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INSTITUTUL DE CERCETĂRI  
AL UNIVERSITĂȚII DIN BUCUREȘTI

**Facing a New "Age of Migration"? Methodological Challenges, Conceptual  
Questions, Political Entanglements**

**ESA RN 35 "Sociology of Migration" – Midterm Conference**

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**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

**Organizers:** ESA RN 35 “Sociology of Migration”, Research Institute for Quality of Life, Romanian Academy (ICCV), The Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bucharest (FSAS), The Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (ICUB)

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## ABSTRACTS

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### KEYNOTE SPEECHES

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Thursday, 1st September; 10:00 - 11:00; Room 205

Friday, 2nd September; 09:30 - 10:30; Room 205

#### **How Fragile is the World: Migration and the Politics of Mobility**

Bridget Anderson (Centre on Migration, Policy and Society - COMPAS, University of Oxford, UK)

*The summer of 2015 was the latest in a long history of migration/refugee 'crises'. Debates about how this should be described – as a 'migrant' or as a 'refugee' crisis, or indeed whether it is a 'crisis' in the first place, saw the resurfacing of old binaries of economic and forced migration, the deserving and the undeserving, and arguments about the relation between immigration controls and racism. The re-emergence of these questions indicates that the study of migration has still not resolved some of its foundational questions. At the same time the politics of migration are becoming ever more toxic across the world, including the European Union. There is a desperate need for new thinking and new forms of public engagement that link the politics of immigration with the politics of austerity and exclusion, and that enables a debate that does not cast migrants and marginalized citizens as competitors for the privileges of membership. This paper will consider who counts as a migrant in policy, public debate and academic research and the risks attendant on 'policy relevant' research. Migration/mobility can be a lens through which to understand our societies as well as a subject of study in itself. It will argue that both migrant and citizen are volatile concepts without settled meanings, and for the importance of recognising and forging connections between migrants and citizens.*

#### **No Foreign Land. Border Politics, Migrant Subjectivities, Research Epistemologies**

Michael Collyer (University of Sussex, UK)

*Migration highlights themes of central importance to the political organisation of human society. Understandings of the implications of mobility and fixity are fundamental to the drawing and policing of borders, yet these understandings are continually in flux, perhaps never more so than over the last few years. These shifting epistemologies are central to the ways in which borders are policed, but also to the objectives and design of research. Political subjectivity results from the identification of particular individuals as objects/subjects of knowledge. This paper identifies three different approaches to the policing of borders and relates them to the evolving political subjectivity of migrants. It concludes by considering the implications of these connections for the ongoing research into the migration process.*

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### SESSION 1 (SUBDIVISION 1): BORDERS, REFUGEE CRISIS AND MIGRATION POLICIES

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Thursday, 1st September; 11:30 - 13:30; Room 103

#### **Presentations**

##### **Discrimination, Discourses, and Disruptive effects: Analysing weblogs on the refugee crisis**

Karin Peters (Wageningen University, Netherlands)

Maria Xenitidou (University of Surrey, UK)

*In the first nine months of 2015 it is estimated that more than 464,000 people from the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia crossed into Europe by sea (IOM, 15 September 2015). In this era, discussions about refugees, IS, and Islam are increasingly intertwined in public discourse, political agendas as well as everyday talk. Moreover, these discussions are progressively related to concerns people have about their own position now and in the near future: Linking costs of the refugee crisis to the cost of national health care. These concerns are being explicitly expressed in newspaper articles, weblogs and Facebook pages. The language used there is subjective*

*and political and grouping and categorizing people often leads to simplified and stigmatized generalisations and stereotyped images. The act of naming is political and has consequences for the everyday life of the individuals and social groups concerned.*

*Based on the analysis of different weblogs in Greece and the Netherlands we'll (1) discuss and compare the dominant discourses and (2) explore the ways in which these discourses continuously inform processes of inclusion and exclusion. In doing so we provide a better understanding into the act of naming in the light of the refugee crisis, the affordances it makes available, the ways in which it interrogates belonging, membership and 'integration regimes' in contemporary Europe. Greece is the main entry point for migrants and refugees and is tantalised by economic crisis and political instability. The Netherlands is dealing with increasing number of refugees and these numbers as well as the ways in which the Netherlands should respond is heavily discussed. The analysis of discourses will be based on Critical Discursive Social Psychology as it focuses on regularities in discourse while describing also the form and consequences of collective and social patterning of background normative conceptions.*

### **The Social Production of Migration and Mobility in Europe: From Dominant Discourses to Regulation Practices**

Anna Amelina (Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany)

*This presentation aims to provide a conceptual advancement of migration research building on socioconstructivist and discourse-theoretic approaches and using the example of current migrations and social transformations in the enlarged Europe. First, it analyzes discursive narratives of 'migration' and 'mobility' included in European migration policies, which constitute the securitized and economized European migration regime. Second, it emphasizes the power effects of these narratives which contribute to the emergence of the new European migration system which is differentiated in the old EU-member states, the new EU-member states and the non-EU 'peripheries'. Finally, the presentation illuminates complex stratification of legal statuses in respect to political, economic and social rights that affect the non-EU citizens under these specific power-and-knowledge configurations.*

### **The construction of the citizenship of young refugees: a discourse analysis and ethnographic study in Belgium**

Rachel Waerniers (Ghent University, Belgium)

Lesley Hustinx (Ghent University, Belgium)

*Scholars agree that international migration challenges a national conception of citizenship and that tensions arising from the increasingly restrictive policies are transforming the concept of citizenship. However, there is little empirical research on this transformation and how this is experienced by migrants. As research shows that the way refugees and their citizenship are discursively constructed in policy plays an important role in the integration process of refugees, we want to investigate how the refugees' citizenship practices interact with the policy discourses to construct their citizenship position. We conducted a discourse analysis of the migration policies in Belgium between 2011 and 2014 focusing on how the citizenship of refugees is framed and an ethnographic study focusing on the reactions of young refugees towards these discourses. Our analysis shows that refugees are denied agency as full citizens in the migration policies by categorizing migrants as profiteers and criminals or as victims. We provide insight in how young refugees create new subjectivities for themselves in light of these discourses through daily practices. In this paper we show that the policy discourses and the practices of refugees do not produce a dichotomy between citizens and non-citizens, but that a more complex gradation comes about.*

### **Images of migration (refugee crisis) through the 'eye' of written press**

Mona Simu (Research Institute for the Quality of Life, Romanian Academy, Romania)

*The paper analyses aspects on the migration issue as they appear in Romanian main newspapers (relevant publications in the range of circulation figures), during the refugees 'crisis' (early fall 2015-spring 2016). A corpus of articles covering the present refugee crisis will be obtained, applying the method of frequency analysis. The related words in these press articles will be counted (words related to 'migration', but also the words 'surrounding' the main topic: 'afflux', 'children', 'dead', 'wall', 'quotas' etc.). A hierarchy of the resulted words will be obtained depicting the mediatic 'image'/ discourse on the issue in these Romanian journals during the studied period of time, to indicate on what aspect of the topic the accent is put on. Analyzing for each article*

*the whole group/ 'family' of related words – having positive or negative connotations – gives us the general context that this crisis is presented.*

*The study is based on the assumption that media is like a mirror for the society, but also on the light of assertions cited in the dedicated literature, according to which, in some countries the press and the 'political arena' demonized the immigrants (Leon-Guerrero, 2016), and helps to get a hint about what is in the eyes of the public the image that media transmit.*

**“Hungarians have decided: they do not want illegal migrants” - Anti-immigration governmental campaign in Hungary**

Eszter Kiss (Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary)

*Hungary faced a previously never experienced influx of asylum seekers during 2015. The Hungarian government launched an extensive and controversial anti-immigration campaign based on the existing stereotypes and xenophobia. In my research I have analysed this campaign titled “National Consultation” coupled with a billboard campaign and its mainstream media representation, which crucially construct the perception of migration and asylum issues in Hungary. My arguments are that the government basically introduced a new medium, which gained remarkable influence in the Hungarian media system in spite of that the letter and the billboard are 19th century media channels. This campaign is based on stereotypes and it generates tension. Furthermore the media representation of this issue is utterly divided; the governmental-critical and governmental-friendly media seem to present different realities. Media portrayals of asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants in connection with these cases are, to different extent, stereotypical, occasionally even hostile. In this essay, by presenting the results of a case study, I would like to demonstrate how the xenophobic right-wing populism dominates the media field and the migration discourses in Hungary.*

**«Mixed couple? In what sense?» An analysis on the reflexivity of mixed couples' partners concerning the discourse on difference**

Francesco Cerchiaro (University of Padova, Italy)

*The phenomenon of mixed couples as both index and factor of change strictly connected to the rise of migration flows offers a close perspective to analyse processes which imply the increasing pluralism of contemporary society. The controversial concept of “mixed couple”, defined around the concept of difference as cultural construction referring to, and placed within, a specific socio-cultural context, primarily reflects the observer point of view. The article will examine the life stories of the so-called Christian-Muslim couples focusing on the relationship partners create with the public discourse which stigmatises them as holders of a “strong” difference. The analysis sheds lights on the links revealed by the partners narratives on the internal-external axis connecting the couple to the social milieu where its lives. In this sense data will demonstrate that is it not possible to reduce the phenomenon to a single representation (conflictual or positive) or single process (assimilation or integration), instead suggesting a first analytical decomposition of reflexivity developed by partners on the hegemonic discourse on difference.*

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## **SESSION 1 (SUBDIVISION 2): BORDERS, REFUGEE CRISIS AND MIGRATION POLICIES**

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*Thursday, 1st September; 14:30 - 16:30; Room 103*

**Presentations**

**Civil Society Actors as Border Makers**

Abby Peterson (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

*We most often talk about state 'bordering practices'. While the role of states is central in the study of migration processes this, however, underestimates the roles that non-state actors play in what Chris Rumford (2006) calls 'borderwork'. State bordering practices are to a large degree performed in interaction with other types of non-state actors, processes and organisations. The role that ordinary people play in the construction of borders has been little researched. In this paper I will discuss the role of ordinary people in border practices on the basis of*

*interview materials with volunteer 'border-workers' and media sources collected in Sweden in autumn 2015. Citizens, entrepreneurs, and 'civil society' actors, amongst others, can engage in bordering, i.e. the efforts of ordinary people leading to the construction of borders — both welcoming and inclusive and hostile and exclusive.*

### **From door to rhizome in understanding the meanings of borders in international migration**

Mădălina Manea (University of Bucharest, Romania)

*The article departs from the idea of borders as chains of points in space which both unite and separate pieces of land belonging to different national administrations, using Simmel's description of doors and bridges as elements of social life. The digitalisation of borders requires however a different explanation given the particular nature of information in the social environment, and its ubiquity. The way in which this article proposes to look at EU borders and their digitalisation is based on Deleuze and Guattari's rhizome metaphor. With the help of this analogy we try to account for the diversity of actors involved in securitisation/ de-securitisation of borders, known as migration industry, to which we add relations with material objects and information. The rhizome is also useful in dealing with a dissipation of border materiality, so that instead of crossing a border in one point only, one crosses a border in several steps, starting from the first action taken with this purpose, and the process is not necessarily a linear one. For instance, a rejected visa application can be redrafted, while the acceptance of the application does not guarantee the successful development of the process.*

### **Economic Immigrants Stuck between the Refugee Crisis and the Existential Needs**

Nella Popović (University of Zagreb, Croatia)

*The inflow of refugees into the European Union for almost a year now has reached such proportions as to incite the media discussions and the academic discourse about a real refugee crisis. In this paper we will be looking behind the security issues that are usually connected with the inflow of refugees and beneath the discussion on the refugee routes and the "securing" of external borders of the Union. The author is interested in the implications of the refugee crisis for the scope of economic migration and the everyday life of economic immigrants. First, we will be dealing with the development of the EU immigration policy from the 1970s, through its turning point with the Treaty of Amsterdam and the dawn of a new stage with the focus placed on the integration and the equal status of immigrants to that of the members of the receiving communities. Second, the paper will explore the instruments that the EU immigration policy provides for the integration of economic immigrants into the receiving communities. And last but not least, we will be looking into some examples of the national immigration policies and a possible change in their turn as a result of the current refugee crisis.*

### **Italian government documents on the second generation: what they say and what they leave out**

Michael Eve (University of Eastern Piedmont, Italy)

Enrico Gargiulo (University of Eastern Piedmont, Italy)

Maria Perino (University of Eastern Piedmont, Italy)

*Most of the discussion on Italian government documents (and those of many other European nations) with regard to immigration has concentrated on the tendencies to redefine the nation in a way which restricts it to a *de souche*, *autochthon*, etc. group, thus marginalizing immigrants and their descendants as "not really French, Dutch, English/British, Italian", etc. This is obviously an important tendency, connected also with redefinitions of access to citizenship, introduction of rites requiring migrants requesting citizenship to show knowledge of "British culture", "Italian traditions", etc. But in this article we want to explore a more general tendency which is present in all the documents we analyze, produced under various ministries, governments of various political colors, and in the context of varying states of the public and media debate. In particular we will seek to discuss on the one hand the relevance of "ethnic" discourses oriented to "methodological nationalism" towards second generations too. On other hand the limitations of the traditional nation-centered immigration paradigm. We will propose the "migration process" sociological notion as a mechanism which shapes social networks and the kind of "integration" in the place of immigration.*

## **Contesting restrictions and unfulfilled hopes: Young Malians after and before (a new) adventure of searching a better life**

Susanne Schultz (University Bielefeld, Germany)

*Destination Europe has become Eldorado almost everywhere in Mali. Adding to economic and ecologic motivators, a widely felt opportunity lack, globalization facilitates mobility, consumption desires as well as to see abroad. Youngsters take more responsibility and go on adventure. Ironically, this increased mobility coincides with the progressive externalization of EU migration policies in the Maghreb and West Africa: advancing securitization of (inner) African borders has led to deportations of thousands "unauthorize" Malians, not only from European shores. Never before, have so many Malians died in the Mediterranean. This does not hold young men from (re-)trying their luck, families from (re-)encouraging. Little has been systematically analyzed how deportees and their society respond to the violent interventions of externalization. My contribution builds on 8 months field work in Mali, narrative interviews with deportees, participant observations, conversations with socially close. The stigmatizing practice of deportation has become a public and social reality. At the community and family level, deportees are still seen as failed. In light of missing alternatives and ashamed of not standing one's man, many prefer to re-migrate. Their stories show the exposure to realities of post deportation and the social handling of unfulfilled hopes, interlinking conceptions of (im)mobility, (un)success, responsibility and adventure as school for life.*

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## **SESSION 1 (SUBDIVISION 3): BORDERS, REFUGEE CRISIS AND MIGRATION POLICIES**

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*Friday, 2nd September; 11:00 - 13:30; Room 103*

### **Presentations**

#### **'Evaluating' policies from below: Do policy measures promote interethnic interaction? Findings from a Viennese case study**

Julia Dahlvik (The Institute for Urban and Regional Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria)

*Embedded in a comparative research project (Amsterdam, Stockholm, Vienna), this paper focuses on the effects of initiatives aiming at integration in ethnically diverse neighbourhoods. On the basis of policy analysis, semi-structured interviews with participants and non-participants as well as participant observation in 'spaces of encounter' (SoE) – where the local community interacts as part of their daily life – we explore how the community perceives local policy measures and analyse their effects on neighbourhood belonging (understood as an indicator for 'integration'). Drawing on three neighbourhood case studies in Vienna, Austria, this paper explores how the different setup of initiatives (top-down, bottom-up, aims, logic) affects participants' – in particular migrants' – experiences in these initiatives and how participation or non-participation can be related to belonging. How are these initiatives functionally different? Which encounters in which spaces promote interethnic interaction and neighbourhood belonging and why (not)? The findings suggest that institutional SoE are often characterized by – intended or unintended – exclusionary mechanisms, hampering the integration of different social groups. In contrast, it can be argued that public space should not be underestimated as a valuable SoE. How realistic is it thus to improve interethnic interaction and neighbourhood belonging through policy measures that invest in institutionalised initiatives?*

#### **Pluralism or Multiculturalism? A compare study between Germany and Austria**

Cătălina Fitzek (University of Bucharest, Romania)

Sebastian Fitzek (Research Institute for Quality of Life, Romanian Academy, Romania)

*In this article we analysed the outcome of integration politics of the minorities both in Austria and in Germany of the last 10 years, regarding pluralism and multiculturalism as discourse for European modernity. Considering the successful Canadian multiculturalism, the nowadays European Union lays stress upon the inter-statal collaboration, through assimilating common citizenship rights thus aiming the improvement of relations and negative perceptions among the communities; therefore, pluralism is thought as an interesting variation of multiculturalism. Through pluralism it's been settled that every integration process involves the acceptance of diversity under the umbrella and respect of local or national laws. On the other hand, multiculturalism was*

*established on a prolonged experience in integration policies from Central and Eastern Europe, that played an essential role in diminishing ethnic discrimination. Nevertheless, many conflicts have been still registered despite the efforts of the European Union, in some cases these conflicts escalated. The analysis of Eurostat statistical data reflects the evolution of these policies in both Austria and Germany as rich countries in cultural and ethnic diversity. The overall image of both countries points towards the extent to which the European Union tends on achieving a united, tolerant character and prone to intercultural dialogue.*

#### **A politics of appearance? - Private accommodation initiatives in Germany for people seeking asylum**

Hanne Wiegel (Wageningen University, Netherlands)

*Publicly organized asylum seeker accommodation in Germany often involves a strict spatial and social segregation of asylum seekers from the wider society, which contributes to turning people who seek asylum into an abstract, impersonal category. Against this background, this paper will theoretically discuss the socio-political implications of recently developed civil society initiatives that organize the accommodation of asylum seekers in private housing arrangements in which asylum seekers live side-by-side non-refugees. Drawing on the approach of autonomous migration, Rancièrè's disruptive politics and Butler's performative theory of appearance, I argue that these civil society initiatives can be understood as providing spaces of appearance for asylum seekers to become visible as individuals amongst non-refugees. This can be considered as a performative act of disruption, changing the spatial and social ordering of asylum (accommodation) policies. Far from glorifying the effects of private accommodation for asylum seekers, however, I argue that these do not affect the legal status of the asylum seeker, but that nevertheless living side-by-side non-refugees changes asylum seekers' invisibility vis-à-vis the civil society, and allows for personal encounters and individuation which might enhance their social emplacement.*

#### **Care policies in France and Germany: biographical responses of migrant child minders**

Janina Glaeser (Goethe-University of Frankfurt; University of Strasbourg, Germany/France)

*In European global cities migrant's work in the field of childcare has become more and more common due to globalization and transnationalization processes. Most of these care givers are women. In the recent decades in France and in Germany, the occupation of childminders (dt. 'Kindertagespflegepersonen', frz. 'Assistant(e)s Maternel(le)s) has been regulated in order to respond to the enlarged care deficit. In this presentation I want to show though the method of a biographical policy evaluation how the different contexts in these two nation states influence the care givers journey through life, migration and work out of a comparative perspective.*

#### **The political discourse on migrants' integration in Spain: an austerity policy**

Belén Fernández-Suárez (University of Coruna, Spain)

*In this paper I will analyze the discourse of the main political forces in Spain in a context of economic austerity. The period of economic growth fueled a discursive proposal aligned to an intercultural model, but this discourse has changed in times of austerity towards an assimilationist model, more aligned to the exigence of "integration efforts". As an ambiguous symbolic policy, discourse is able to create public opinion. Conservative forces have tried not only to cut back rights but to create a legitimizing discourse based on austerity and on the perspective of "welfare chauvinism", influenced by the regressive winds blowing from the rest of Europe. Left-wing forces have barely been able to hoist the defense of equality as a legitimate frame for the inclusion of migrant people in a retrenched Welfare State. The emerging political forces, Ciudadanos and Podemos, have respectively taken the two most extreme discursive positions: the least tolerant in the case of Ciudadanos, and the most inclusive in the case of Podemos. The methodology for this research is based in the analysis of documental sources (parliamentary debates) as well as on 30 in-depth interviews with the main political representatives in the period 2010-2015.*



## **Migrants and refugees from Ukraine to Russia: features of socio-economic adaptation**

Sergei V. Ryazantsev (Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia)

*The presentation examines the trends and directions of migration from Ukraine before and after the armed conflict years 2014-2015. Traditionally, the Russian Federation is one of the main directions of migration of Ukrainians. In recent years, in Russia there are active discussions about the need to adjust immigration policy towards a selective approach. Experts and government officials declared the need to involve Russia in vysokovalifitsirovannyh specialists and ethnically close to the Russian immigrant population. Ukrainian migration is quite clearly fits into this idea. The majority of immigrants from that country are fluent in Russian, are close to the Russian conditions of skills, willing to live and work in Russia, want to become Russian citizens. For these reasons, the Russian migration policy would have to give a "green light" to Ukrainian citizens in Russia. Indeed, after the outbreak of hostilities in the east of Ukraine and the flow of refugees to Russia, many government agencies have opened some "door" for Ukrainian citizens. It has been greatly simplified some procedures for issuing permits and enhanced terms to stay in Russia. There have also been simplified Ukrainian diplomas recognition procedure in the Russian Federation, which contributed to the adaptation of Ukrainian migrants in the Russian labor market. It is necessary to note that after the Russian migration policy of "open doors" to the end of 2015 is literally turned "reversed" by going back in the direction of tightening procedures with respect to Ukrainian citizens. The project is receiving Ukrainian migrant phased out, more and more difficult to get them to the status of member state of the resettlement program in Russia, a temporary residence permit, residence permit, citizenship, permits to work. On November 1, 2015 preferential treatment stay on the territory of Russia abolished for citizens of Ukraine. Located on the territory of the Russian Federation of Ukrainian citizens must be the end of November to apply to the department division of labor to obtain a patent, the right to stay, residency or other status, making their presence in the country legally. Those who do not have time to do it for a month, face deportation. Unfortunately, this confirms the fact that the Russian migration policy is still far from a conceptual understanding of the need for priority admission Ukrainian migrant workers as an important employment and demographic resource for Russia's development. Of course, Russia should urgently review its migration policy towards the citizens of Ukraine and using the current geopolitical situation attract the largest possible number of them in their regions.*

## **Demographic utilitarianism in current migration regimes. Policy consultancy on long-term biopolitical rationales in the case of Germany**

Susanne Schultz (Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany)

*Demographic change, the "aging" and "shrinking" of European populations, is since the 2000s an important aspect of European and national government rationales - and has become also an influential frame for current hegemonic migration discourses. Demographic policy consultancy shapes migration policies as a tool for securing long-term European or national (economic) prosperity. And it introduces criteria for desirable and non-desirable categories of immigrants, based on ideas about favourable age compositions and long term "human capital" requirements. In Germany, this perspective is also an ambiguous subtext of the current debate on the so called "refugee crisis" and is therefore an important aspect of the contested field of migration policies.*

*In this paper, I will explore how, in the case of Germany, these demographic rationales gain importance in the last decade and to what extent they shape qualitative criteria of desirable and non-desirable immigration, also beyond an immediate demand of the labour market - and with an ambiguous interest in young and reproductive bodies. I will do so by referring to research documents of influential think tanks and to interviews with policy consultants. On this base, I will debate the impacts of demographic utilitarianism with regards to a rearticulated nationalism and to a specific intersection of racism, agism, classism and gender relations.*

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## SESSION 2: HIGHLY SKILLED MIGRATION

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Thursday, 1st September; 17:00 - 18:30; Room: 103

### Presentations

#### **Romania's Medical Exodus. Evidence from LinkedIn Data**

Alina Botezat ("Gh. Zane" Institute for Economic and Social Research, Romanian Academy; College for Interdisciplinary Educational Research (CIDER), Romania/Germany)

Lucian Doru Botezat ("Gh. T. Popa" - University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Romania)

*The migration of tertiary educated people from poor to rich countries has increasingly becoming an important aspect of the international migration.*

*Among countries from Eastern Europe, Romania records one of the largest stocks of high-skilled emigrants, especially affected being key professions such as medical doctors and IT specialists. In 2007, for example, 4,990 medical doctors, representing more than 10 percent of the medical active workforce, expressed their intention to migrate as measured by the number of certificates issued by the Romanian Ministry of Health. Since it joined the European Union about 14,000 medical doctors have left Romania. These numbers are really large given the fact the high skilled migration rarely exceeded 3 percent of the domestic workforce in the EU.*

*This study aims to analyze trends in emigration of Romanian physicians by using innovative data extracted from the LinkedIn professional platform, which counts over 13,000 graduates of Romanian medical schools. By investigating data on education and employment of both groups: those who migrated and those who remained, we complement the evidence from previous studies, which generally focus on one single group. The data confirms the top destinations of Romanian medical doctors as those revealed by the official statistics. Our findings also show that, following the years of accession to the European Union, the inflows of Romanian physicians slightly increased only for some countries.*

#### **Brain Drain Migration through Romanian Academics**

Robert D. Reisz (West University of Timisoara, Romania)

Pânzaru, Ciprian (West University of Timisoara, Romania)

Claudiu Ciprian Dirina (West University of Timisoara, Romania)

*Our research was focused on the brain drain migration from Romania. The analysed data were collected in two research steps, one conducted in 2000 and the other one in 2013. These data were compared with each other. The investigated population was represented by academics from Romanian universities. The goal of the research was to observe how intentions and opinions regarding migration changed between these two points in time. Next to this, our research also tried to find possible explanations of the causes that generated the changes. The results clearly show that there is an impressive change in the interest of Romanian academics to emigrate. Compared to 2000, in 2013 there was a lower intention to emigrate and much more unfavorable opinions about migration.*

#### **Labour force mobility of Romanian immigrants**

Alina-Andreea Alincăi (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Romania)

*Workers mobility is essential to meet the European Union challenges regarding demographic changes and skills changes. EU representatives are still struggling to eliminate the differences between men and women and to increase labour market participation of young and old workers, taking into consideration the important role that international mobility and migration have played in the last century. Every single immigrant, that starts a "working journey" from the sending to the receiving country, has his own, cultural, educational, economic, political background. That's why our focus, in the following article, is to develop an empirical, qualitative research on labour force migration, of Romanian immigrants. The overall objective is to study the de-professionalization, professional retraining and re-qualification phenomenon, among adult subjects, in the socio-economic context of international movement. The latest, common report of EU-OECD presents three complementary policy responses to the labour force mobility problem among migrants: to promote labour mobility within the EU countries in order to ensure better skills representation; a better integration of migrants from outside the EU to enable a smarter use of their skills; attraction of skilled migrants, needed on the EU labour market. The contribution of EU "mobile" workers to overall employment is obvious: usually immigrants*

have a higher employment rate than citizens of the host country and most of them comply with the requirements of a secondary labor market, avoided by the native population.

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## **SESSION 3 (RN 35 AND FP7 TEMPER): FOCUS ON TEMPORARY MIGRATION**

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Thursday, 1st September; 11:30 - 13:30; Room: 102

### **Presentations**

#### **Preliminary results from a survey on Temporary Labour Migration Programmes with main stakeholders in UK, Spain, Italy and France**

Michael Collyer (University of Sussex, UK)

*The EU Commission and many Member States individually have constructed over the last decade a new discourse on the convenience of promoting well managed temporary migration programs that allows for circulation as the best strategy to achieve the so-called triple win. In some cases, the arrival of the global economic crisis reinforced this type of discourses; in others it implied a halt on the temporary recruitment programs previously at work. In any case, we lack overall of a proper assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of this kind of programs by the people who participated in their design and implementation. In the framework of the TEMPER Project we conducted a global online questionnaire with stakeholders involved in TMPs (Temporary Migration Programs) aimed at assessing the impact that the institutional design and enforcement of targeted programme and immigration policies at large have on this type of mobility, with a focus on the elements aimed at promoting return and repeated participation and protection of workers' rights. The questionnaire collected information on five major areas: return, recruitment practices, rights, seasonal migration and stakeholder involvement, with questions on advantages and disadvantages of TMPs, ideal duration of migration for participants, possibility and desirability to extend TMPs, efficiency of previous and existing TMPs, etc. In this paper, we present the survey and its main results, and discuss its limitations and potential extensions.*

#### **Neglecting reasons for migration in return behaviour. A critical assessment of existing theories**

Amparo González Ferrer (CSIC, Spain)

*Return is expected to be related to the motives and circumstances that encouraged migration in the first place. However, reasons for initial migration are largely ignored in theories explaining return migration. The decision to return has been theorized almost exclusively for economic migrants, although the resulting theories have been applied to explain return as a whole, regardless of the motive that pushed the first migration decision. It might happen that reasons for migration are not just one more factor that increases or reduces return propensity, but rather a crucial element that alters the major determinants of return. In fact, there is some consistent evidence that migrants admitted as refugees or for humanitarian reasons are generally the least likely to return, followed by individuals admitted on the grounds of their family ties, foreign students and labor migrants, in this order. However, we do not know whether migrants who left their countries for different reasons also make their decision to return differently. Moreover, admission categories do not necessarily coincide with the original reason to migrate, which can only be revealed through survey data. In this paper we explore this hypothesis by examining separately the determinants of return migration from Europe to Africa of Sub-Saharan migrants who left their country of origin for economic, study, family and political reasons, respectively.*

#### **Moroccans' Selection into Return Migration from Different European Destinations. Merging Datasets As a Strategy for Testing Return Migration Theories**

Tatiana Eremenko (CSIC; INED, Spain/France)

*Recent studies emphasize the importance of return intentions in general and return migration in particular to explain migrants' behavior during both their time abroad and once back in their countries. Similarly, migration and development policies cannot be properly designed lacking of a detailed understanding of return patterns and determinants. However, an endemic dearth of data has hampered scientific research on return. Many studies*

have limited to the analyses of return intentions' information collected through surveys with migrant populations in receiving countries. However, we know that even intentions correlate with actual behavior this correlation is far from being perfect. Another group of studies have focused more recently on migrants who have already returned and their reintegration patterns; however, in this case, reintegration outcomes are usually disconnected from selection into return, which is expected to be a major explaining factor. This study develops a new methodology consisting of merging surveys in both origin and destination countries in order to study selection into return. Namely, we combine information from datasets on returned migrants in Morocco (ETF2012) and current migrants in Europe (TeO2008, NIS2007 and Intregrometro2008) to describe first the socio-economic characteristics of each group (current migrants and returnees), and to explain selection into return to Morocco from three major European destinations for Moroccan migrants (France, Spain and Italy). Our results systematically suggest a lower probability of return for female migrants among Moroccan migrants in our three destinations, and a positive selection into return in terms of educational level. Limitations of data and potentialities of data merging in other migratory contexts to better understand return and more complex migration trajectories are discussed at length.

### **The role of migration and higher education policies in international academic mobility.**

#### **The case of Indian researchers**

Sorana Toma (ENSAE- CREST, France)

María Villares-Varela (University of Birmingham, UK)

Governments are increasingly implementing policies aimed at attracting or retaining highly-skilled migrants. While a growing number of studies examine the effectiveness of these efforts, the actual mechanisms through which policies may affect the aspirations and abilities to migrate of the highly-skilled have not been questioned. This paper explores the roles of migration and higher education policies from both the origin and destination countries in the geographic mobility decisions of researchers, a highly-skilled group that has been specifically targeted by such policies (e.g. scientific visa introduced by the EU). Focusing on Indian researchers and using in-depth qualitative interviews, we examine their decisions to study and/or work abroad, to stay or to return in India. More specifically, the paper asks (i) to what extent are (migration) policies driving Indian researchers' decisions of whether and/or where to emigrate?, and (ii) do policies attract or block Indian researchers from staying in their initial destination, re-migrating to another country or returning to India? In seeking to answer these questions, we consider not only the role of state migration policies, but also the institutional practices within higher education or research institutions.

### **Policy determinants of high skilled migration in France, Italy, Spain and the UK. Old and new approaches**

Héctor Cebolla Boado (UNED, Spain)

The global race for talent forces destination countries to develop innovative strategies to increase the comparative advantages for skilled workers may benefit from. This paper explores the relative importance of labour market (and broader macroeconomic) conditions and policies developed in selected European countries to attract high skilled migrants. Two type of empirical analyses are conducted. On the one hand, an aggregate level analysis is presented merging Eurostat and OECD indicators to predict the flow of skilled migrants to a large list of countries. On the other, qualitative data from previous TEMPER research classifying policies designed to attract skilled migrants in Spain, Italy, France and the U.K. is used to explore the predictive potential of policies in improving national ability to redirect the flow of skilled workers born abroad.

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## SESSION 4: QUANTITATIVE DATA AND THEIR USE

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Thursday, 1st September; 14:30 - 16:30; Room 102

### Presentations

#### **Political Integration of Immigrants: Insights from Comparing to Stayers, Not Only to Natives**

David Bartram (University of Leicester, UK)

*As with other aspects of migrants' experiences, research on immigrants' political integration generally proceeds via comparisons to the political activity of natives. Typically, one discerns a gap between immigrants and natives and concludes that immigrants are insufficiently integrated in political terms. That angle matters – but research on this topic should give greater consideration to the “starting point” of migrants' political engagement, i.e., their engagement prior to migration. For this angle, we can gain insight by comparing migrants to stayers in the origin countries. This paper uses European Social Survey data to analyse immigrants in the UK and Germany, comparing to stayers in the main origin countries where sufficient data are available\*. The analysis indicates that migrants moving to Germany from the specified countries experience an increase in their political participation, while migrants to the UK (from the specified countries) experience a decrease. These outcomes are rather different from what is suggested by comparison to natives in the destination: those comparisons imply a problem of participation among immigrants in Germany but not in the UK. Changing the angle of comparison, then, has significant implications for how we perceive matters of this sort – a point likely to hold for other topics as well.*

*\*(Ireland, Germany, and Poland for the UK, and Czech Republic, Poland, Russia, and Turkey for Germany)*

#### **Differing labour market integration of migrants in Western Europe: composition and contextual differences in returns to investments**

Wouter Zwysen (University of Essex, UK)

Neli Demireva (University of Essex, UK)

*Equal access to the labour market is a crucial aspect of wider integration. Much is still unknown about country variation in successful labour market integration of migrants and their children, especially about effective utilization of skills. Using the ESS 2002-2014 and adding contextual data from other sources such as the EU-LFS and MIPEX we study disadvantage in activity and employment, but also the quality of work when employed and overqualification in the EU15 and Norway. We address three factors accounting for regional variation in labour market gaps: (1) compositional differences in pre-migration characteristics which can explain different outcomes; (2) differences in investment in ties and human capital specific to the country of destination; and (3) how contextual factors affect the returns to investments in specific human capital by migrants. We find substantial gaps in being active or employed as well as working in lower status jobs for 1st generation migrants. These gaps are substantially reduced when accounting for individual investment in specific human capital and the regional context. Compositional factors and wider integration are crucial for the 2nd generation and explain the worse outcomes for North-African and Middle-Eastern migrants. There is substantial variation by origin and destination.*

#### **Does ageing of European societies affect migration sentiments? Evidence from a cross-national analysis**

Justyna Salamońska (European University Institute, Italy)

*With the mass inflow of refugees to Europe in 2015 migration, for the first time, has become the main concern of the European citizens (Spring 2015 Standard Eurobarometer), ahead of economic situation and unemployment. While the current debate focuses on the short and medium-term consequences of this inflow, there is relatively little focus on the long-term consequences of migration, particularly in the context of population developments in Europe as we observe how the European population decreases, fertility rates are low and the old-age dependency ratio grows. This presentation brings together two rarely connected debates on attitudes towards population aging and migration.*

*Analyses of Eurobarometer data point to large between country variation in attitudes. In addition, there are changes across time as the views on immigration shifted with now majority perceiving immigrants as contributing to their countries. At the same time, however, migration is also a source of concern. The analyses challenge a conventional assumption of older people being more negative towards immigration. In particular*

*effect of age needs to be problematized in the context of political-ideological climate and right-wing vote in Europe.*

#### **Individual-level determinants of anti-immigrant sentiment in present-day Romania**

Ionela Vlase ("Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, Research Institute for Quality of Life, Romanian Academy, Romania)

Ana Maria Preoteasa (Research Institute for Quality of Life, Romanian Academy, Romania)

*Based on a recent survey on attitudes towards immigrants conducted in Romania, paper seeks to investigate the predictors of attitudes towards immigration, measured as expression of the fear the majority group experiences in relation to perceived economic competition, cultural threat, and criminality risks. Authors use regression of an additive scale to analyse immigrant threat on several dimensions, as discussed in the literature on immigration attitudes; these include cosmopolitanism, intergroup contact and realistic group conflict. The findings of this study suggest that the most significant drivers of negative sentiments towards immigrants include a perceived high presence of immigrants and unwelcoming attitudes towards certain identity groups, and groups displaying stigmatised behaviours. However, some indicators of cosmopolitanism showed links to reduced immigrant prejudice. Concerning contact's potential in reducing anti-immigrant sentiments, results are mixed, since the variable of active contact with immigrants is irrelevant in comparison to the passive reception of media immigrant content. (This work was supported by a grant of the Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research and Innovation, CNCS/CCCDI – UEFISCDI, project number PN-III-P4-ID-ERC-2016-0005 within PNCDI III)*

#### **Labour mobility in the European Union: a study of the comparability between the census and labour force survey data**

Georgiana Ivan (Eurostat/ European Commission, Luxembourg)

*The increasing labour mobility in Europe has a growing impact on productivity and the way it is measured in national accounts, and also on European societies. As such, in recent years there has been a growing interest within the European Union, including at the political level, for data on labour mobility, which is a complex and challenging topic cutting across a number of statistical domains. Data is needed to inform the current political discussion on labour supply and labour market policies, given that the concepts of national borders and residence have become less relevant due to globalization. As a cross cutting topic is best addressed by using data from several sources, the comparability of the two main datasets which contain information on the topic, EU-LFS and the Census, is a crucial quality concern. The purpose of this paper is to provide a clear overview of the differences and similarities in the characteristics of Intra-EU foreign born populations according to the two data sources for the same reference year, 2011. Potential explanations for the main differences identified (including definition-based) will also be put forward. The aim is to improve the quality of the data available and assess if it is possible to update the more structural information in the Census with the more timely data available in the EU-LFS, in the labour mobility context.*

#### **Deaths at the Borders Database**

Tamara Last (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Ignacio Urquijo (MATIP network; NGO Karibu; CDCDI, Spain/Romania)

*People have died and continue to die attempting to cross the external borders of the EU without authorization in order to enter the territories of its Member States. Yet, remarkably little is known about these 'border deaths'. In May 2015, the Human Costs of Border Control project published the Deaths at the Borders Database for the Southern EU, an open-source 'evidence-base' of individualized information about the people who have died attempting to cross the southern EU external borders between 1990 and 2013, sourced from the death management systems of Spain, Gibraltar, Italy, Malta and Greece. It is the first database on border deaths in the EU to be based on official sources as opposed to the news media. This paper describes in detail everything a scholar would need to know about the Deaths at the Borders Database in order to make use of it in their research: the research design and methodology of locating and searching 563 state-run death registry archives, and deductively selecting the death certificates of persons who died border deaths; the findings of this systematic, multi-sited, quantitative data collection and the qualitative case studies that provided valuable information about the context; and the construction and final results of the Database itself.*

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## SESSION 5: UNOBSERVED FLOWS

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Thursday, 1st September; 17:00 - 18:30; Room 102

### Presentations

#### **Migrants of privilege in reverse geographies of power: Germans in Turkey**

Margit Fauser (Bielefeld University, Germany)

*Most studies in migration research focus on processes and dynamics within countries of immigration. While a transnational perspective suggests including a view on the emigration country and the cross-border linkages into the analysis this has often not led to a comprehensive account of the transnational emigre citizen. What is more, the predominant focus on the poorer migrants from impoverished countries involves a neglect of migrants of privilege. Yet, newer numbers of reverse and counter-flows are substantial, reflecting an inverse hierarchy of macro- and micro-level inequalities. In taking up this empirical and theoretical challenge, this contribution takes emigrants from richer countries, their transnational citizens' attachments, and their privilege in perspective. It argues that privilege often specifically emerges through mobility in the context of reversed geographies of power. Empirically the contribution analyzes the benefits and privilege of German citizen migrants re-settling in Turkey.*

#### **A new wave of emigration in Spain? A case study of Spaniards in Germany**

Antía Pérez-Caramés (University of A Coruna, Spain)

*The economic downturn in Spain has caused a reversion in the migratory cycle: alongside with a reduction in immigration flows, in recent years we have also acknowledged a substantial increase in foreigners' return migration and also a new wave of Spaniards' emigration. Lacking an accurate statistical source for measuring the outflows of Spaniards, the estimates produced up until now were based on the comparison among the Spanish emigration numbers and the immigration data of certain destination countries (United Kingdom and Germany, mainly). In the case of Germany and, according to the data provided by the Foreigners' Central Register (Ausländerzentralregister), the trend of Spaniards' immigration has dramatically increased since 2008, showing a maximum at the latest year available, 2013, when almost 25,000 Spaniards emigrated to Germany. In this paper we present an overview of the recent migratory trends of Spaniards to Germany, drawing a brief sociodemographic profile of this new emigration wave that will be put into the wider migratory context in Spain. Besides, we will provide an analysis of the motivations and decision-taking processes of these new emigrants. The methodology is based, on the one hand, on the analysis of statistical sources (both from the Spanish as from the German Statistical Offices) and, on the other, on qualitative data, namely 22 semi-structured interviews with Spaniards emigrated to Germany since 2006 and 4 semi-structured interviews with associations and entities related to this emigrant community.*

#### **Is European emigration a blindspot in European migration studies? Reflections upon the case of French "expats" in Abu Dhabi**

Claire Cosquer (Sciences Po/Observatoire Sociologique du Changement, France)

*This presentation, drawing on a 9-month ethnography of French "expats" in Abu Dhabi, will address the stake of accounting for privilege and North-to-South flows in migration studies. As Sayad had famously noted, a migrant is both an immigrant and an emigrant. Although migration studies still focus more on immigration than emigration, sociologists have begun to account for this hidden side of migration flows. Yet, accounting for emigration within migration can unfold in two distinct strategies. The first one, as Sayad had pointed, brings about a new point of view on the same migration flows: looking at the migrants' absence in their country of origin. The second one is about shifting the lens to different migration flows: namely, outgoing flows instead of incoming flows. In the European context, this second strategy also brings about an analysis of privilege within migration, starting with the very semantic symptoms of privilege: those European migrants do not readily identify themselves as such, as they often prefer to call themselves "expatriates," or "expats." This semantic distancing is undergirded by various forms of social, ethnic and racial entitlements, which reveal in return the contours of "migration" as a social problem.*

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## SESSION 6: ORIGIN COUNTRY, MIGRATION AND TRANSNATIONALISM

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Friday, 2nd September; 14:30 - 17:00; Room 103

### Presentations

#### **Studying Migration through a Cosmopolitanism Lens: Copresence and Migrant Transnationalism in the Digital Age**

Mihaela Nedelcu (Institute of Sociology, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland)

*This paper aims at contributing to the methodological nationalism critique and proposes to revisit the national-transnational nexus through a cosmopolitan lens. Arguing that migration theories cannot be dissociated from larger epistemological debates and general social theories, it suggests a new research perspective based on the “cosmopolitan vision” as developed by Ulrich Beck. Grounded on the “both here and there” condition of the modern mobile actors, this double-inclusive approach allow social scientists to push past the limits of traditional dichotomies (such as mobile/sedentary, native/foreign, included/excluded) within national imaginaries and categories.*

*Based on two multi-sited qualitative studies of Romanian migrants (including fieldwork conducted in Canada, Switzerland, and Romania), it highlights the role that information and communication technologies (ICTs) plays in generating new ways of living together and acting transnationally in the digital era. This way, this paper sheds light on the mechanisms through which ICTs produce connected lifestyles, new co-presence patterns and transnational routines within migrant families, enhance the capacity to harness otherness, and facilitate socialisation beyond borders. In the same time, it shows that these mechanisms enhance transnational habitus and cosmopolitan values, in the same time that they reinforce national/local ways of belonging.*

#### **Migration and entrepreneurship in the origin countries. The case of Romania**

Anatolie Cosciug (University of Bielefeld; Babeş-Bolyai University, Germany/Romania)

Remus Gabriel Anghel (Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities; Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania)

*The long-lasting debate regarding the development implications of migration has been recently revitalized by new theoretical advancements in the migration scholarship (e.g. globalization, transnationalism). A special role in this debate is played by the entrepreneurs with migration background, especially when it comes to the development process in the origin countries, as migrants are thought to be more likely to start new businesses and they dispose of wider access at financial and social remittances for this endeavor. Against this background, the topic of migrant entrepreneurship in the origin countries is still scarcely researched considering the limited research focus on migrants` origin countries. In this paper we aim to research the Romanian migrants involved in entrepreneurial activities back home in Romania, country of the largest emigration flow in Europe. Based on fieldwork data collected in the last fifteen years in various localities in Romania and abroad, we distinguish between the following sub-categories of economic initiatives started by migrants in Romania: transnational connectors and transnational entrepreneurs whose customers are Romanians living abroad, and the broker-type investors, the ‘survival entrepreneurs’, and the ‘developing entrepreneurs’ whose customers are in living Romania.*

#### **Inventing Saxonness in Transylvania. Upgrading Social Status and Class in a Multiethnic Locale**

Ovidiu Oltean (Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania)

*The research looks at developments taking place in multiethnic urban settlements from southern Transylvania, Romania, characterized in the past by a strong German (Saxon) presence, revealing an ongoing process of reconfiguration of ethnic relations and social class formation. The process involves a German speaking youth belonging to other ethnic groups entering once exclusive German ethnic organizations and institutions, in the context of a depleting local German minority and a positive valorisation of the German heritage. Such organizations open themselves to the entrance of non-German ethnics, leading to the formation of social groups which use German language and Saxon ethnic items and practices for social status, differentiation and prestige gain, forming a new type of social class. Simultaneously, the process is nurtured by new types of mobilities from Germany and German speaking countries to Transylvania engendered by transnational*



*cooperation between governmental institutions and ethnic German organizations. Ethnic associations and institutions as well as cultural and social practices associated with the Transylvanian Saxons are therefore becoming the locus of negotiation and change of a much contested ethnic and social hierarchy, and the intersection of new forms of mobility and temporary migration from Western Europe to Romania.*

**Emigration and turnout. Determinants of non-resident citizen electoral mobilization in home country elections**

Irina Ciornei (University of Bern, Switzerland)

Eva Østergaard-Nielsen (Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain)

*A wide majority of countries acknowledges non-resident citizens' right to vote in elections in their country of origin. Consequently, these mobile citizens can vote in the elections of one country while residing in another. Previous studies argue for the importance of including political and institutional determinants in both countries of origin and residence of emigrants in order to explain their electoral participation. This paper analyses the determinants of external turnout of five groups of emigrants: French, Italians, Romanians Croats and Turks, residing in countries inside and outside the EU. Turnout in homeland elections is calculated at the level of countries of residence as the percentage of emigrants who cast a vote in the last homeland elections from the total number of migrants who reside in the respective country. Drawing on previous studies related to voter turnout in the domestic context, we test how a series of institutional and political variables including district size, particular forms of registration and casting the vote, closeness of the electoral competition, mobilization by homeland political parties and the democratic context in the countries of residence determine levels of transnational political electoral participation. Our findings show that the level of electoral competition and home country political party mobilization are important predictors for external turnout, although their effect is mediated by how easy or complicated the external voting procedures are for the emigrant voters.*

**Mapping migrant associations: types of resources and types of migrants**

Alexandra Deliu (Research Institute for Quality of Life, Romanian Academy, Romania)

Elena Tudor (Research Institute for Quality of Life, Romanian Academy, Romania)

*In Romania, international mobility is a consistent part of quotidian realities and an available choice for many Romanians since the end of the communist era. In time, migration as a specific life strategy has become more and more accessible, due to changes in the country's status within Europe (for example, becoming an EU member in 2007). However, regardless of the decrease in the selectivity of migration, matters of integration or, generally, the social trajectories of immigrants at the destination are worthy of attention, as many studies show (Șerban and Voicu 2010, Vlase 2013, etc.).*

*This presentation is focused on migrant associations, as resources available to those seeking for support at the destination – our methodology is based on accessing online search results. Specifically, we discuss migrant associations from a social network perspective (Portes 1998, Castles 2007); we analyse aspects such as accessibility, visibility, and scope, and we construct typologies of associations for Romanian workers in Spain and Italy, Germany, France and UK. We grounded our choice of destination countries on the “major transnational fields of Romanian migration by destination”, identified by Sandu (2014).*

**Romanian Gypsies – The Rise of their Transnational Network**

Ana Bleahu (University of Bucharest, Romania)

*My research empirically explores to what degree the Romanian Gypsies transnational network is stretched out geographically and what are their strategies to keep their connectedness across various political borders. Analysing, YouTube videos and user's profiles, I examined how Romanian Gypsy's social network is spatially distributed around Europe, and how it is sustained through diverse patterns of communication and connection (physical, virtual or imaginative). The virtual data, was complemented with participative observation and ethnographic approach in London, Spain and Romania, where I took part to various religious events and family rituals of the community.*

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## SESSION 7 (RN35 AND HORIZON2020 YMOBILITY-MOVE): YOUTH MIGRATION

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Friday, 2nd September; 11:00 - 13:30; Room 102

### **Presentations**

#### **Youth migration intentions: a comparative analysis of motivations and barriers in nine EU member states**

Allan M. Williams (University of Surrey, UK)

Gang Li (University of Surrey, UK)

Hania Janta (University of Basel, University of Surrey, Switzerland/UK)

*Youth mobility provides a strategy for negotiating a number of critical life course transitions. By enhancing lifelong skills and competences, youth mobility shapes the transitions from education to work, and from unemployment to employment. One of the dominant features of social change in recent decades has been the growth in the scale, and changes in the nature, of youth mobility in recent decades, partly as a consequence of the 2008+ global economic crisis. Understanding of the drivers of this shift in youth migration is fragmented and highly uneven. While the returns to human capital are undoubtedly a major driver of youth migration, motivations are diverse, and also include lifestyle aspirations, stimulus-seeking, personality characteristics, previous mobility history and social networking. There are also barriers to migration – in terms of economic costs, cultural and linguistic obstacles and network disruption – all of which determine who does and does not migrate, and who does and does not intend to migrate. These conditions are likely to vary between and within countries, in different national and institutional contexts, yet there is a surprising lacuna in our knowledge of these differences. Focusing on young people aged 16-35 in nine European countries, this research aims first to identify differences in different levels of commitment to migrate over both the short and medium term. It also aims to provide a comprehensive examination of a broad range of motivations and barriers of youth mobility, and identify and compare the key determinants of who does, versus who does not, migrate as a life course-enhancing strategy. The empirical analysis is based on a large online panel survey with more than 30,000 respondents.*

#### **Decision-making by the young European migrants. Insights by the experimental research methods**

Allan Williams (University of Surrey, UK)

Vladimir Balaz (Institute for Forecasting, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia)

*The innovative experimental research methods are used in the YMOBILITY project to understand the complexities involved in making decisions about migration, and future migration in the face of uncertainty and incomplete information or information overload. Analysis of the experimental data provides an understanding of evaluation strategies, the heuristics used in making decisions, the importance of learning procedures and the weights attached to the different features of migrant destination countries under different conditions, both when evaluating different scenarios and when making decisions. The experiments are conducted via the web-based software. The Mouselab-type software is a tracing tool used for monitoring information acquisition and processing by decision-makers. Participants are asked to undertake a number of decision-making exercises in relation to future migration scenarios. The experimental tasks are presented to participants under different modes of access to information. The two modes (binary and complex choice) examine judgement formation that is the decision weights attached to different information. The amount and type of the information used is recorded, as well as the order in which information is requested. Migrant decision-making is influenced by a high number of factors. Not all of these factors can be modelled in an online-experiment. The YMOBILITY team opted for eight factors: (1) quality of life; (2) crime rates; (3) attitudes towards immigrants; (4) wages; (5) monthly living costs; (6) climate; (7) unemployment rates; and (8) access to work permit.*

*Choice of data sources reflected (i) relevance, (ii) quality and (iii) comparability of the data across the OECD Member Countries. The paper summarises preliminary results of experiments with more than 300 participants from nine European countries. Several methods are used to compute the decision attribute weights in binary and complex choice. The preliminary results indicate decision weights are responsive to changing conditions (increase in unemployment rates; introduction of the work permits). The dominant decision attributes (wages and living costs), however, maintain fairly stable weights in the judgement and choice adoption stages of the decision-making process.*

### **Growing up' in London: Young Romanians' partial transitions to adulthood**

Laura Moroşanu (University of Sussex, UK)

Alexandra Bulat (University College London, UK)

*The European 'freedom of movement' has enabled many young people from the new EU member states to seek educational or employment opportunities abroad, with a crucial impact on their life-course transitions. This paper looks at the varied ways in which intra-European mobility shapes transitions from 'youth' to independent 'adulthood' in the case of Romanian migrants in London and its surroundings. Drawing on 21 in-depth interviews with different categories of migrants (students, lower-skilled and high-skilled workers), it examines narratives of autonomy and 'success' in relation to employment, family formation and home-making, which are often seen as key dimensions of adulthood. Whilst for many participants living abroad means 'growing up', this tends to remain a fragmented process, involve both positive and negative experiences, and be crucially shaped by place-specific factors and the transnational family and peer networks in which migrants are embedded. The findings will be examined in relation to current debates around youth transitions in Europe, the complex role of the family, and migrants' settlement plans.*

### **Youth migration as a methodological challenge for migration statistical data in Europe**

Guido Sechi (University of Latvia, Latvia)

Maris Berzins (University of Latvia, Latvia)

Zaiga Krisjane (University of Latvia, Latvia)

Elina Apsite-Berina (University of Latvia, Latvia)

Janis Krumins (University of Latvia, Latvia)

*Increasing scholarly interest on youth migration patterns creates a need for usable statistical data which would help describing diversity of migrant groups and migration types. The main sources of country level statistics on young migrants are based on international data, national population census, population register and register of foreigners. In this study national statistics from Germany, Ireland, the UK, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Slovakia, Latvia and Romania are examined. The main variables of characteristics in young migrants age group (from 15 to 34) are gender, education, economic activity, family status and temporal evaluation of migration patterns. Unfortunately, reliable data are not available for all countries, leaving space for inconsistencies and gaps for young migrant group evaluation across European countries. Facing this methodological challenge, we aim to provide approach on how to harmonize available data sets on migrant stocks and immigration and emigration flows. The compiled data sets on young migrants provide an overview of youth mobility in the EU, with focus on nine countries examined in the project YMOBILITY. Base on this data we provide with a description of typologies of youth immigration and emigration flows in selected countries.*

### **Mapping mobility, agency, and the perspectives of the young people**

Claude Haas (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

Ute Karl (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

Emilia Kmiotek-Meier (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

Volha Vysotskaya (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

*The aim of this presentation is twofold: On the one hand it will give a brief overview on the research questions, aims, and the research design of the Horizon2020 project "MOVE – Mapping mobility, pathways, institutions and structural effects of youth mobility in Europe" (<http://www.move-project.eu>), and thus it will serve as an introduction to the paper presentations within MOVE. On the other hand, it will present insights from the theoretical and methodological debates of the MOVE project. Within MOVE one emphasis is put on the sociological concept of agency. We will discuss different conceptualisations of agency and situate the MOVE project within these debates. Referring to relational concepts of agency and to the notion of agentic orientations (Emirbayer/Mische) we will show how „agency“ influences our methodology and instruments. Based on the qualitative interviews with young people we will also give insights into our analysis of agentic orientations towards the own life course. Our first analysis shows how the stance towards the own biography is relevant for moving abroad, e.g. if one assumes that the life course is built up on rational, best informed decisions, or if it is seen more as a flow of incidents based on destiny.*

### **Young employment mobility: how young Europeans land the jobs**

Tuba Ardic (Sogn og Fjordane University College, Norway)

Jan Skrobanek (Sogn og Fjordane University College, Norway)

Volha Vysotskaya (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

*Researchers and practitioners have contributed a lot to the understanding of the dynamics of labor migration. However, mobilities of younger persons (until the age of 29) remain at the periphery of the migration research. In this presentation we would like to draw more attention on the mobility of young persons who move in Europe with the purpose of work. In particular, we will explore the young employment mobility in its own way and focus on mobility trajectories of young Europeans by asking: how they move and why? For that we formulate the central question as: Along their mobility trajectories, what comes across their pathways? What is their “mobility gate”? What do they rely upon in their employment mobility(-ies)? The presentation is a part of the ongoing investigation within the MOVE project among other 6 EU countries and we would like to focus on the employment mobility in and from Luxembourg and Norway. The first insight into the analysis suggests that pathways to employment differ between the two countries. At a same time, at a closer look we discover the emerging similarities of how young persons “land the jobs” in these two countries.*

### **The idea has to be born – process of going abroad as a student**

Ute Karl (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

Emilia Kmiotek-Meier (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

Zsuzsanna Dabasi Halász (University of Miskolci, Hungary)

Klaudia Horváth (University of Miskolci, Hungary)

*Study abroad can have different faces. While some go just for few months, others plan a longer stay abroad. At the same time there are institutions (universities, faculties) where a study-related stay abroad is mandatory, in others - on the contrary – students have to compete for placements abroad. In our contribution we would like to focus the process of going abroad – so to say the first phase of an abroad stay. In the first step we ask: How was the idea to study abroad born? As we work with the relational perspective, our focus will lay on relationalities, in which the process to go (the decision to go) was embedded in. Here among others experience from significant others, professional plans or wish to be far away from home may play a role. Linked with this we will have a look on the meaning the country of destination and the respective university has while considering studying abroad. Parallel we would like to address supportive and non-supportive factors in the process of going abroad – in which constellation which factors are perceived as such, considering also circumstances in the sending and receiving country. Our analyses are based on 23 qualitative interviews with (ex)mobile students (outgoing and incoming) at different level of their studies. The field work took place in Hungary and Luxembourg between October 2015 and April 2016.*

### **Social, political, and economical macro-drivers for youth mobility in Europe. A secondary macro-analysis**

Zsuzsanna Dabasi-Halász (University of Miskolci, Hungary)

Karen Hemming (German Youth Institute, Germany)

Csaba Ilyés, (University of Miskolci, Hungary)

Ioana Manafi (Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest, Romania)

Monica Roman (Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest, Romania)

Nándori Eszter Siposné (University of Miskolci, Hungary)

Frank Tillmann (German Youth Institute, Germany)

*Research on young people’s cross-border geographic mobility within Europe is limited. However, young mobile people can be a driving force for smart, sustainable and economic growth and therewith promote the further integration of the EU. The paper examines the role of macro level indicators in the sectors economy, state, and society in shaping youth mobility among the EU-28 and EFTA countries with a secondary macro analyses. Based on a heuristic theoretical model causes of incoming and out-going youth mobility in Europe will be analysed. The used macro-datasets derived from different sources: 1) Macro-drivers of mobility (EUROSTAT, OECD); 2) Youth migration data (aggregated data from yearly EU-LFS-datasets). The secondary data was collected within the MOVE project for the period of 2004-2013 and will be analysed using time series and panel analyses. Preliminary cross-sectional analyses confirm the theoretical structure of the developed model, revealing relationships between incoming and out-going youth mobility and all three sectors. However, the results also highlight the fact that the indicators differ for explaining incoming and out-going youth mobility. Hence,*

*different push- and pull-factors of mobility have to be taken into consideration. As the statistical modelling is still ongoing, the final results will be presented at the conference.*