it? What views and opinions catch on and assert themselves in public (and private) discourse? This is not the same as simply asking: What is landscape and how is it defined? While many aspects of the landscape construct are well documented – for instance the correlations between “scenery” and the energy transition, as well as the perception of “landscape” in different languages and countries – there are other, less frequently analyzed aspects that deserve consideration. For example: How radical changes of location, as experienced by many refugees who migrated to Germany in 2015 and later, affects personal landscape construction processes. This article examines processes of landscape construction in the interface between country of origin and country of arrival in an exploratory and subject-oriented way. In addition, it illustrates methodological and conceptional challenges and points out areas calling for further research.

Keywords: landscape, construction processes, refugees, fragmented biographies – Landschaft, Konstruktionsprozesse, Geflüchtete, fragmentierte Biographien

1 Einführung: Sich verändernde Landschaftskonstruktionen durch Flucht

Fünfzig Jahre nach dem Geographentag 1969 in Kiel sind Forschungsvorhaben zu „Landschaft“ zurück in der deutschen Human-/Kulturgeographie. Allerdings hat sich der Forschungszugang zum einen entscheidend gewandelt, indem verstärkt seit Mitte des ersten Jahrzehnts der 2000er Jahre konstruktivistische