

Acknowledgements

The printed pages of this book hold far more than the culmination of years of study. They also reflect the relationships with many generous and inspiring people I have met since the beginning of my doctoral study with its ups and downs. Admitting the fact that there are many more and these words cannot express the gratitude and respect I feel for all of those. I want to mention some:

I would like to record my gratitude to my supervisor Prof. Thomas Faist, for his academic and personal guidance, his endless patience and the generosity to share his sources from beginning to the end of this project. I have learned so many things from him throughout the years. I also express my great gratitude to my second supervisor Prof. Peter Kivisto, for his sincere and gracious comments that have motivated me in difficult phases of this study. I consider myself deeply lucky to have worked with them both.

I thank a lot to Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology, for the Excellence Initiative Doctoral Scholarship they granted and their academic support during my doctoral study. Without this financial and academic support I would not be able to carry out this project.

I am indebted to all my interview partners for their limited time they have spared for me. It is their success, upon which this study has built on and without which it would never have been possible. Needless to say, the responsibility for interpreting and presenting their views is all mine.

I am grateful to my precious friends, Dr. Basak Bilecen-Süoğlu, Dr. Hürrem Tezcan-Güntekin, Miriam Lampe, Dr. Anna Amelina and Güzin

Aydemir, who provided me generous and unconditional support, motivation and joy whenever I stuck as if I could never go on.

I owe a great thank-you to all my colleagues I worked together at the faculty and those who participated in the seminars during those years for their comments on early drafts and their emotional support; as well as to Janine Su who read every line of this piece with a great sense of perfectionism and sincerity. I would also like to thank Dr. Amelina, Sandrine Gukelberger, Andreas Ette and Margarethe Gallersdörfer, for their invaluable comments on the German summary. Special thanks also to my friends living all over the world to make me feel as if they have been always with me.

I am grateful to my love, whose presence in my life I owe this research, for being the voice of reason and a life raft in the past difficult two years. His strong belief in me, even at times when I had doubts on myself, made it possible to finish this study.

Last but certainly not least, I want to thank my family - my mother Candan Nergiz and my father Nizamettin Nergiz: tükenmeyen sabırları, destekleri ve sonsuz sevgileri için...Hayatımın her anında reel mesafeleri hiçe sayıp her an yanımda oldukları ve en yüce değer ve hedefin 'insan' olmak olduğunu yaşattıkları için..ve en önemlisi bugün 'bana' dair herşeyde katkıları için size minnettarım.

Devrimsel Deniz Nergiz

I Long for Normality

A Study on German Parliamentarians with Migration
Backgrounds

Nergiz, D.D.

2014, XIV, 300 p. 5 illus., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-658-01871-9