

# **Migration, Islam and Masculinities: Transforming Emigration and Immigration Societies**

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## **Of local and global patriarchs. An analysis of the recent discourse on Turkish-Muslim masculinity in Germany**

Recently, research on Turkish migrant masculinity has become popular both in social scientific circles as well as in public discourses. Building on the general notion that this is a positive development, the paper none the less argues that the popularity the topic receives should call researchers to reflect on the entanglements in which this stream of research finds itself. Concentrating on the work of arguably the most prominent scholar in the field today – Necla Kelek – and on the heated discussions her work has spurred lately, the paper argues that the German discourse on Turkish migrant masculinity is a site where more than merely the question of ‘how do Turkish men function?’ is at stake. This discourse has to be understood as negotiating wider questions of the nature of local social arrangements in times of globalization. The discourse on migrant Turkish men is – just like migration processes themselves – part of contemporary reconfigurations of masculinities on a global scale and touches upon questions of changing global power relations.

The paper builds on the notion that such a reflection is necessary for delineating in how far the popular discourses reproduce domination, and how, on the contrary, emancipatory and critical research in the field could look like.