

BRIDGE OF KNOWLEDGE COMING | GOING | STAYING



Migration city Salzburg

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In the 1960s Austria signed labor recruitment agreements with Turkey and Yugoslavia. The women and men who came to Salzburg and other parts of Austria generally had only temporary employment contracts. This led to a constant coming and going between their places of origin and their new workplaces, between different cultures and living and working environments. In German speaking countries the common term for these migrants of the 1960s and 1970s became “Gastarbeiter” (guest workers).

This year’s *Bridge of Knowledge* exhibition is dedicated to the multi-faceted and transcultural lives and work of these migrants, their leisure time and family activities. We are very grateful to all those who supported us with the private photos, loans and interviews that made this exhibition possible.



An exhibition of the University of Salzburg in cooperation with the Salzburg City Archives and the City of Salzburg Integration Office

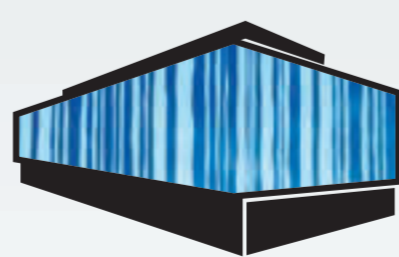
Exhibition team:
ao. Univ. Prof. Dr. Sylvia Hahn, Mag. Dr. Sabine Veits-Falk,
MMag. Magdalena Oberpeilsteiner, Mag. Gabriele Ott

Translation: Dr. Stan Nadel
Graphic Design: Eric Pratter, Anna Pratter

Responsible for the contents:
ao. Univ. Prof. Dr. Sylvia Hahn, Vice-Rector for
International Relations and Communication



The online-version ist available at
www.uni-salzburg.at/wissensbruecke



haus der stadtgeschichte



Integrationsbüro



A. (front left), who later went to Salzburg, with family in Nevşehir, Kapadokien, Turkey (around 1969)
 Ahmet Gençtürk



Bus ticket
 Hadžera Sinanović

Do you know that

... 50 years ago Austria made agreements with Turkey (1964) and Yugoslavia (1965/66) to recruit workers? It was because Austria was facing a labor shortage at the start of its rapid economic growth in the 1960s. Special commissions established for Austrian companies in Istanbul and Belgrade recruited workers for them. Some 4,123 foreign workers were employed in the city and state of Salzburg in August 1968; 3,226 from Yugoslavia, 355 from Turkey, 277 from West Germany, and 307 from other European countries.



Pictures from Austria, sent home to the family

Small Picture: Writing a letter

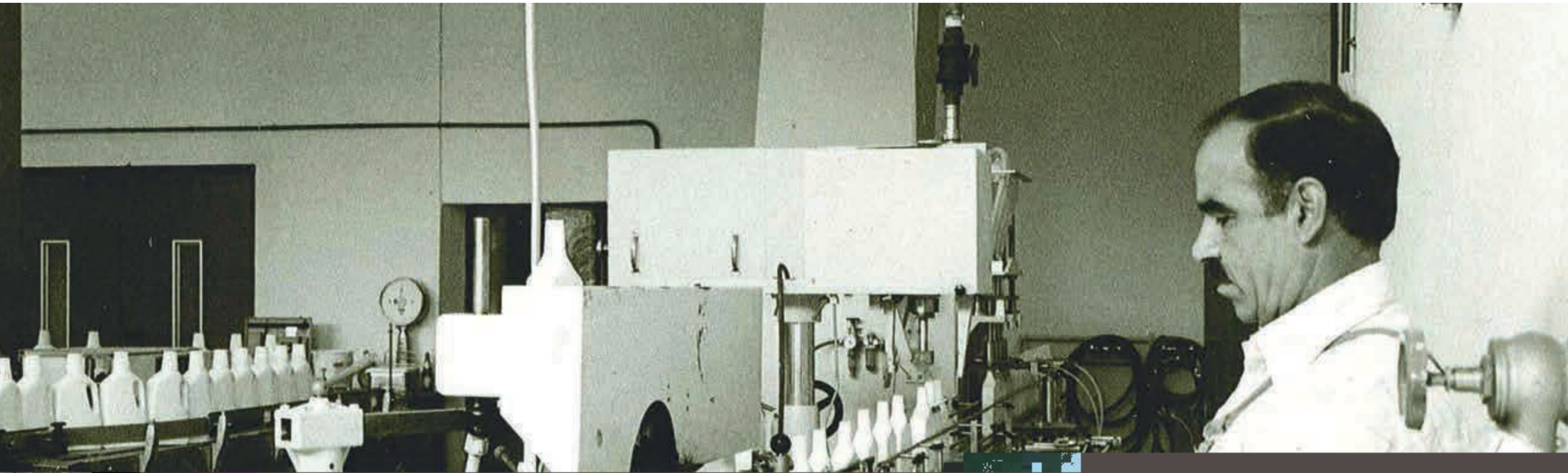
Familie Isik

Big Picture: In the new room with tape recorder,
St. Johann/Pongau 1977

Meral K.

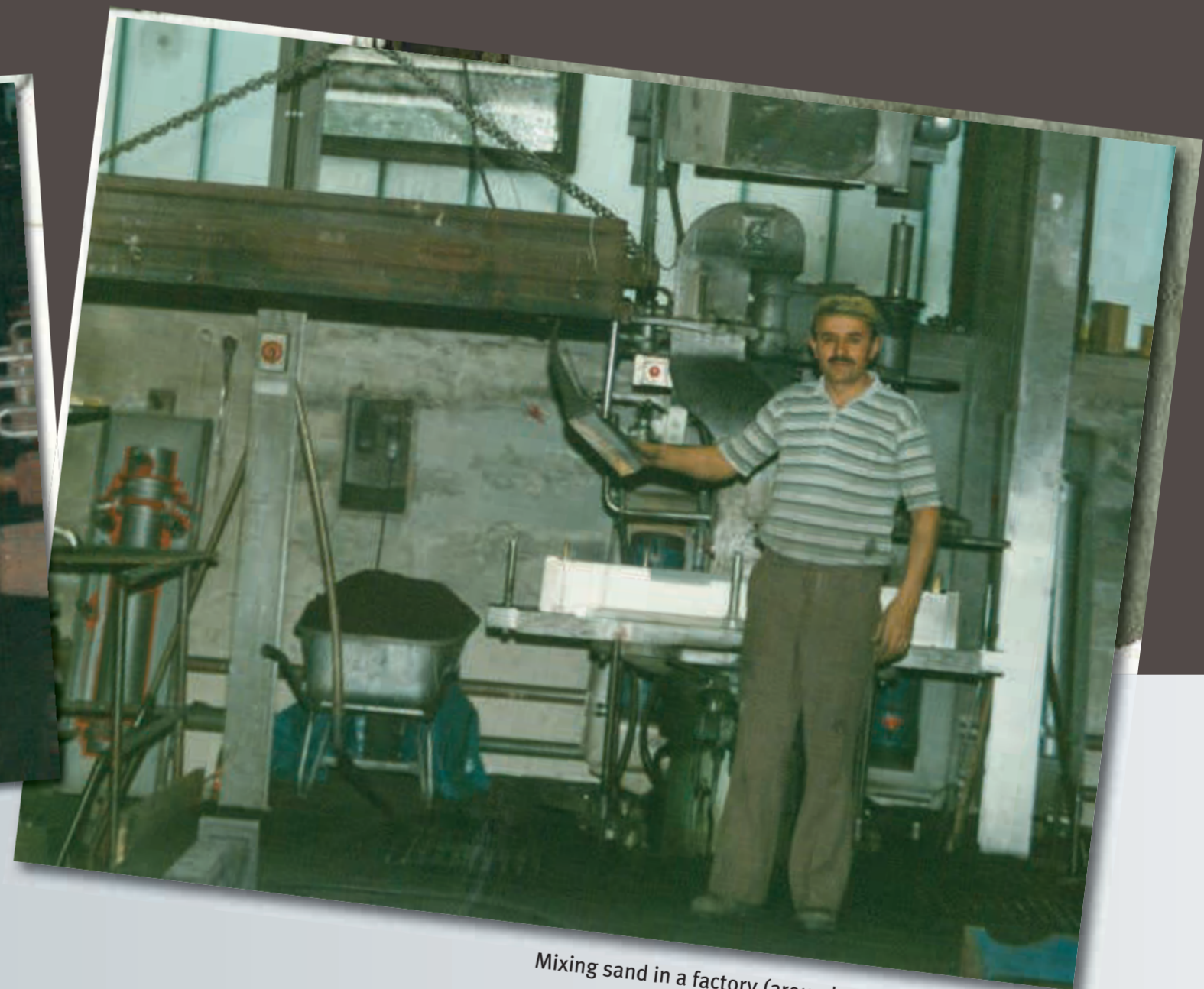
Do you know that

... most of these migrants came alone and without their families – and that it was very difficult at that time to communicate with their relatives and friends at home? Telephone calls to other countries were very expensive and telephones were rare in rural areas of both Austria and their homelands. Contact was reduced to letters and tape recordings that could be mailed to and from home to keep up with family events and let them know how the migrants were doing. At least you could hear the voices of your loved ones that way.



Factory work in a firm
in Hallein (around 1970)
Stadtarchiv Salzburg,
Steinocher-Fonds

Factory work in a firm in Bergheim (around 1995)
Yusuf Yaman



Mixing sand in a factory (around 1996)
Yusuf Yaman

Do you know that

... the workers recruited to Austria from the 1960s provided labor in factories, commercial enterprises, tourism, construction, agriculture, etc. that was essential to economic growth and the establishment of Austrian prosperity? At first it was mostly young men between 15 and 30 years old who came. In the city and province of Salzburg (Bischofshofen, Mittersill, Zell am See, etc.) most of them worked for various businesses – like ski production.



Upper left: Break in a shoe-factory, St. Johann/Pongau 1985
Meral K.

Upper right: With a colleague at work in a hotel, Zell am See 1972
Hadžera Sinanović

Lower left: With colleagues at work, Grand Hotel Zell am See (around 1990)
Hadžera Sinanović

Lower right: Christmas celebration with colleagues (around 2005)
Meral K.

Do you know that

... many young single women also came to Austria and Salzburg to work in hotels and restaurants, in factories, hospitals and other public institutions in the 1960s and 1970s? Most of them worked as unskilled laborers or cleaning staff. The low wages led many of them to return home or to migrate further – to Switzerland, Germany, Sweden or the USA.



Travelling between Turkey and Austria (around 1980)
Meral K.

Do you know that

... numerous businesses were very satisfied with the migrants they employed from Turkey and Yugoslavia and encouraged them to invite their relatives and friends to join their workforces? As a result many businesses employed several members of a family or people who came from the same place. This self-recruitment and the family reunification from the 1970s and 1980s increased the foreign population of the city of Salzburg to about 11,000 in 1982, 22,000 in 1992, and nearly 30,000 by 2012.