Memories of uprising of Syrian activists in Germany

Abstract of the Thesis by
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Social workers doing memory work can contribute to the historical narrative, and advocate for the rights of the people whose voices have been silenced.

Through individual narratives and semi-structured interviews, I jointly explored, with young activists from Syria living in Germany, their personal memories in relation to the collective life and social networking in the years of the Syrian uprising between 2011 and 2013.

The memories on activism during the uprising contribute to empower them in their new life in Germany under the legal status of “refugees,” and remind them about their fundamental roles not only as points of reference for other compatriots, but also in relation to the hosting society which struggled to respond to the need of a full inclusion of the newcomers.

Keywords:
Memory work, Activism, Syria, Refugees, Syrian Revolution, Syrian war, Asylum, Integration, Democracy, Empowerment.