

## SYLFF-MIKROKOLLEG – FORCED MIGRATION

The RUB Research School in cooperation with the Tokio Foundation offers 4 grants for doctoral researchers within the Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF). The Fellows will be part of a small, highly interdisciplinary research group and work on individual doctoral projects within different research perspectives under the overarching topic of **forced migration**. The different perspectives formulated by the cooperation professors are the following:

- Prof. Dr. Thomas K. Bauer, *Foreign aid and migration*
- Prof. Dr. Pierre Thielbörger, *International Refugee- and Migration Law*
- **Prof. Dr. Eva Gerharz, *Transnational social movements and their global responsibility***
- PD Dr. Levent Tezcan, *Religious Difference and Forced Migration*

## TRANSNATIONAL SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND THEIR GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

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Amidst rampant industrialisation and urbanisation that has transformed much of the developing world, an increasing number of people considers migration to be their only option to secure survival. The loss of land is one of the major reasons, also because corporate or private state actors appropriate it as a commodity, to be used for property development, industrial sites or, as prices spiral, a financial investment. It is often the most marginal groups in society that face the loss of their livelihoods. Meanwhile those who appropriate it take recourse in discourses of 'development', the market, or national security to stake their claims. Struggles are thus not only material but ideological; what is at stake is not only access to resources and deepening social inequalities, but also the role of the state, the "international community" as well as the notion of development.