The need of the establishment of a Federal German Sacral Building Authority for Islamic Faith Affairs – Roadmap and capacity building of an institutional framework for religious communities, state bodies and citizen in Europe

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Introduction

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Lenkungsausschuss
Vertreter des Bundes, der Länder und Kommunen
Islamische Dach- und Spitzenverbände
betroffene Migrantenorganisationen auf Bundesebene

Themen, Arbeitsaufträge

Ergebnisse, Empfehlungen

Arbeitsausschuss

Sitzungen ein- zweimal im Jahr

Sitzungen alle zwei/drei Monate
Current state of research

Research area needs a wider support by:

• the scientific institutions,
• the public administration & Politicians

• More theoretical and basic research, discussions and strategies have to be done

• Muslim communities had to put their focus to this technical and organizational field of work to formulate the duties and responsibilities for their executive boards and the governmental administration.

• A young field of research has lots of potentials to exam.
Introduction to the topic

Migration to Germany:

• After WWII integration of a vast number of German refugees fleeing from the Eastern parts of the former German Reich
• 1960/70s influx of migrant workers
• 1980/90s assimilation of millions of migrants of German origin from the former Soviet Union
• 1989 – 91 (re)-unification of Germany
• 1990s admittance of the civil-war refugees from the Balkans
• (( France & UK influx of Muslim population from the colonies (fighting as colonial troops in the allies armies) between WWI and WWII ))
DATABASE Muslims in Europe

Migration to Europe:

• by 2010 an estimated 44 million Muslims were living in Europe (6%)

• including an estimated 19 million in the EU (3.8%)

• Projection to comprise 8% (2030) of the total population
Europe’s largest Muslim populations

The 10 countries with the largest Muslim populations in the EU

- Germany: 4.76m
- France: 4.71m
- United Kingdom: 2.96m
- Italy: 2.22m
- Bulgaria: 1.02m
- Netherlands: 1.00m
- Spain: 980,000
- Belgium: 630,000
- Greece: 610,000
- Austria: 450,000

Source: Pew Research Center
DATABASE Muslims in Europe

Migration to Germany:

• 4.4 and 4.7 million Muslim men and women were living in Germany on 31 December 2015 BAMF.

• Accordingly, out of a total of 82.2 million inhabitants, between 5.4 and 5.7 percent belong to the Muslim faith.

• The majority of German Muslims are of Turkish origin (63% / 2008) and migrant laborer who came as “Gastarbeiter” during the 1960 and 1970s.
Ausländer: Deutschland, Stichtag, Geschlecht/Altersjahre/Familienstand
Ausländerstatistik
Deutschland
Ausländer (Anzahl)
Status and situation of Muslims in Germany

Migration to Germany:

- Till the German reunification in 1990 most Muslims in Germany were located in the industrial belts and centres of the Western part of Germany.

- As a fact of being a quite small minority within the German civil-society, the integration process of Muslim living in Germany is a relation to be shy with strangers.
Islam in Germany influenced by developments in the International context

A renaissance of Islam can be observed since the 1970s in the global context:

- strengths of the Islamic brotherhood movement in Egypt, which spread all over the Middle East (1970)
- the Islamic Revolution of 1979 in Iran
- the theological and financial support of conservative Wahhabi faiths all over the world by Saudi-Arabia since 1978
- break-down of the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s the civil-war in the following states of Bosnia, Macedonia and Serbia. This caused a wave of refugees from the Balkans.
- Turkish-Islamic movement of Erdogans AKP party during the End of 1990s to the 2016 influenced the Turkish community living in Germany.
Migration to Germany:

- young and hided and unknown part in our society.
- The developments to establish praying rooms started mostly during the 1970s.
- In the past decades Muslims who like to attend religious services had little options in worship in appropriate sacral facilities.
- Most religious services are held in so called backyard house of prayers.
- Those sacral infrastructures were often founded in abandoned industrial buildings within industrial zones in Germany.
Sacral infrastructure and parochial orientated social facilities for Muslim practioners

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Sacral infrastructure and parochial orientated social facilities for Muslim practitioners

Demand of applicable places for religious worshipping:

• more emancipated Muslim communities and the better financial situation

• aging population of migrant workers (first generation)
  Renaissance of religions within a globalizing world

• influx of refugees from the Middle East is enhancing.

• Sacral infrastructures were often founded in abandoned industrial buildings within industrial zones
Sacral infrastructure and parochial orientated social facilities for Muslim practioners

Demand of applicable places for religious worshipping:

• further expansion of parochial facilities is limited by the carefully tread of the current Muslim communities

• missing of an adequate dialogue within the council administrations and planning boards

• lack of communication can be identified as the central issue
Sacral infrastructure and parochial orientated social facilities for Muslim practioners

In analogy to the real estate task of Muslim communities there are needed structures to be adopted by the great church structure:

• As Germany has a rich heritage of sacral building culture and tradition
• A century long tradition by the churches, religious foundations and rulers in construction of sacral buildings and social infrastructures.
• well functional system of church owned building departments within the country.
Sacral infrastructure and parochial orientated social facilities for Muslim practitioners

Restructuring the declining church communities:

- declining number of worshippers
- ageing population
- ongoing trends of secessions from the churches
Sacral infrastructure and parochial orientated social facilities for Muslim practitioners

ReUse the declining church properties for Muslim communities:

• current request for sacral buildings and sites
• religious social infrastructure for the Muslim minority
• a potential need of adequate properties and land resources
• The re-use of the church properties.
Sacral infrastructure and parochial orientated social facilities for Muslim practitioners

Capacity building for Muslim communities:

• Missing expertise show the need for an institutional body

• acting contact point

• setting the standards of religious aspects
  – framework of German building codes
  – European building codes

• Planning basic principles
Establishing of an Federal Sacral Building Authority for Islamic sacral infrastructure

Create a technical and institutional framework:

- create a technical and institutional framework
- serving consulting and accompanying
- Muslim communities
- all citizens
- state administrations
- Society

There are further alternative options were disputed for a common or separated use of social facilities of different religious faith in order to sustain the necessary precaution for the local population
Establishing of an Federal Sacral Building Authority for Islamic sacral infrastructure

Further alternative options:

- common or separated use of social facilities of different religious faith in order to sustain the necessary precaution for the local population
Conclusion

Further alternative options:

• Muslims living in Germany have an perfect environment to practise their individual worship to their faith.
• To do the worship in greater groups or well equipped mosques, it depends on the region and the status and abilities of the local religious communities.
• Because of secularization of Germany the religious communities are independent and have to act by ones own initiative to create an sufficient religious infrastructure for their religious needs.
Conclusion

- Since 2006 the Federal Government represented by the Minister of Interior set up the German Islam Conference DIK
- DIK act as platform for dialogue between the different Muslim communities with representatives of the political class,
  the administration
  German society
- Move for discussing options and strategies for a better integration of Muslims.
Conclusion

• In 2017 the results of the ongoing process of the joint German Islam Conference showing some slight developments, but is still unsatisfactory.

• Caused by the emergence of demographic change of population,

• Availability of church property and the influx of more Muslim people it is necessary to create efficient structures.
Conclusion

As an important milestone a work group of experts should be set-up:

• The members should be a selection of the experts from the targeting fields. These are architecture, construction, the cultural and heritage sector.

• The work group could give the right stimulus for the establishment of an Islamic building Authority for Germany
There are three routes to the West and three lines heading towards South-western direction to Western Asia

- The Eurasian Land Bridge using the Trans-Siberian-Railroad
- The Eurasian Continental Land bridge via Kazakhstan to Russian Federation
- The New Silk Road Route via Central Asia, Iran, Caucasia, Turkey to Europe
- The New Silk Road to the Middle East and Persian Gulf, “Silk Railway” from China via Central Asia and Iran to the Persian Gulf since 1996[1]
- The Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt Pakistan
- The Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt Iran direction
Thank you for your attention!

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