

BORDERING SOCIETY

understanding and reimagining
migration, displacement and
diversity in an age of rapid
transformations

IRIS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

4-6 SEPTEMBER 2024

book of abstracts

www.birmingham.ac.uk/iris



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Institute for Research into
International Migration
and Superdiversity

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Keynote 1 | Prof Nasar Meer (University of Glasgow), On leaving 'Omelas' – Asylum and the social production of moral indifference

Abstract

This talk focuses on the social production of moral indifference towards the plight of people seeking asylum. The first part of my title comes from Ursula K. Le Guin and a short story in which a society makes a carceral contract with itself. As I'll describe it, I think "Omelas" is an allegory through which to explore something characterising our own society that is not merely bureaucratically atomised and routine – but actively racialized. My emphasis is on its social production – such that we might alter its re-production – not least by refusing as self-explanatory that failures in asylum governance are the outcome of people seeking it. This seemingly chronic tendency can be and is contested, especially at local levels, sometimes spectacularly, yet the broader challenge in addressing a 'crisis ordinariness' remains and invites greater collaboration from migration scholars with NGOs, charities and communities.

Biographical note



Nasar Meer is Professor of Social & Political Sciences at the University of Glasgow. He was previously Professor of Sociology and Director of RACE.ED at the University of Edinburgh, and Professor of Comparative Social Policy at the University of Strathclyde. He is Chair of the Academic Committee of The Stuart Hall Foundation (SHF) and was co-Investigator of The Impacts of the Pandemic on Ethnic and Racialized Groups in the UK (UKRI, 2021-2023) and Principal Investigator of the Governance and Local Integration of Migrants and Europe's Refugees (GLIMER) (JPI ERA Net / Horizon-2020). His publications include *The Cruel Optimism of Racial Justice* (2022) and *The Impact Agenda: Controversies, Consequences and Challenges* (2020).

Keynote 2 | Prof Nandita Sharma (University of Hawai'i), Border Abolition is a Freedom Struggle

Abstract

In the decisive shift from imperial states to nation-states after WWII two related processes occurred. There was a wide-scale effort to delegitimize racist ideologies. At the same time, as the dominant form of state sovereignty was nationalized, the association of colonialism with foreignness was retained. Nationalist ideologies were regarded not only as legitimate but also as a necessary part of politics. This talk charts this history to understand how racism is organized, practiced, and resisted when national sovereignty is the hegemonic state form and when the social and juridical distinction between 'national' and 'migrant' is widely accepted. To do so, I examine the growing autochthonization of politics. Nationalisms the world over are increasingly reconfiguring the 'national' as an autochthon, i.e. a 'native' of the national 'soil'. Through a discussion of various autochthonous movements in very different contexts and with very different political registers, I analyze the double move wherein historic colonizers are re-termed 'migrants' and today's 'migrants' are re-imagined as 'colonizers'. This move, I argue, is made possible by postcolonial racisms: the historic articulation between ideas of 'race' and 'nation' wherein ideas of national geography are racialized and racist ideas of blood are territorialized. The result, I argue, is an intensification of the very practices that anti-colonial struggles fought to overturn - capitalist practices of expropriation and exploitation and the associated denigration of the oppressed. I conclude with an argument for a decolonization worthy of its name, one that is grounded in the freedom of movement and ushers in a planetary commons wherein no one is excluded.

Biographical note



Nandita Sharma is Professor of Sociology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She is an activist scholar whose research is shaped by the social movements she is engaged with, including No Borders movements and those struggling for the planetary commons. She is the author of *Home Rule: National Sovereignty and the Separation of Natives and Migrants* (Duke University Press, 2020) and *Home Economics: Nationalism and the Making of 'Migrant Workers' in Canada* (University of Toronto Press, 2006). She is currently co-editing three forthcoming volumes, *Hydra Rising: The Ongoing Struggle for Freedom, Mobility and the Commons* (with Bridget Anderson and Cynthia Wright), *Against Nations: A Manifesto for a Freer & More Equal World* (with Steve Sacco), and *Maritime Solidarities Past and Present* (with Niklas Frykman, Marcus Rediker, and Pepijn Brandon).

Semi-plenary 1 | Borders, time and displacement

This semi-plenary will discuss borders, power and displacement through the lens of time and, perhaps more importantly, as a product of our time. The new rise of totalitarianism that we are faced with devaluates life (certain lives), depletes our societies, and has many different expressions: from the electoral success of far-right parties in Europe, the brutal recent race riots in the UK over the summer, the increasingly violent border regimes which encroach in our everyday life and spaces, and of course Israel's ongoing war and dispossession in Palestine. What are the concepts, tools and practices that can help us understand, navigate and resist this onslaught? What does history have to teach us about the present and how can we imagine a different future?

- **Lyndsey Stonebridge (University of Birmingham) The times of powerlessness: Statelessness and the human condition**
- **Nira Yuval Davis (University of East London) Bordering and necropolitics**
- **Melanie Griffiths (University of Birmingham) Riots: Roots and Reflections**

Biographical note

Lyndsey Stonebridge (FBA) is a writer, critic, and Professor of Humanities and Human Rights at the University of Birmingham in the UK. Her writing explores themes of justice, exile, and above all, the political and moral life of the mind. Her previous books include *The Judicial Imagination: Writing after Nuremberg*, which won the British Academy's Rose Mary Crawshay Prize in 2014, and *Placeless People: Writing, Rights, and Refugees* which was awarded the Modernist Studies Association Best Book Prize in 2018. In 2020, she published a collection of essays, *Writing and Righting: Literature in the Age of Human Rights*, which drew on her journalism and her work with two major international research projects, *Refugee Hosts* and *Rights4Time*. Hannah Arendt's writing, pariah thinking, and uncompromising love of a difficult world, have long been an inspiration for Lyndsey's work. *We Are Free to Change the World: Hannah Arendt's Lessons in Love and Disobedience* was published this year, and is a finalist for the 2024 George Orwell Prize for Political Writing.

Nira Yuval-Davis is Professor Emeritus, Honorary Director of the Research Centre on Migration, Refugees and Belonging (CMRB) at the University of East London. She has been the President of the Research Committee 05 (on Racism, Nationalism, Indigeneity and Ethnic Relations) of the International Sociological Association, founder member of Women Against Fundamentalism and the international research network on Women In Militarized Conflict Zones and has acted as a consultant for various UN and human rights organisations. Nira Yuval-Davis has won the 2018 International Sociological Association Distinguished Award for Excellence in Research and Practice. She has written widely on intersected gendered nationalisms, racisms, fundamentalisms, citizenships, identities, belonging/and everyday bordering as well as on situated intersectionality and dialogical epistemology. Among her books are *Woman-Nation-State*, 1989, *Racialized Boundaries*, 1992, *Unsettling Settler Societies*, 1995, *Gender and Nation*, 1997, *The Warning Signs of Fundamentalism*, 2004, *The Politics of Belonging: Intersectional Contestations*, 2011, *Women Against Fundamentalism*, 2014 and *Bordering* (Forthcoming). Her works have been translated into more than ten languages.

Melanie Griffiths is a social scientist, working on mobility and immigration enforcement in the UK. She has been a Birmingham Fellow at the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences since February 2018, after completing an ESRC Future Research Leaders grant at the University of Bristol.

Semi-plenary 2 | Gender, violence and forced displacement

This semi-plenary brings together scholars and community activists to explore the nature of violence against forced migrants at different points in the continuum of violence. Jane Freedman discusses the violence that forced migrants encounter at border points. Evgenia Iliadou reflects on her research and years of experience working in refugee camps outlining the harmful nature of such places for forced migrants. Jenny Phillimore examines how structural violence within immigration and asylum systems. Alphonsine Kabagabo brings her experience from running Refugee Women Connect and describes the work that community-run organisations in the UK do to try to address the harms forced migrants experience following victimisation.

Jane Freedman (Université Paris 8) The Production of Gendered and Racist Violence at European borders

This paper will examine the ways in which increasing militarization and securitization of European borders leads to the production of gendered and racist forms of violence against illegalized migrants trying to cross them. Based on empirical research at various border sites I will examine the ways in which racialized and gendered logics of control and repression impact on the experiences of illegalized women in particular, and move beyond the binary opposition of police and migrants to understand all the various sources of violence, including violence emanating from within solidarity movements themselves.

Evgenia Iliadou (Independent Researcher) “Torturing Environments”: Violence and Abandonment in Refugee camps on Lesbos, Greece.

This presentation explores the multiple forms of abandonment, and violence, endured by border crossers in the refugee camps of the Greek island of Lesbos, which tantamount to torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. These camps, resembling both landfills and graveyards, serve as harrowing environments where lives, dignity, and rights are callously wasted, disposed of, and ultimately buried. Drawing upon the concept of 'torturing environment' (Perez-Sales et al., 2022), this presentation examines how Greek authorities have fostered an atmosphere of daily terror, perpetual uncertainty, and humiliation, forcing border crossers to live in constant fear of harm or abuse. While not directly lethal, state policies and practices inflict psychological terror and severe physical or mental suffering, effectively rendering individuals 'permanently injured' (Davies et al., 2017). This 'torturing environment' includes the systematic degradation, negligence, abandonment, and exposure to deplorable conditions, as well as through prolonged waiting, precariousness, and exclusion from basic rights. This treatment not only inflicts severe mental harm akin to torture and degrading treatment but also violates human dignity and reduces racialized populations to a state of being 'ineligible for personhood' (Cacho, 2012). The presentation aims to shed light on the need for abolition of refugee camps, emphasising on resistance and the imperative of upholding the fundamental rights and dignity of border crossers.

Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham) Sexual and gender-based violence, forced migration and structural violence in immigration and asylum systems

This talk explores the experiences of forced migrant sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) survivors within immigration and asylum systems in three countries of refuge: Australia, Sweden and the UK. I adopt a structural violence approach introducing a new analytical framework which combines three interacting forms of structural violence: the intimate violence of dependency; slow violence; and the violence of gender-blindness. For forced migrant SGBV survivors structural violence is inherent in asylum and immigration regimes and extends the continuum of violence widely reported in relation to forced migration, into refuge. I argue that immigration and asylum systems fail to offer women a route to protection as mandated by UNHCR and instead inflict structural violence exposing SGBV survivors to further violence including the risk of further SGBV. I argue for the need for new systems which protect rather than harm women forced migrant survivors.

Alphonsine Kabagabo (Women for Refugee Women) Women for Refugee Women: a space to heal, connect and rebuild

Women for Refugee Women creates a safe and welcoming space for refugee and asylum-seeking women to rebuild their lives on their own terms. Whether through our creative and educational activities, campaigning for the changes they'd like to see to the asylum system, or creating real policy change, they resist the Government's hostility and harm with compassion, resilience, and courage. In this presentation Alphonsine summarises the harms that women experience after facing a continuum of violence associated with forced migration and explains the actions that WRW take to help women to rebuild their lives

Biographical note

Jane Freedman is Professor at the Université Paris 8, France and a Director of the Paris Centre for Sociological and Political Research (CRESPPA). Her research adopts feminist intersectional approaches to migration, focusing on questions of gender, race and violence in the context of migration.

Evgenia Iliadou - holds a PhD in Social Policy and Criminology from the Open University/UK and has completed a postdoctoral research at the Department of Politics, University of Surrey. Between 2018 – 2023, she worked as a lecturer and research associate for the Open University, and the Universities of Greenwich, West London, Surrey and Bologna. She is currently an independent researcher, examining border violence, immigration detention, refugee camps, and border deaths. Evgenia has also worked in immigration detention centres in Greece and the UK by providing support and advocacy to survivors of torture, human trafficking and sexual abuse.

Alphonsine Kabagabo was appointed Director of Women for Refugee Women in 2021. She brought over 20 years of professional experience dedicated to empowering women and girls, as well as personal experience as a refugee woman. Her previous work included the development of transformative programmes that have given hundreds of young women the confidence to speak out and influence changes to policies on issues that are important to them, such as child marriage, and HIV/AIDS prevention. She was a trustee of Womankind, an international feminist organisation supporting women's rights and a trustee of SURF, a non-profit organisation supporting survivors of the Rwandan genocide. She is a trustee of the Refugee Council.

Jenny Phillimore is Professor of Migration and Superdiversity at the University of Birmingham and was founding director of the Institute for Research into Migration and Superdiversity. Jenny is currently a Commissioner on the UK's independent Commission on the Integration of Refugees. Jenny has been researching refugee integration for 25 years and has advised governments in every continent. She is currently a Leverhulme Major Fellow examining the links between violence, harm and integration for forced migrant survivors of sexual and gender based violence. She has published widely on refugee integration, access to healthcare and civil society actions in superdiverse contexts.

Semi-plenary 3 | Irregularised migration and irregularised migrants

This session examines the production of some forms of migration and some migrants as irregular and what drives this process. It considers the infrastructures and pathways through which migrants move into, through and out of irregularity and how these infrastructures uniquely shape not only their migratory projects and everyday lives but reverberates across generations.

Miryam Cherti (University of Oxford) Cities as sites of bordering and un-bordering for irregular migrants

The lives of irregular migrants in Europe are marked by a constant negotiation of borders, both physical and conceptual. Undocumented migrants occupy a precarious in-between space, navigating the administrative rules and labour market conditions that determine irregularity and create these liminal zones. Cities, in particular, serve as sites where the dynamics of bordering and un-bordering play out for irregular migrants. These urban centres become battlegrounds where tensions arise between national migration policies and local authority (non) responses to the needs of precarious migrants. Local responses to irregular migrants differ markedly. Some cities have formal policies relating to irregular migrants and a specific budget allocated for relevant services. Others make adaptations which are less formal, or less coordinated across the authority. While other cities still have yet to develop an approach towards their irregular migrant populations. This presentation is based on the City Initiative on Migrants with Irregular Status in Europe (C-MISE), which is a city-led knowledge-exchange network on migrants with irregular status. C-MISE shares city practices and experiences on responding to precarious migrants. The paper will explore how local authorities continuously use their powers to 'border' and 'un-border' access to services. It will also highlight what drives their responses, priorities and their positioning.

Ilse van Liempt (Utrecht University) (co-authored with Minke Hajer (UU), Maria Bruquetas and Anna Ensing (Fairwork) Exclusion as Default: The legal and policy dynamics around the production of irregular migration in the Netherlands

This paper presents an analysis of the legal and policy infrastructure surrounding irregular migration in the Netherlands. Using the concept of "irregularity assemblage," it explores the multifaceted factors contributing to irregular conditions for migrants at the intersection of migration, employment, and welfare systems. Through a qualitative analysis of 25 years of policy trends, supplemented by expert interviews and case studies from the NGO FairWork, the paper illustrates the complexities of irregular migration governance in the Netherlands. Examining the policy areas of work, healthcare, housing, juridical assistance, and financial services, the paper demonstrates how the Dutch welfare state has become a tool for migration control, normalizing exclusionary practices to such an extent that the exclusion of irregular migrants becomes the default. Moreover, we demonstrate how this normalization can cause additional layers of exclusion for irregular migrants. This exclusionary trend reflects broader neoliberal shifts in welfare policies, marginalizing irregular migrants and complicating their access to essential services and legal protections, ultimately increasing their vulnerability to exploitation.

Blanca Garcés-Mascreñas (CIDOB, Barcelona) Contradictions behind the moral economy of irregularity in Europe

The intensified repression of irregularised immigrants in Europe has reinforced the equation of "illegality" with civic exclusion. However, "illegality" does not function as an absolute marker of illegitimacy but rather as a handicap within a continuum of probationary citizenship. This moral economy of deservingness (Chauvin & Garcés 2012, 2014, 2018) confronts migrants with two dilemmas: first, the same formal documentary and economic features that improve civic deservingness may also increase their chances of detention and deportation; and second, in a context of generalized suspicion, asylum seekers are increasingly asked to demonstrate (and perform) both vulnerability and

productiveness. How are these contradictions handled in migrants' daily lives, administrative performance and political claims-making in an increasingly politicised context?

Nando Sigona (University of Birmingham) The temporal politics of irregularity

This paper delves into the temporal politics of irregular migration, examining how migration regimes regulate the time of migration and impact the everyday lives of irregularised migrants. It situates irregularity within broader biographical and intergenerational migratory trajectories, shedding light on the complex interplay between time, resistance, and the lived experiences of irregular migrants across generations.

Biographical note

Ilse van Liempt is Chair in Urban Geography and Associate Professor in the Human Geography Department, research leader of the UU wide Focus Area Migration and Societal Change and coordinator of the Research Master Global Urban Transformations. Van Liempt's research considers the politics of migration with a focus on belonging, citizenship and in/exclusion in the spaces of everyday life in Europe.

Myriam Cherti is a Senior Researcher at the Global Exchange on Migration and Diversity as a Principal Investigator for the C-MISE initiative, a knowledge-exchange programme supporting European cities to share knowledge on best practices and policy responses regarding irregular migrants.

Blanca Garcés Mascareñas is a Senior Research Fellow in the area of Migrations and Research Coordinator at CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs). In the last five years she has studied policies and political discourses on asylum in Europe, with a special attention to border policies and state reception systems. Since 2021, she coordinates a H2020 project to understand the causes and consequences of migration narratives in a context of increasing politicisation and polarisation in Europe. She is member of the European network IMISCOE and of the editorial college of the recently created Migration Politics Journal.

Nando Sigona is Professor of International Migration and Forced Displacement at the University of Birmingham and Director of the Institute for Research into International Migration and Superdiversity (IRiS). He is also Research Associate at the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford and Senior Research Associate at ODI.

Semi-plenary 4 | Thinking borders and mobility with Stuart Hall

- **Sanjay Sharma (Warwick University)** Techno-Surveillance and Production of Identity
- **Nick Beech (University of Birmingham)** Voices of the Future: Registering cosmopolitanism from below in Stuart Hall's archive
- **Nirmal Puwar (Goldsmiths University)** Soundz of Stuart Hall: an aurality of border crossings

Biographical note

Sanjay Sharma is Associate Professor at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies, University of Warwick. His research explores technologies of race and racism from critical data justice and abolitionist perspectives. He is currently undertaking a BRAID Fellowship project, 'Inclusive Futures: Radical Ethics and Transformative Justice for Responsible AI'. And has recently published the book, 'Understanding Digital Racism: Networks - Algorithms - Scale' (2024, Rowman & Littlefield).

Nick Beech is Associate Professor in the School of Social Policy and Society, University of Birmingham. With Pat Noxolo and Rebecca Roach, Nick leads on the Stuart Hall Archive Project, responsible for the 'Readings' strand of that project – to recover and disseminate unpublished material by Stuart Hall.

Nirmal Puwar is Reader, she joined Goldsmiths in 2003. She is a British Academy Innovation Fellow, working on 'Multicultural Experiments in the Civic Life of Coventry Cathedral'. Her work on Stuart Hall includes the essay 'Meeting Stuart Hall's Voice' <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/meeting-stuart-halls-voice/>. Her book *Space Invaders: race, gender and bodies out of place* (2004), generated a conceptual frame work for considering the conditions of inclusion within institutions. She has led the way in developing a range of creative methods of public engagement, including site-specific interventions. The project *Noise of the Past* collaboratively re-figured the global war dead and memory with a post-colonial centre point (AHRC). She co-led the strand on *Space Invading* in the Global Grace Grant on Gender and Cultural Equalities (GCRF). At Goldsmiths, she co-founded the Methods Lab to mutate methods and to stretch the walls of the academy. *Live Methods*, co-edited with Les Back, is one of eighteen collections she has co-edited. She has co-curated several exhibitions in the Kingsway Corridor at Goldsmiths, including: *Pierre Bourdieu in Algeria: Testimonies of Uprooting*; *Space and Gaze: Conversations with Jean Mohr and Edward Said in Palestine*, as well as *Migrating Dreams and Nightmares* with John Berger and Jean Mohr.

Panel 1 | Borders and place making

Stefano Mastromarino (UCL) Shelter Multiple. Architectures on hold across EU internal borders

Abstract: Forced displacement, the hardening of EU borders and the differential management of reception urge a reconsideration of both practical and onto-epistemological understandings of shelter-making processes. By looking at this carceral landscape of violence through different territories of migration in Europe, I provide an exploration of makeshift practices of people on the move's sheltering and solidarity. From migrants' inhabiting as a holding (Mastromarino and Boano, 2023), I move here to a 'shelter multiple', encompassing the multiple carceral, affective, relational dimension of inhabiting. I follow the assumptions that such spaces contain the double fracture of "an absence of a place to belong" and "a destructive way of inhabiting" (Ferdinand, 2022: 50), yet reproducing an ecology of domesticity (Siddiqi, 2024) through building the "possibility of an otherwise" (Povinelli, 2014). My paper sits between two moments of inquiry. I will introduce findings from my MSc dissertation in Architecture at Politecnico di Torino/ENSA Paris-Belleville, developed through ethnography and action research between 09/21 and 08/2022 in Paris and Ventimiglia, collaborating with associations supporting migrants across borders, camps and other makeshift shelters. This study informed my ongoing PhD at Bartlett's DPU (UCL) where I am expanding my reflections towards the Italian-Slovenian border. Delving into humanitarian planning paradigms and the power of autonomous and marginalised agencies at stake, this paper aims to make visible plural dynamics of space production generated by the difference between arrival, settlement and dislocations, the house and the makeshift, deconstructing the monist classification of spaces and practices of migration as (un)inhabitable, (il)legal or (im)mobile.

Bio: Stefano Mastromarino is a PhD candidate at Bartlett's DPU (UCL), supported by an ESRC UBEL Studentship. A former research assistant at IPRAUS Lab (ENSA Paris-Belleville) for the development of the platform "Architecture et précarités", he worked and studied at ENSA Paris-Belleville, Politecnico di Torino and TU Dortmund. Stefano works as a UASC Support Worker for a non-profit organisation providing accommodation to young people seeking asylum in the UK. His research interests focus on the encounter between border materialities, makeshift inhabitations and solidarity towards people on the move, combining architectural enquiries with activism and assistance in France, Italy, and the UK."

Karolina Lebek (Umeå University) Exploration of migration and place nexus through affect and emotions

Abstract: The tendency of researchers to focus on an ethno-national perspective in migration studies has resulted in some cases in the use of racialised and class-based figures of migrants, but also in sedentarist tendencies and ahistorical approaches to understanding migration (among many, see Glick Schiller and Çağlar, 2016 ; Mayblin and Turner 2021; Toomey 2022; Amelina, 2022). Filling this gap in research, this article shifts the focus from the study of a specific ethnic group of migrants to exploring migration by focusing on one place where different groups of migrants meet. It takes various types of migrants in a mid-sized city in Poland, as its central subject to explore how migration and place are entangled. With this particular focus on Eastern Europe, I aim to demonstrate how places that for years have based their politics of belonging on upholding ethnic homogeneity (for example, see: Balogun, 2023), are being transformed by various type migration. It will draw on a qualitative study of migrants living in this city, particularly through data from life history interviews and observations. In this exploration, I engage with analytical lens of affect and emotions to better understand a temporal and a spatial dimension of migration trajectories of individuals arriving from different locations at different times.

Bio: Karolina Lebek is an interdisciplinary migration scholar with a background in sociology and geography. Currently, she is a PhD student in human geography at Umeå University, where she is developing a dissertation that explores how migration and place are entangled. With particular focus on Eastern Europe, Karolina's research explores migration by targeting one place where different

groups of migrants meet. In her research practice, she combine affect/emotion and migration/mobility theories."

Rémy-Paulin Twahirwa (LSE) 'Can't help myself': on the migrant and afterlife of man

Abstract: What is it with the figure of the Migrant that, globally, more and more states are enforcing regulations, laws and policies in order to limit her entry into their territory? To what extent is the bordering of the planet, through walls, fences, monitoring technologies, wave machines, mass collection of biometric data, prisons and detention centres, and so on, rooted in the (un)making of the human? By building on Sylvia Wynter's critique of the human and Achille Mbembe's concern with what he calls 'border-bodies', this paper uses the case of the British immigration detention estate to examine how those who bear the seal of the border on their body, these 'border-bodies' (Mbembe, 2020; Lagios et al., 2018), are transformed into sociogenic beings that concentrate in them various discourses, dispositions, and practices. By using transcripts and witness testimonies from the Brook House Inquiry and interviews with migrant organisers and activists, this paper contends that the Migrant acts as counter-figure to the nation-state and its modern subject, Man, by destabilising the ontological structures and epistemic premises necessary for its 'geographies of domination' (McKittrick, 2006) to function. This epistemic move from an Eurocentric humanist approach to investigate human mobilities/geographies/rights congealed as 'crises' for/in Europe and the UK—which, ultimately, secure in concrete and symbolic terms what El-Enany (2020) identifies as 'the spoils of empire'—might offer a better hold to 'trouble' the human as Europe's hegemonic mode of being and epistemic project. This paper contributes to the burgeoning field of studies exploring the coloniality of migration and, more broadly, to scholarly and contemporary debates about the human.

Bio: Rémy-Paulin Twahirwa (he/they) is a PhD researcher in Sociology at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). rémy's research project focuses on the coloniality of migration by examining the use of administrative detention against asylum seekers, refugees and other displaced persons labelled as '(illegal) migrants' in the UK. Inspired by black scholars such as Saidiya Hartman, Frantz Fanon, Sylvia Wynter, Katherine McKittrick, and others, rémy engages with current debates about the human, carceral institutions, coloniality and border regimes. As an abolitionist, rémy has been involved in migrant justice work over the last decade in so-called 'Canada' and more recently in the UK. You can follow his work at <https://ghostlylivesaproject.wordpress.com/>."

Panel 2 | Asylum, Precarity and the State

Giorgia Mirto (Columbia University) The Political Life of Border Death in Sicily

Abstract: Over the past three decades, tens of thousands of migrants have died trying to cross the European border regime. While rejecting the living, Italy has been faced with the material need to handle the bodies of the dead. Thousands of these victims of border death have been stranded on beaches or brought to the ports of Sicily and southern Italy, corpses that were then ""translated"" by local actors: translation both between the languages of mourning and burial and in the sense of ""translatio corporis,"" that is, the circulation of sacred relics and corpses. The role played by death and dead bodies in the constitution of political communities is a fundamental issue in anthropological literature. I will examine this issue in relation to these ""foreign bodies"" and their subsumption within the narrative of local political communities, focusing on my ethnographic experience in Sicilian activist groups. How does the ""translation"" of border death transform or even constitute the different communities that join it? What conflicting claims on bodies, or demands for justice in relation to their death, are expressed through different mortuary practices? And how have these dynamics shaped the possibilities for solidarity and political communities acting across current racial and national boundaries of belonging in Italy and elsewhere?

Bio: Giorgia Mirto is a researcher on border death and an anti-racist activist from Sicily, in Southern Italy, whose research focuses on the mourning practices and political role of border death. She is currently pursuing her PhD at the Anthropology Department of Columbia University. Her project

examines the treatment of bodies, relatives, material remains, and reliquary traces in the aftermath of migrant maritime disasters, and how these shape the struggle over the incorporation of the body and person of the unknown migrant in Sicily. "

Olivia Petie (University of Birmingham) "I'm very afraid of the process because I'm most likely to end up homeless": changing precarity of hotel accommodation for asylum seekers in the UK

Abstract: Since 2020 the UK Home Office and private accommodation providers have become increasingly reliant on hotels to house asylum seekers, with a peak of 56,000 people living in hotel accommodation in June 2023 (Home Office 2024). This presentation will explore the precarity of this accommodation, and how this is experienced by asylum seekers living in hotels. Precarity has been defined as when people experience uncertainty and instability (Waite 2009), related to employment or immigration status for example (Lewis et al. 2014). Refugees living in temporary settlements have been considered as living with precarity (Hultin et al. 2021), as well as those experiencing different aspects of the UK asylum system (Shobiye and Parker 2022). In hotel accommodation, precarity is characterised by temporariness, and regular movement from place to place. However, due to frequent changes in policy and practice the nature of this precarity has changed over time. For example, shifting from the movement of individuals around hotels, to the closure of entire hotels, to the short notice eviction of thousands of new refugees towards the end of 2023. Drawing on desk research, stakeholder interviews, and nine months of ongoing ethnographic and longitudinal qualitative research, this presentation will map out the relevant changes to policy and practice over the last four years, and examine how these changes have contributed to increasing precarity of hotel accommodation. Drawing on primary research the impacts of this precarity on the experiences of asylum seekers in the UK and their everyday lives will be explored.

Bio: Olivia is a part-time ESRC funded Doctoral Researcher at the University of Birmingham, based within the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS). Her research explores how hotels are currently being used as longer-term accommodation for asylum seekers in the UK, drawing on concepts on (in)hospitality and (un)home. Olivia's research draws on ethnographic approaches and qualitative longitudinal research to understand the experiences of asylum seekers living in hotel accommodation. Olivia has a BA in Combined Honours – Geography with English Literature, and an MA in Human Geography Research both from Newcastle University.

Claudia Peroni (Trinity College Dublin) Managing complexity: Asylum policy implementation and local context in urban vs rural Italy

Abstract: Italy hosts approximately 350.000 forced migrants scattered across its territory in diverse contexts offering different resources, services and obstacles to the implementation of asylum policy. This paper examines the impact of urban versus rural location on the experiences of street-level bureaucrats implementing policy within the Italian statutory asylum system (SAI). The decentralised nature of the SAI system, managed by city councils in partnership with local civil society organisations, leads to significant variation in migrants' and workers' experiences based on location-specific challenges and opportunities. The urban/rural divide is expected to be particularly relevant because it has the potential to shape not only available resources, but also public attitudes, interactions between migrants and the community, and workers' practices. Through semi-structured interviews with workers in two SAI projects, one in a major city and one in a rural village, the paper explores how different elements of the local context can influence how policy is implemented, and therefore its outcomes for both migrants and host communities. Interviews show that contrary to assumptions from existing literature, an urban environment is not always perceived as the most appropriate for successful policy implementation and migrant integration. Workers' mediation in interpersonal contact plays a key part in determining successful integration and positive social attitudes toward migrants. However, urban localities may have different advantages for asylum policy implementation. This paper underscores the significance of local context in implementing asylum policy and offers a more nuanced perspective that may drive future policy choices toward a truly local approach.

Bio: Claudia Peroni is a PhD researcher in the Department of Sociology at Trinity College Dublin. She is currently completing her PhD project on comparative asylum policy in Italy and Ireland. Prior to starting the PhD, she has worked in the Italian public asylum system. Her research interests include asylum policy implementation, processes of globalisation, micro-level interactions and discourse analysis.

Panel 3 | Narratives and Networks of Solidarity

Subhadip Mukherjee (University of Kent) Building Solidarities Amidst Precarity: Foregrounding Refugee-Indigenous Relations in Behrouz Boochani's Writings

Abstract: Behrouz Boochani's writings have played a significant role in highlighting the dehumanizing impact of Australia's offshore detention policies on refugees who were detained in Manus Island. His Manus Prison Theory (MPT), an ongoing project aimed at resisting various intersecting structures of power like colonialism, white supremacy, xenophobia, and racism among others, has been considered as a potent theoretical framework to analyze Australia's border-industrial complex that exploits and marginalizes not just refugees but also Indigenous communities of Manus Island. In *No Friend But the Mountains* (2018) and *Freedom, Only Freedom*, Boochani considers the subjugation of Indigenous sovereignty as a crucial issue that requires critical intervention while engaging with discriminatory practices against refugees. This strategy of creating solidarity with other marginalized communities by a refugee subject can be conceptualized through Vinh Nguyen's notion of 'refugeetude'. The existing scholarship has not focused on the centrality of Indigenous sovereignty to Boochani's scholarship and activism. This paper will first explore the importance of MPT in facilitating a critical dialogue regarding the role of Australia's colonial past in shaping its current discriminatory asylum policies. Next, the significance of Manus Island as the site for establishing refugee detention centre will be interrogated which will lead to a discussion of Indigenous issues when confronted with a settler-colonial nation-state like Australia with neo-colonial motives. Finally, the importance of 'refugeetude' to MPT in foregrounding refugee-Indigenous solidarity will be explored along with emancipatory possibilities emerging from such politics.

Bio: Subhadip Mukherjee is a PhD research scholar at the School of Classics, English and History, University of Kent. His doctoral thesis focuses on the possibilities of resistance and subversion in contemporary refugee narratives emerging from spaces of encampment. His doctoral project is funded by AHRC's Consortium for the Humanities and the Arts South-East England (CHASE). He was selected by CHASE to participate in the 13th session of the Institute of World Literature, Harvard University in 2023. He will also be taking part in the research school *Border Extractions: An Island Methodology* organized by the University of Palermo in May 2024.

Irene Praga Guerro (Birkbeck College) Re-Defining and Re-Constructing the Narrative of Global Mobility Through Journalistic Collaborative Writing in the 'New Migration Crónica': The Cases of Rezwana and Little Brother

Abstract: As recent research demonstrates (BRIDGES project), since the 'long summer of migration' mainstream media has increasingly politicized the representation and conceptualization of people on the move as threats, victims and, to a lesser extent, heroes, leaving aside their essential humanity and personal stories. Nevertheless, resistance exists. This paper presents an emerging form of political and journalistic writing on global mobility in Europe post-2015, which I have termed as the 'New Migration Crónica'. This form of writing, which is also a political transnational movement of solidarity and creation, aims not only for the active representation of people on the move in the media – which, if solely pursued, could potentially be perceived as a form of paternalism – but also, more importantly and radically, their reappropriation of the (European) media and cultural scene. By drawing on collaborative and transnational thinking and writing, I argue that this movement problematizes (Global Northern) conceptions of authorship, (im)mobility and memory. It also questions classic dichotomies such as 'local' and 'migrant', 'journalist' and 'informant'. In this paper, I examine how

memory/memories of contemporary global mobility to Europe are reconstructed collaborative – what I call ‘collective remembrance’ – in two representative case studies: Mariangela Paone and Rezwana Sekandari’s Rezwana (2023), and Ibrahima Balde and Amets Arzallus Antia’s Miñan (2019, Little Brother 2021). This paper is based on Chapter 2 of my PhD project, ‘The ‘New Migration Crónica’, currently in progress at Birkbeck College.

Bio: I am a second-year MPhil/PhD student in English and Humanities at Birkbeck College, University of London, working under the supervision of Drs Agnes Woolley (University of Southampton) and Mari Paz Balibrea. I hold two MAs with Distinction (in Comparative Literature and Hispanic Studies) from the University of Geneva. My scholar interests are interdisciplinary, including literary journalism and crónica, the literary re-construction of memory and trauma in Argentina, Spain and the UK, and contemporary migrant writing. Alongside my doctoral studies, I regularly blog on radical approaches to migration and (im)mobility, and teach French and Spanish in a local school.

Stephanie Rivera-Kumar (University of Pennsylvania) Multinational Latinx Narratives and the Economic Contributions of Immigrants in Philadelphia: Integrating Multidisciplinary Research and Epistemic Network Analysis

Abstract: This study investigates the significant growth of the Latinx population in the United States, a surge of 647 percent since 1970 (Funk and Lopez 2022), which now constitutes nineteen percent (62.1 million) of the population, with projections to reach twenty-nine percent (128 million) by 2050. Philadelphia's demographic evolution, particularly the rise of its Latinx and Asian populations against declining White and Black populations, exemplifies this trend. Despite representing fifteen percent (238,277) of Philadelphia's population, nationality-level data about Latinx small business operations are underrepresented in current U.S. Census Bureau data, a critical gap for accurate urban population and economic modeling. Employing a multi-methodological approach, this paper combines mapping, spatial analysis, and ethnographic interviews with multinational Latinx entrepreneurs, food industry workers, and factory employees. This blend of ethnography, epistemic network analysis, and geographic information systems offers an in-depth look at the Latinx community's socio-economic influence in Philadelphia. This research aims to unravel the complex network, spatial, and economic dynamics of Latinx-driven development in the city. The central question in this study is: How do multinational Latinx immigrant entrepreneurs and small business operators perceive and enact their roles in shaping Philadelphia's business community? By exploring these perspectives, the study aims to shed light on the nuanced contributions of the Latinx population to the city's socioeconomic fabric, enhancing understanding of urban demographic and economic changes.

Bio: Stephanie Rivera-Kumar is a third-year City and Regional Planning doctoral student and Fontaine Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania Weitzman School of Design. Stephanie's research explores the economic, cultural, political, and social impacts Latinx immigrant populations are making on U.S. cities, specifically Philadelphia, PA. Her research has received funding from the Penn Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Race and Immigration, the Penn Center for Latin American and Latinx Studies, and the Penn Institute for Urban Research. Since 2022, Stephanie has been a research assistant at the Center for Guaranteed Income Research.

Erasmus Sossich (Universities Turin and Milan Statale), Endless displacement. Migration governance, containment strategies and segregation in Athens.

At the intersection of Urban and Refugees Studies the paper suggests the appearance of new figures of displacement following the turn in European migration governance. As new governmental instruments of containment, dispersal and concentration combine, new geographies of mobility and immobility (Tazzioli, Garelli 2018) gradually reshape the spaces of the “urban diaspora” described by Arbaci (2018) and new figures of global and urban displacement intertwine, reshaping cities, mobilities and subjectivities (Roast et al. 2022). The article therefore analyzes how border regimes, reception policies, displacement strategies influence residential patterns in the context of Athens, suggesting that the ongoing process of “campization” in Greece (Kourachanis 2018; Kreichauf 2018) might have

changed the previous segregation patterns. Adopting an ethnographic perspective, the article moves on the case of Eleonas refugee camp eviction, in Athens, highlighting how the analysis of dispersal and displacement technologies and trajectories can help to shed light on new forms of segregation.

Bio: Born in Trieste, Italy, in 1993, in 2016 I graduated in Sociology at the University of Trento, and in 2019 I obtained a master's degree in Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology at the University of Turin. I am now a PhD candidate in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research, a joint program promoted by the University of Turin and the Statale University of Milano. I study urban change, migration, urban conflict, displacement, and I conduct my research through qualitative methodology. During my PhD I focused my research on migration governance, containment strategies and their impact on housing deprivation and segregation.

Panel 4 |Reimagining the border

Rupal Bansal (Nottingham Trent University), Reimagining borders and migration through the critical phenomenology of the night

Abstract: For a long time, the philosophical discussions on forced migration have focused on the moral-political philosophical questions of entry and admission of refugees and their rehabilitation. Critical studies have not paid attention to the lived experiences of migration, which inform the complexities of the process. This paper will examine the migratory experiences of refugees in the temporal space of the night, using a critical phenomenological approach, by analyzing the fictional and non-fictional narratives of the Partition of India. The partition of the Indian subcontinent into India and Pakistan (East and West) in 1947 led to the displacement of 32.4 million people and the disappearance, and possible death, of 3.4 million. Challenging the ocularcentrism in border and migration studies, this paper will analyze how the night structured the perceptual experiences of refugees during the time of Partition. A study into these structures will reveal how refugees negotiate with the larger questions concerning borders, identity, nationality, and belonging in a space that obscures defined boundaries of self and the nation.

Bio: Rupal Bansal is a Ph.D. candidate in English Literature at Nottingham Trent University. Her research interests lie at the intersections of night studies, partition studies, and violence, trauma, and memory studies. Focusing on the phenomenological experiences of the night, her dissertation examines how the acts of violence, migration, and remembering are structured in the chronotope of the night in the narratives of the Partition of India in 1947.

Manjot Dhaliwal (Sussex University) Nationalism, categorisation and gendered lived experiences of identity and family history

Abstract: The focus of this paper is on nationalism, categorisation and gendered lived experiences of identity and family history. This paper presents narratives of identity construction and family histories of women with British citizenship and family ties to South Asia. Findings are based on my PhD research which was composed of poetry based research workshops and semi-structured qualitative interviews. I argue that hegemonic readings of identity with ideologies of nationalism and diversity management results in epistemic violence. My research addresses this through the utilisation of poetry based methods. This, I argue, allows for the voicing of alternative perspectives and creates a pathway towards epistemic justice. I argue that histories of migration produce a 'border consciousness' and 'mestiza consciousness' (Anzaldúa 1987) in women's identity construction, which unsettles hegemonic readings of identity and troubles the normalisation of borders. Through the utilisation of poetic inquiry within my methods, I outline an 'aesthetic of dislocation and multiplicity' (Alexander 1992) within my findings. This utilisation of poetry creates a method for delinking from Western epistemologies through engaging with aesthetic knowledge. Thus, utilising aesthetic knowledge allows for the production of knowledge outside of hegemonic constructions and investigates the silences they produce. This paper is situated in debates regarding methodological nationalism, epistemic violence and epistemic justice. I present that women's identities and family histories are impacted by

dislocation, borders and otherisation which result in forging identities that are formed through new conceptualisations and engagement with culture and belonging and which contest homogenous notions of nation and identity.

Bio: Manjot Dhaliwal is a final year PhD researcher at the University of Sussex. She holds a BA Sociology from Western University, a Master of Teaching from Griffith University and a Masters in Gender Studies from the University of Sussex.

Megan Crossley (Lancaster University) Visualising borders: Negotiating power and representation in photovoice research on migration

Abstract: In the face of rapidly shifting geopolitical landscapes and the spectacular representations of migrant lives (and deaths) mobilised by hostile bordering regimes, the study of migration must account for the role of agency and power in its methods. Participatory and creative research methods are often lauded as addressing power asymmetries between participants and researchers, particularly when working with displaced and marginalised groups. This approach involves its own risks, however, and negotiating these tensions remains an underexplored aspect of this kind of research. This presentation will share insights from ongoing research which uses photovoice methods to explore how people seeking asylum or with refugee status self-represent their experiences of everyday life during a heightened politics of migration in the UK. This paper explores the nuanced ethical considerations inherent in researching displacement and migration by considering the intricate dynamics of power, representation, and consent within the context of participatory and creative photovoice methodologies. Through reflecting on encounters from my PhD fieldwork, this presentation explores how participants agentially subverted the research brief and ethical guidelines. In both consenting to participate and refusing to 'follow the brief', they opened up new avenues for the research and produced interactions that pointed me towards richer and more interesting lines of enquiry – particularly in considering their subversion the categories of 'refugee' and 'asylum-seeker'. Most importantly, through facilitating such refusals the research not only demonstrated a robust enactment of informed consent, but also challenged assumptions around migration narratives and identities in research.

Bio: Megan Crossley is a second year PhD student at Lancaster University. She also co-ordinates voluntary ESOL provision for Lancaster and Morecambe City of Sanctuary after working as an ESOL teacher in college and community settings for several years. Her research interests are migration, refugees and the UK asylum system with a focus on gender, belonging, community-making and resistance. She is currently exploring how ethics in research practice are conceptualised in visual research, how co-research through creative and participatory means can empower marginalised communities and how photovoice methods can offer new insights to the study of migration.

Panel 5 Navigating Power in displacement

Kirsty Nicole Hearn (University of Birmingham) Sudanese diaspora humanitarianism in contexts of crisis and forced displacement across Sudan: Engaging with a decolonial approach

Abstract: 'Diaspora humanitarian actors' are key providers of relief and assistance, coordinating vital support oftentimes before the onset of institutional humanitarian response, and remaining long after aid agencies have left (Horst, Lubkemann, & Pailey, 2016; DEMAC, 2021). In contexts of protracted, overlapping and cyclical crises and displacement, such as in Sudan, the Sudanese diaspora have been a vital, yet largely invisible source of spiritual and material relief and assistance at both the individual organisational level. This research study examines the motivations, nature and modalities of Sudanese diaspora efforts to respond to humanitarian crises and displacement across Sudan. Sudan is a country which has longed faced critical humanitarian challenges, and is now facing the worst humanitarian disaster in recent memory as over 25 million people require urgent humanitarian assistance and

protection and 11 million people have been displaced. Interviews with 42 diaspora actors and stakeholders over the past 15 months provide insight into how diaspora responses have long offered an important source of support to communities in need, and whose relevance has further evolved with the onset of war. The study is contextualised by the well documented failure of institutionalised humanitarian response in Sudan to adequately address the growing needs of such a vulnerable population but also more globally as international humanitarian needs continue to grow Harvey, Stoddard, Czwarno, Brekenridge, & Duque-Diez, 2023). Insufficient funding to Sudan by the international donor community given the severity and scale of the crisis, accompanied by the paralysis of institutional humanitarian actors to respond following the outbreak of war in 2023 highlights the importance of scholarship on the coloniality of institutionalised humanitarianism and its accountability to affected communities. Drawing on scholarship which explores ‘Other’ humanitarianism, the decolonisation of humanitarianism and of Southern/transnational responses to displacement (E. Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, 2019), this paper highlights the potential value of a decolonial lens. Ultimately the study aims to highlight ways in which, both within the protracted humanitarian context of Sudan’s recent history, and even in the challenging context of war, diaspora actors and organisations find innovative ways to provide localised, responsive, targeted and sustainable assistance to meet the urgent needs of crisis-affected communities across Sudan. As a phenomenon that is commonly spontaneous as well as at times highly organised and targeted, as well as ever evolving, Sudanese diaspora efforts can be understood as more than ‘humanitarianism’. The ‘messy practice’ of decolonising the concept of ‘diaspora humanitarianism’ permits the decentring of ‘Western’ humanitarian principles and practice, and the centring of actors who do the work of everyday ‘helping’ in crisis, in the hope of redressing fundamental power imbalances in both humanitarianism and its scholarship (Sulley & Richey, 2023).

Bio: Kirsty Nicole Hearn is an ESRC DTP funded PhD candidate in the Institute for Research into Migration and Superdiversity at the University of Birmingham UK. Her research examines the responses of Sudanese diaspora actors and organisations to contexts of crisis and displacement across Sudan, highlighting the diverse Sudanese diaspora as pragmatic problem solvers, who prioritise the needs of, and work in collaboration with affected communities. Kirsty begins an internship with *Shabaka* in September 2024 <https://shabaka.org/> a research organisation focussed on diaspora response.

Natasha Nicholls (University of Birmingham) Negotiating power within private hospitality

Abstract: Inspired by Canada’s private refugee sponsorship model, over 20 countries globally have developed sponsorship programs in the last decade. A key characteristic of these programs is the direct involvement of private/community actors in refugee resettlement and integration. The first European Community Sponsorship scheme was launched in the UK in 2016, with about 1000 refugees resettled since then with the support of volunteers. Scholarship has critiqued sponsorship programs for their inherent power asymmetry between volunteers and refugees, raising concerns about volunteers adopting paternalistic behaviour and skewed kinship dynamics. However, sponsorship power dynamics have predominantly been investigated through a narrow, negative lens, lacking a broader understanding of how power might evolve over time through volunteer-refugee negotiation. Conceptualising power within a broader framework, encompassing both negative and positive manifestations, this article provides a more nuanced understanding of volunteer-refugee power dynamics. Utilising the expressions of power framework (VeneKlasen and Miller, 2002), and the concept of transformative power (Van Baarle et al., 2021), I analyse sponsorship through a hospitality lens, extending beyond the initial welcome to explore spatial and relationship dynamics during the two-year support period (Bulley, 2016). Drawing on data from 10 CS volunteers, findings reveal various expressions of power amongst volunteers, including dominant, paternalistic approaches alongside more collaborative efforts. Additionally, volunteers recognise instances of refugee agency, highlighting examples of ‘power within’ and ‘power to’ by refugees. Identified tensions encompass

conflicts within volunteer groups and internal role dilemmas as volunteers grapple with the best way to support refugees and occasionally change their approach.

Bio: Natasha Nicholls is currently undertaking a Global Challenges funded PhD in Social Policy at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity based at the University of Birmingham. Her PhD focuses on the role of the volunteers in the UK Community Sponsorship scheme.

Panel 6 | Migrant experiences of health access and discrimination

Sin Yi Cheung (Cardiff University), Tilman Brand (Leibniz Institute), Hannah Bradby (Uppsala University), Dr Sarah Hamed (Stockholm University), Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham)
Experience of subjective discrimination in healthcare service usage in superdiverse areas: evidence in four European countries

Abstract: Despite legislative attempts to outlaw discrimination, inequalities persist across Western healthcare settings. Experiences of discrimination are perceived in various ways including exclusion from decision-making processes in healthcare interactions, being treated with disrespect, health concerns dismissed and trivialized and lower trust in healthcare and lower perceived quality of care. To date, evidence on ethnic/migrant discrimination in European healthcare settings remains limited, scattered and fragmented, and largely qualitative. Our study aims to fill this gap by analysing original quantitative data from a cross-national European study “The Welfare Bricolage” project that examines healthcare usage in highly diverse neighbourhoods in Germany, UK, Sweden and Portugal. The selected countries represent four welfare regime ‘ideal types’. Using an analytical sample of 1,838 residents, we pose four research questions: 1) Are migrants more likely to experience subjective discrimination in healthcare? 2) Does this experience vary by welfare regime? 3) Does health literacy and trust in doctor mitigate experience of subjective discrimination? 4) Is subjective discrimination correlated with self-rated health? We first described the sample characteristics in each country by migrant status, age, gender, education, language ability, self-rated health, health literacy, and trust in doctors. To assess perceived discrimination by healthcare professionals, a series of binary logistic regressions were fitted. Indicative findings show some variations in healthcare settings that migrants in Germany and Portugal were more likely to feel discriminated, and that health literacy and trust in doctor do mitigate this experience.

Bios: Sin Yi Cheung is Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of Research at the School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University. Her research focuses on ethno-religious and racial inequalities in Britain, refugee and immigration integration as well as sociology of education, employment and work. She also directs the interdisciplinary research group MEAD (Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Diversity) at Cardiff University and is Editor-in-Chief of *Frontiers in Sociology: Race and Ethnicity*.

Tilman Brand is Head of Unit of Social Epidemiology, BIPS – Prevention Research and Epidemiology at Leibniz Institute, Bremen since 2012. His research examines social determinants of health, evidence-based prevention, health promotion and life-course related prevention.

Hannah Bradby is a medical sociologist, Professor of Sociology at Uppsala University and Field Chief Editor for *Frontiers in Sociology*. Hannah has taught in universities in Scotland, England, Sweden and Russia. Since the early 1990s, her work examines identity and inequalities around ethnicity, migration status and gender, with a particular focus on health.

Sarah Hamed is a sociologist and postdoctoral researcher at Stockholm University. Her current Swedish Research Council funded project “The Afterlives of Migration: Integration, Ordinary Ethics and Intimate citizenship” examines the concept of integration through the narratives of those who are considered to be integrated through focusing on people's everyday dilemmas, narratives of belonging, well-being, and pleasure.

Jenny Phillimore is Professor of Migration at the University of Birmingham, a leading scholar in refugee integration, superdiversity and access to social welfare with a particular focus on public health. Jenny led the ESRC/Norface funded UPWEB project that developed a new concept of welfare bricolage to explore how residents in superdiverse areas address health concerns and the international SEREDA project which aims to understand the incidence and nature of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) experienced by refugees conflict in the Levant Regions.

Lisa Goodson (University of Birmingham), Dave Newall (Brushstrokes Community Project), Marisol Reyes, Sarah Taal, Espoir Njei and Shabana Qureshi, Exploring cultural competence in migrant health – tales from the UK.

Abstract: Amidst the backdrop of global forced migration, migrant women endure a journey often fraught by a cycle of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Upon arrival in places of refuge, they encounter yet another layer of violence: structural violence entrenched within the immigration and asylum systems, which impacts on migrant women's maternity and integration experiences. Addressing the research gap in understanding structural violence and social determinants of health (SDH) in resettlement, this paper explores migrant women's experiences of maternity care in the UK. This research draws upon qualitative community research interviews conducted as part of a collaborative community research project with Brushstrokes Community Project, which engaged 12 migrant women in Birmingham and Liverpool in accredited research training and mentoring to undertake narrative interviews. We contextualize our findings using a conceptual framework derived from the SEREDA project, which delineates three types of violence impacting integration trajectories and health outcomes: violence of dependency, slow violence of everyday life, and gender blindness endemic in determination processes. Our analysis unveils the intricate web of structural barriers and systemic injustices that shape their pregnancy and childbirth experiences, perpetuating inequalities in healthcare access and quality. We advocate for urgent policy and practice interventions to dismantle systemic barriers and discriminatory practices within maternity care. Recommendations include the provision of culturally competent care and information, community-based participatory research for policy advocacy, and systemic reforms to ensure equitable access to quality maternity care for migrant women. By examining maternity care experiences of 20 women through the lens of structural violence, this study contributes to a deeper understanding of the broader social determinants of health influencing the well-being of migrant women. Addressing structural violence necessitates concerted efforts from a range statutory and non-statutory stakeholder to ensure equitable access to dignified maternity care for all women, regardless of their migration status.

Bios: Lisa Goodson, Associate Professor of Migration and Research Co-production at the School of Social Policy, University of Birmingham, specialises in forced migration, social and spatial justice with expertise in research on SGBV and integration. A founding member of the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRIS) and Practitioner and Community Research Lead, she champions community-led research methodologies. In 2023, Lisa established the Chartered Institute for Research with Communities (CIRC), dedicated to fostering sustainable infrastructures and pathways to accredited training and employment for community and practitioner researchers. Committed to enhancing universities' civic role as 'anchor institutions', she promotes academic and non-academic partnerships, community engagement and empowerment through research for more inclusive policy-making and service delivery in diverse urban areas.

Dave Newall BEM has been the Project Manager at Brushstrokes Community Project in Smethwick since 2017. He has worked in the field of migration since 2000 in operational delivery, policy, strategic and research roles. He previously co-ordinated the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership's Migrant Health network; worked with DoH on the service design and coordination of health provision at Initial Accommodation; conducted research on migration and maternity and completed Migrant Health Needs Assessments for Dudley and Wolverhampton; developed and delivered work formulating GP registration pathways for asylum seekers and migrants; provides training on migrants' entitlements to healthcare and the NHS charging regulations. He is piloting Inclusion health worker

roles at Brushstrokes, contributes to asylum seeker and refugee health strategy and is developing community practitioner researchers with UoB from migrant communities. His research interests include Migrant Health, Migration Policy and Practice, health inequalities, refugee integration and civic participation.

Marisol Reyes Soto is an Associate Researcher at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS) at the University of Birmingham. Dr Reyes collaborated on an interim evaluation of the UK's Community Sponsorship Scheme and coordinated the evaluations of six community sponsorship schemes in Europe. She has worked on the Community Practitioner Research Programme (CPRP) mentoring practitioners to improve the lives and experiences of their communities in key areas such as refugee resettlement and migrant maternity care. Recent research includes the experiences of hospitality and reciprocity of people who have hosted displaced Ukrainians in the UK through 'Homes for Ukraine'.

Antje Lindenmeyer, Laurence Lessard-Phillips, Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham)
Vulnerable migrants' access to primary healthcare: findings from a qualitative analysis of caseworker notes

Abstract: We present findings from a collaboration with Doctors of the World UK, a charity that provides care, information and support to people unable to access NHS services. In this study, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, we explored the wellbeing of migrants at risk of vulnerability from a sample of service user data collected by DOTW UK caseworkers from 2011-2018. We analysed 11,381 questionnaires and 363 sets of free text notes. Here, we focus on a subset of 69 service users who faced increased difficulties in accessing healthcare. A qualitative content analysis of the notes showed a range of barriers mainly due to them being undocumented or lacking proof of address. Firstly, barriers could arise when the case worker contacted a GP surgery to ask them to register the service user; receptionists referred the question to another member of staff who was not in or outright refused registration. Additional obstacles appeared for those who were refused when they turned up to register which led to further discussions between caseworkers and surgery staff. Some service users were again refused when they came back to register, leading to further discussion including, in some cases, NHS England staff reminding surgeries of their responsibilities towards patients without valid ID. This data shows that potentially vulnerable patients may face barriers when trying to access healthcare, even when supported by an experienced caseworker. Further work is needed to ensure that GP surgeries are aware they cannot refuse registration because of an absence of documentation or immigration status.

Bios: Antje Lindenmeyer is a lecture in medical sociology and qualitative research methods. She has a strong interest in migrant and transnational health and has collaborated with IRiS on a range of projects since 2014.

Laurence Lessard-Phillips is a Senior Research Fellow who joined the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS) in May 2016. Her main research interests lie in the perceptions, measurement, and dimensionality of immigrant adaptation; ethnic inequalities in education and the labour market; the transnational behaviour across immigrant generations; and social inequalities and social mobility.

Jenny Phillimore is Professor of Migration at the University of Birmingham, a leading scholar in refugee integration, superdiversity and access to social welfare with a particular focus on public health. Jenny led the ESRC/Norface funded UPWEB project that developed a new concept of welfare bricolage to explore how residents in superdiverse areas address health concerns and the international SEREDA project which aims to understand the incidence and nature of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) experienced by refugees in conflict in the Levant Regions.

Glenys Frank (La Trobe University, Melbourne) The wellbeing of women seeking asylum who are accessing maternity care, in Australia



Background and aims: Women seeking asylum in high-income countries have poorer health outcomes than those birthing in their high-income country of birth. Poorer outcomes include an increased risk of mental health issues, pre-term birth, stillbirth, neonatal admission, and caesarean birth. This is the first research in Australia that aims to specifically explore the experiences of maternity care of women seeking asylum, and of the midwives and doulas who care for them.

Methodology: Phenomenology was used to explore the life worlds of participants. This research involved in-depth interviews with women seeking asylum during their pregnancy and again after the birth. to understand the complexity and richness of their lived experience. In addition, I interviewed 17 midwives and nine doulas caring for them.

Challenges identified: Women seeking asylum spoke of their isolation and need for support particularly when they had no family in Australia. Living with visa uncertainty was a significant theme creating a sense of powerlessness and impacting women's wellbeing during their maternity care. Their visa uncertainty led to financial hardship and impacted their ability to find appropriate housing. Midwives spoke of the challenge of identifying these women in their antenatal care to provide the support they needed.

Implications and conclusions: Clear pathways to identifying women seeking asylum would help to facilitate these women receiving appropriate support. Midwives may benefit from training in working with interpreters, developing cultural competency and providing trauma-informed care.

Bio: Glenys has worked as a midwife for many years and more recently has specialised in working with marginalised pregnant women, in the community in Melbourne. Glenys has recently completed her PhD at the University of Technology, in Sydney. Her topic is the experience of women seeking asylum, in the perinatal period, in Australia. She is currently working as a casual academic at Latrobe university and a midwife for the Royal Women's Hospital.

Panel 7 | New contours of migrant labour in post-Brexit Britain

Convenor: Dr Seb Rumsby, University of Birmingham

Panel abstract: International labour migration is a defining feature of globalised capitalism and has grown in significance during the 21st century, both economically and politically. The total number of international migrants rises each year (3.6% of the world population in 2020) while global remittance flows in 2022 were estimated to be worth nearly \$800billion – nearly double of that in 2013. Meanwhile, the rise of populism during the 2010s has been manifested in anti-migrant politics – despite wealthier nations benefiting from (indeed, being dependent on) cheap migrant labour for so-called '3-D jobs' (dirty, dangerous and demeaning). Nowhere is this contradiction seen more clearly than in post-Brexit Britain. The UK withdrawal from the EU meant the end of free movement for EU citizens from the end of 2020, causing chaos among low-wage industries which has previously relied on EU workers. The government has responded to labour shortages with temporary work visas for non-EU workers, so post-Brexit net immigration is not falling – rather, former EU citizens with rights and access to state benefits are being replaced by migrants with more precarious legal status and less rights. At the same time exploited, excluded and discriminated migrants continue to display their agency by strategically mobilising their resources, opening their own businesses, and finding creative ways to 'play the system'. This panel showcases some emerging research on contemporary developments within post-Brexit Britain, addressing the following issues:

- Implementation and impacts of changing immigration policies;
- Intersectional experiences of migrant precarity and exploitation in the workplace;
- Migrant business entrepreneurs and the 'death of the British high street';
- Everyday politics of informal workspaces/'grey economies'.

Ying Fuk Tse (University of Birmingham) Migration status as a façade: Insecurity of recent Hong Kong immigrants in the neoliberal UK



Abstract: This paper problematises the connection between regular immigration status and sense of security by focusing on the arrival experiences of recent immigrants from Hong Kong to the UK under the BNO visa scheme, which came into effect in 2021. By juxtaposing the migrants' circumstances in housing, education and employment, presumptions of institutions underpinning the regular immigration status, especially the expectation of 'good' behaviour and self-sufficiency will be examined. I argue that despite a majority of the participants having never lived or visited, and having no prior family and social ties in the UK, the regular immigration status for a relatively lengthy period of time offers them a sense of pre-arrival optimism and security, on top of vocal support from the government and budget earmarked for welcome services, the affordable rent, house prices and living costs in the UK compared with Hong Kong, and second-hand information online that they rely on to envisage life in the UK. These have exposed them to potential vulnerabilities of being exposed to competitive housing and labour markets, as well as institutional barriers, which have been creating insecurity for other immigrants. Overall, the extent to which these barriers can be mitigated is solely subject to the human and financial capital of the individuals themselves, leading to the strengthening of pre-existing inequalities and class division in Hong Kong.

Bio: Dr Ying Fuk Tse joined the University of Birmingham as Assistant Professor in Organisation, Work and Employment in January 2023. Her research broadly covers employment relations and the sociology of work, especially in the areas of reward management, job quality, and equality, diversity and inclusion. Prior to her PhD, she worked as a labour policy researcher in a non-governmental organisation, focusing on migrant workers in southern China.

Oana Burcu (University of Nottingham) Exploring the Work and Life of Migrant Laborers in the UK Agricultural Industry

Abstract: Post-Brexit, UK agriculture faces challenges with recruitment from new countries, primarily from Central Asia. Workers burdened by debt due to illegal recruitment fees and employer-tied visas may endure exploitative conditions, lacking knowledge of rights and access to grievance mechanisms. Marginalized workers may accept exploitative conditions rather than claiming their rights. The paper introduces a taxonomy of grievance and grievance mechanisms, with a specific focus on the vulnerabilities and personal characteristics of seasonal migrant workers, intersected with the structural challenges that the Seasonal Workers Scheme poses. The paper focuses on workers employed in British agriculture via the Seasonal Workers Scheme and it captures their reasons for migrating, expectations and everyday experiences at their workplace. It draws on interviews with workers and businesses alike to better businesses and policymakers understandings and practice of migrants working and life conditions in the UK.

Bio: Dr Oana Burcu is Senior Research Fellow in Global regulations and Labour exploitation with the Rights Lab, at University of Nottingham, UK. She works at the intersection of business and society, with a primary focus on labour governance, particularly workers' rights and supply chains governance. Topics of interest and expertise include modern slavery, seasonal workers, fair recruitment, grievance mechanisms, migration, nationalism and corporate social responsibility. She has previously held lecturing positions in Chinese and East Asian studies at University of Durham and University of Nottingham and maintains a strong interest and expertise in China.

Benjamin Hopkins (University of Birmingham) Migrant Workers and Employer-Provided Accommodation in UK Agriculture

Abstract: In the United Kingdom agricultural sector, caravan accommodation is used to house seasonal workers. This study examines how this provision of caravan accommodation extends control over the workforce, particularly where this consists of a high proportion of migrant workers. Firstly, temporal control is extended by having accommodation and further provision (entertainment, laundry, leisure etc.) on site so as to keep workers closer to their workplace and therefore able to tolerate long and inconsistent hours. Secondly, familial control is extended as farm employers ban workers from having children in the accommodation, frequently meaning that these are cared for by other family members

in the home country. Finally, a third type of financial control is created by the low price of the caravan accommodation as compared to bricks-and-mortar accommodation. If workers are not flexible to employer demands related to, for example, inconsistent work schedules then they will not only lose their jobs, but also lose their affordable accommodation. Data from this study is drawn from three case study farms located in Southern England. Data was collected in the harvest season of 2022, with visits of 2-5 days at each location. This allowed for in-depth data collection literally 'in the field' to take place, with visits to both workplaces and accommodation, together with holding 55 semi-structured interviews.

Bio: Dr Benjamin Hopkins is a senior lecturer in the Birmingham Business School with expertise in work and employment issues. His recent research has investigated temporary and migrant work in food manufacturing, young people and voluntary work, wage inequality, and work in the public sector. His current research investigates migrant work in the European Union and United States, the impacts of Brexit on food manufacturing, and work in the police and prison services.

Seb Rumsby (University of Birmingham) The everyday political economy of recent Vietnamese migrant labour to/in the UK

Abstract: Over the past 20 years, the number of Vietnamese people entering the UK 'under the radar' has been steadily increasing. The majority of these immigrants come from a few underdeveloped provinces of Central Vietnam and end up working in Vietnamese-run nail salons which have spread to every town and city, drawing the unwanted attention of police and other concerned about them being sites of exploitation and 'modern slavery'. This paper is based on a pilot study conducted with Vietnamese research participants, both nail salon owners and workers with varying immigration status. It seeks to investigate the dynamics of debt, exploitation, solidarity and support within the recent Vietnamese migrant community, whilst contextualising these relationships within the wider challenges of the UK's 'hostile environment' policies and present economic turbulences. Whilst affirming the agency of Vietnamese actors in carving out an economic niche for themselves, the benefits are unevenly distributed and opportunities for new migrants are diminishing as the nail salon market becomes saturated.

Bio: Dr Seb Rumsby is an interdisciplinary scholar with a wide range of interests including everyday politics, labour exploitation, undocumented migration, ethno-religious politics, grassroots development and non-national histories. Seb unites these diverse themes with an empirical focus on Southeast Asian worlds and people. He joined University of Birmingham in September 2023 to embark on a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship researching recent Vietnamese migration to the UK, the rise of the Vietnamese nail salon industry, and the impact of remittances on migrant sending regions.

Panel 8 | Health, mental health and reproductive justice beyond borders

Karolina Follis (Lancaster University) Debordering healthcare? The political determinants of health in hostile environments

Abstract: For several years now critical borders and migration scholars have understood the restrictions placed on irregular migrants' access to public services in terms of 'everyday bordering', an inherent feature of border regimes in Western liberal democracies (Yuval-Davis, Wemyss and Cassidy 2018). Building on this concept, and on the contributions of scholars of mobilities and critical border studies, this paper focuses on healthcare as an increasingly bordered domain. Drawing on examples from the UK and continental Europe, it explores practices of solidarity and resistance, and expressions of vocational ethics, ultimately to propose a conceptual framework for identifying opportunities to deborder healthcare within the context of environments hostile to people whose legal status is irregular. The paper frames 'everyday bordering' in healthcare as a political determinant of health. In the spirit of the 'new alliances' identified in the present CFP, it argues for a concept of 'health justice

beyond borders' that incorporates a renewed vigilance of the political technologies reshaping healthcare at the infrastructural level. Ultimately, the paper shows, it is through their everyday subversion that debordering can be achieved.

Bios: Dr Karolina Follis is a political anthropologist and Senior Lecturer the Department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion at Lancaster University in the UK. Her research interests center on the dynamic intersections of border regimes, surveillance technologies and the ideas and practices of human rights, currently focusing especially on the right to health. She is the author of several publications on the EU border regime, including the monograph *Building Fortress Europe. The Polish-Ukrainian Frontier*, Penn Press, 2012. She was the project lead of the Wellcome Trust project *Doctors within Borders* (2019-2021).

Gwyneth Lonergan (Northumbria University), *Bordering Reproduction/Bordering Through Reproduction*

Abstract: Feminist scholars of migration have long been interested in how bordering processes can serve to discipline migrants' reproductive practices (c.f. Gedalof, 2007; Luibheid 2013). Bordering processes nurture some families and family forms while treating others as illegitimate (Turner, 2020); and differentially distribute access to the resources needed for reproduction, for example, healthcare (Bonizzoni, 2011; Lonergan 2023). Individual migrants experience these processes and disciplining effects differently, depending on their location within wider racialised, gendered and classed discourses of citizenship and reproduction. The role of bordering processes in disciplining migrant's reproductive activities has additionally been reconfigured in recent years as these processes have multiplied and proliferated into the spaces of everyday life (Yuval-Davis et al., 2019; Lonergan, 2023). This paper seeks to build upon, and contribute to, this scholarship by exploring how bordering processes not only discipline reproduction, but increasingly operate *through* reproduction (c.f. Humphris 2017). Interventions into migrants' reproductive activities serve as a filtering mechanism, discouraging 'undesirable' migrants; and encouraging migrants to conform to neoliberal models of 'super citizenship' (Anderson, 2013). For example, the possibility of bringing dependents is a key feature distinguishing 'highly-skilled' work visas from temporary 'low-skilled' visas; at the same time, the high fees required to bring dependents disciplines the visa holder into demonstrating financial productivity and autonomy. Recently announced changes to both family and student visas point to the growing significance of bordering through reproduction and the urgent need for a nuanced analysis of this phenomenon.

Bio: Dr Gwyneth Lonergan is a lecturer in Sociology at Northumbria University. Her research focuses on how discourses and policies around citizenship and migration are experienced in everyday life, particularly with regard to reproduction and reproductive justice. She was awarded a PhD in Sociology from the University of Manchester in 2016, and was previously a Wellcome fellow in bioethics and social science at Lancaster University, researching migrant women's experiences of maternity care.

Gianmaria Lenti (La Trobe University), *"As if entering Europe wasn't difficult enough": On stuckness and bordering in Turkey*

Abstract: The EU-Turkey border regime has long fulfilled important functions to protect the interests and privileges of self-proclaimed 'Western liberal democracies', regardless of the suffering this hypocritical partnership generates for racialised migrants from the plundered sides of the globe. While the lack of regular migration channels amalgamates with heightened surveillance at the borders with Greece and Bulgaria, migrants who remain stuck in Turkey must endure a myriad of bordering processes that permeates all spheres of their everyday life. Based on scholarship from political anthropology and ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Istanbul, this presentation delves into the intricate web of bordering processes encountered by Latin American migrants as they navigate states of '(im)mobility in transit'. While looking for means to move forward or repatriate, these migrants grapple with socioeconomic integration within a hostile context marked by vigilance, discrimination and hardship. EU-outsourced textile factories, hospitals, money-transfer agencies, criminalised NGOs,

prisons and the streets in which numerous women engage in sex work have become the terrain wherein countless symbolic, cultural, social and administrative borders convert survival into a daily struggle, relegating the pursuit of mobility projects to a distant dream. As bordering processes impede migrants' prospects for settlement and mobility, they also produce a heavy toll on their socio-emotional wellbeing and mental health. The pervasive precarity and irregularisation experienced by migrants ensnare their minds in a cycle of fear, anxiety, despair, frustration, and rage. However, while borders and bordering undermine these migrants' safety, they reconfigure their subjectivities in autonomous struggle of mobility, resilience and resistance.

Bio: Dr Gianmaria Lenti holds a PhD. in Social Anthropology from the National School of Anthropology and History in Mexico City, and he is currently appointed as Honorary Adjunct of the Department of Social Inquiry at La Trobe University in Melbourne. His main research explores the experiences and emotions of migrants in Mexico and Turkey, although he also conducted fieldwork in Morocco, Greece, and Spain. He completed a MSc. in Social Science in Development and International Relations - Global Refugee Studies - at Aalborg University, in Copenhagen, after finalizing a BA. in Languages and Cultural Mediation at the University of Roma Tre.

Panel 9 | Integration, irregularity and assimilation in the mobile workforce

Ana Santos, André Saramago and Inês Lourenço (Independent researcher, University of Lisbon, University Institute of Lisbon) Stuck in irregularity – priority views of Southeast Asian farmworkers in Portugal

Abstract: There is an urgent need to understand the factors that promote successful settlement and integration of voluntary migrants. In the last decade, a sharp increase in influx and permanence of undocumented irregular migrants was observed in Portugal. These migrants enter the country through regular pathways but end up in protracted irregularity. Despite having in place welcoming policies, like the possibility to regularize migratory status through an expression of interest for residency, or the newly approved job seeker visa, the response to this increase has been slow and cumbersome. There is empirical evidence of migrants living in precarious and extremely vulnerable conditions, lacking access to basic lifesaving services. Focus groups were used as an effective method to elicit views of culturally diverse farmworkers based on their migration lived experiences. This paper describes the use of storytelling and human centred design tools to elicit conversations about priority concerns for a population of employed and unemployed farmworkers. A total of 32 participants from Bangladesh, India and Nepal were engaged in 3 presential focus group sessions held in Odemira district in Portugal. The most salient issues include dignifying and safe living environment (beyond housing), inevitable reliance on third parties, and the severe impacts of their prolonged condition on psychosocial wellbeing. The findings support the call for urgent action in a professional humanitarian response for mental health, and the acknowledgment of the role of civil society, therein host community and peer migrants, as first respondents in addressing the lifesaving needs of migrants.

Bios: Dr Ana Santos is an independent researcher with over 15 years' experience in academic and management roles. She is currently founder of a research consultancy serving Portuguese municipalities and focused on the intersection between migration and spatial justice. Ana has a PhD in humanitarian health innovation and worked, over the last decade, in Europe, East Africa and the US, developing curricula to mentor national and international teams, and co-designed health services with international organizations and governments. She worked as director of ThinkPlace Kenya and led an innovation team focused on displacement and migration of Médecins Sans Frontières in Kenya.

Dr André Saramago has worked for over 15 years with international humanitarian organizations in Latin America and Europe including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and International Organization for Migration (IOM). His areas of expertise include migration and territorial development, and most importantly, advocacy and articulation of public and private stakeholders in

participatory processes for the development of public policies. He is currently carrying out his PhD research in the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning of the University of Lisbon (IGOT-UL).

Dr Inês Lourenço is a senior researcher at Centre for Research in Anthropology (UIL). Her research is focused on Indian diasporas in Portugal, supported by fieldwork carried out in Portugal and in India since 2000. Inês has over 20 years' experience on gender topics, and a close proximity to women groups among communities of Indian origin, Inês has deep in-depth knowledge of their gender inequalities vis-à-vis Portuguese society. She has field experience in managing a collaboration between health centres, Portuguese municipalities and South Asian migrants on health literacy.

Analisa Smythe and Daphne Laing (The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust) The challenges and needs of international nurses who are assimilating to new healthcare systems: Experience from the field

Abstract: The presentation will provide insights into the barriers and enablers for international nurses who are assimilating to a new healthcare system and implications for the global healthcare context.

Background: The worldwide shortage of nurses has led to high levels of global mobility. It is therefore essential to acknowledge the international nature of healthcare and the diversity of experience which exists within the nursing workforce.

Discussion: The presentation will highlight the challenges of assimilating to a new healthcare environment, the importance of support and the value of “two-way learning”. The presenters evaluate, design and delivers acculturation and communication skills training for international nurses and doctors who work in the National Health Service (NHS). They offer evidence-based findings from research in the field.

Conclusion: Successful cultural integration should be multifaceted and include opportunities for two-way learning. Nurses require ongoing and directed support to deliver high-quality care in diverse and changing health systems.

Implications for Nursing Policy: As healthcare is undeniably international, the benefits and challenges this presents need to be acknowledged by both government and healthcare management in the form of policy recommendations, guidelines and regulatory frameworks which go beyond testing clinical and linguistic skills on arrival and aims to promote well-being, retention, and reduced stress at work.

Bios: Daphne Laing: With a lifelong fascination with the interaction between language and context and an academic background in Linguistics and international mobility, I currently design and deliver training solutions to support the acculturation and integration of international healthcare professionals in NHS. This work is complemented by research with PHAISE (Policy, Health, Acculturation, International, Socio-cultural, Education), investigating the lived experience of internationally trained nurses. I am acutely aware that healthcare professionals need help and support to integrate and avoid work-based stress or onward migration. It is therefore crucial to understand the requirements at local level and the factors driving decisions at macro level.

Dr Analisa Smythe qualified as a Mental Health Nurse in 1993 and has worked in research for over twenty years. She has a significant track record of grant funding and has written numerous papers for publication. Analisa recently received a Clinical Research West Midlands Scholars Award. She was appointed as Nurse Researcher at the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust in 2020; a bespoke role established to enhance the reputation of the Trust for nursing research. She is also visiting fellow at Staffordshire University. Her current interests focus on the wellbeing of the nursing workforce.

Daphne and Analisa are both part of PHAISE – International Nursing Workforce Policy and Practice Research Collaboration (policy- health – assimilation - international – support – education).

Hideki Tarumoto (Waseda University), Bordering Japan and Western Immigrant Integration

Abstract: In the present time, migrant-receiving countries around the world strongly struggled to integrate the growing number of immigrants and foreigners. Japan is not an exception. The country

has only accepted skilled workers in a formal way since 1990, but in 2018 began to formally receive less skilled workers not previously regarded as skilled workers through the 'specified skill' residence status. The number of foreign residents has risen to 2.5 percent of the total population by the end of 2022, with problems emerging such as deaths in immigration detention centres, the acceptance of Ukrainians as non-refugees, and the forthcoming replacement of residential statuses of 'technical training' with 'training for employment'. How can Japan integrate the ever-increasing number of immigrants and foreigners? When it comes to Western European countries, civic integration may be one candidate. There, it is often argued that multiculturalism has already been unfunctional or dead, followed by prevailing neoliberal treatment of immigrants. However, Japan has not experienced multiculturalism enough. Surely Japan has an integration slogan of 'multicultural conviviality' with several integration measures, but it is often said that the substance of these measures is still insufficient. Therefore, Japan's goal should not be to turn away from multiculturalism and run towards civic integration. Rather, it should create some possibility for immigrants and foreigners to acquire Japanese language and knowledge while respecting and supporting their own lives and cultures. In other words, Japan should steer away from 'multicultural conviviality' towards 'multicultural integration'.

Bio: Hideki Tarumoto is Professor of sociology at the Faculty of Letters, Arts and Sciences, Waseda University, Japan. His research interests are citizenship and migration, comparative analysis of immigration policies in Europe and East Asia. His works include: "La transformation en pays d'immigration dans le contexte urbain? Le cas du Japon" (Fiorenza Gamba et al. (dir.) 2023) Ville et créativité, Zurich et Geneve: Seismo); "Immigrant Acceptance in an Ethnic Country" (John Stone et al (eds) 2020 The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism, John Wiley & Sons); "Why Restrictive Refugee Policy Can Be Retained?" (Migration and Development, 8(1), 2019).

Kamil Matuszczyk (University of Warsaw) Not only specialists in crossing borders? The role of private intermediaries in organising the mobility of young doctors in Poland

Abstract: Globally, the scale of labour migration is increasing, with the involvement of different types of actors in the migration industry. The main objective of the activities of such actors is to bring about effective border crossing and labour market allocation in the destination country. While much is known about the facilitation and organisation of the migration of low-skilled workers, relatively little is known about the intermediaries that provide comprehensive support services for high-skilled workers. In this context, Poland is a unique case on the map of doctor migration - it was a country from which at least several thousand doctors emigrated after 2004. This was facilitated by the dynamic development of migration intermediaries and the still high emigration potential, especially among the young and well-educated. Using the example of the commercialisation of the migration of young doctors from Poland, the aim of my presentation is to answer several research questions:

1. What kind of offer do young doctors expect from intermediaries?
2. To what extent are students and young doctors the addressees of migration intermediaries' offers?
3. What do migration agents offer to doctors from Poland?

To answer these questions, I use the original results of a longitudinal empirical study conducted at all public medical universities in Poland. A total of more than 500 final year medical students and almost 20 in-depth interviews will be included. In addition, a qualitative content analysis of more than 30 websites of intermediaries specialising in the migration of doctors from Poland will be presented. These considerations will be embedded in theories explaining physician migration and brokerage theory.

Bio: Dr Kamil Matuszczyk is assistant professor at the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, University of Warsaw and researcher at the Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw. By education, he is a social policy and public policy expert. His expertise include intra-EU mobility, seasonal migration, migration industry, employer studies and labour market.

Panel 10 | Taking root: The role of reception, relationships and community in refugee integration

Gabriella D'Avino (University of Birmingham), Building caring relationships and the effects of emotional support on refugee integration

Abstract: Migration studies on social relationships have often focused on the characteristics of people within migrants' networks, especially nationality and ethnicity, distinguishing between bonding relationships - among homogenous people - and bridging relationships - among heterogeneous people. This approach has provided little evidence on migrants' network formation, dynamics, resources and their effects on integration processes. Moving away from binary classifications of social relationships, more recent studies have highlighted the importance of social networks in providing migrants with practical and emotional support, although their effects on integration processes remain unclear. These knowledge gaps are accentuated with regard to refugees, although it is widely acknowledged that emotional support can be a valuable resource to overcome challenges linked to the often traumatic experiences of forced migration. Focusing on relationships that can provide refugees with emotional support, this article first sheds light on how such relationships are formed. Secondly, it explores the effects these relationships can have on integration by comparing the experiences of refugees resettled in England through two different initiatives: Community Sponsorship and the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme. Findings suggest that high frequency of contact and shared intimacy facilitate the development of caring relationships, providing refugees with emotional support, which, in turn, can have positive effects on integration. Specifically, emotional support can help refugees feel more confident and comfortable, help them develop more relationships within the wider community, and increase refugees' willingness and ability to reciprocate the support received.

Bio: Dr Gabriella D'Avino holds a PhD in Social Policy at the University of Birmingham, having previously completed an MA in Social Research (Social Policy) and an MA in Human Rights, Culture & Social Justice. As a research consultant, she has worked for the Porticus Foundation, the International Catholic Migration Commission, the University of Birmingham, the University of Maryland and the Refugee Hub. Her work has focused on refugee resettlement and sponsorship initiatives, and with her PhD, she has explored the social networks of refugees resettled in the UK through the Community Sponsorship Scheme and the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

Robert Larruina (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), The Winding Road to Meaningful Integration: A Ten-Year Multi-Perspective Approach to Unraveling Refugee Reception and Integration in the Netherlands

Abstract: In the Netherlands, refugees face the impossibility of taking root in circumstances of exclusion and the possibility to thrive in more favourable settings. Drawing from critical diversity, refugee studies, public administration, and political geography, this paper seeks to understand the role social actors play in refugee reception and integration processes. The concept of bordering encapsulates (in)visible exclusionary practices that deter refugees from meaningful integration: one that makes sense to refugees because it aligns with their life worlds and considers their possibilities and ambitions. This paper (based on my PhD research) addresses these issues by asking: How have governmental organizations, civil society, and volunteers engaged with bordering practices in the reception and meaningful integration of refugees in the Netherlands between 2011 and 2021, and what role do refugees have in these processes? Through a set of qualitative studies, this paper shows a ten-year journey that starts with research at an asylum seeker center (AZC) and ends with research at a social enterprise dedicated to the socioeconomic integration of refugees. This paper shows that visible bordering is identifiable in the accommodation of refugees in AZCs, the asylum procedure, and sequential steps towards integration. Invisible bordering takes the form of essentialized categorization and normalization, presenting refugees as dangerous or as victims. Invisible bordering becomes enhanced when civil society unwillingly normalizes and reproduces it. Overall, governmental and civil

society actors lack the necessary reflexivity to overcome invisible bordering. Despite the seeming impossibility of bordering, this paper shows opportunities to transform it.

Bio: Robert Larruina is an assistant professor in the Department of Organization Sciences in the Faculty of Social Sciences at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. He has extensive expertise in migration studies, particularly refugee reception and integration in the Netherlands. He is interested in understanding how the knowledge, experiences and expertise of civil society are applied (or not) by decision-makers when creating sustainable and meaningful reception and integration strategies. He is also part of the Co-Creation for Inclusive Knowledge Lab, which aims to stimulate co-creative research methods for developing and using inclusive knowledge for a more just society.

Aleksandra Grzymala-Kazłowska (University of Warsaw), Challenges and opportunities of agency: the perspectives of Afghan refugees, supporting organisations and individuals

Abstract: Displacement and diversity in an age of growing inequalities, old and new conflicts and rapid transformations need understanding to counteract adversities and facilitate better adaptation and utilisation of opportunities. In increasingly limited, conditional, and temporary state reception and support of refugees, the idea of community sponsorship inspires private-public programmes, but also less formal bottom-up civic responses are emerging, such as homestay refugee support (Bassoli and Luccioni 2023). This paper uses Archer's structure and agency lens to investigate how migrants and supporting local communities in Poland deal with complex challenges and try to utilise possibilities for adaptation and positive changes. Our analysis will draw on data from 30 in-depth interviews with evacuated Afghan refugees and those supporting them in adaptation and settling in Poland.

Bio: Aleksandra Grzymala-Kazłowska (PhD Hab.) is a Professor in the Faculty of Sociology and the Centre of Migration Research at the University of Warsaw. She is the Editor-in-Chief of the Central and Eastern European Migration Review. Her interests focus on migrants' and host societies' adaptation processes and identity changes, attitudes towards diversity and related discourses, inequality and inclusion. Currently, she is a PI in the projects on challenges, opportunities and prospects of community sponsorship, private admission and support of war refugees from Ukraine in Poland and improving the conditions of irregularised migrants in Europe. Her last book is "Rethinking Settlement and Integration. Migrants' Anchoring in an Age of Insecurity" (Manchester University Press, 2020).

Mette Louise Berg and Silke Zschomler (UCL) Homes for Ukraine: new geographies of settlement and arrival in the UK

Abstract: This paper examines forms of support and new solidarities that have emerged in the context of the UK government's response to people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine, particularly the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. Homes for Ukraine is a private hosting scheme that allows individuals to sponsor Ukrainians to live with them. It is an example of the 'new bespokism' (Tomlinson 2022) that characterises the UK government's approach to asylum. The scheme has given rise to new geographies of settlement against a background of a 'brutal migration milieu' (Hall 2017) and provides an interesting entry point to examine arrival infrastructures for new migrant groups in a context of welfare state outsourcing. Drawing on insights from a small-scale project for which we took a place-based approach, we discuss how the landscape of arrival infrastructures has been shaped by the hosting scheme for a distinct group of newcomers in a London borough and Oxfordshire. We conducted interviews and multi-modal participatory ethnographic fieldwork with Ukrainians who have come to the UK via the Homes for Ukraine scheme, as well as interviews with hosts, practitioners, and support workers. Our paper reflects on the role of hosts as 'arrival brokers' as well as the agency of Ukrainians in shaping arrival processes. We examine the emergence of a range of 'new actors' who have stepped in to provide support for people arriving from Ukraine in stark contrast to the lack of support for people fleeing other conflicts and arriving in the UK to seek asylum.

Bios: Prof Mette Louise Berg (UCL) is an anthropologist and scholar of migration and diasporas. She is the PI on the Migrants and Solidarities project (2020-2025) and co-director of the Thomas Coram Research Unit in the UCL Social Research Institute. She is founding co-editor of *Migration and Society*.

Dr Silke Zschomler (UCL) is Research Affiliate at the Thomas Coram Research Unit, UCL Social Research Institute. She completed her PhD at the University of Cambridge and held an ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship 'From 'language learning as the key to integration' to 'language learning for enriching solidarities in diversity'' in 2021-22. She also held a BERA Small Grants Award 'Learning for All?' and a UCL IOE Early Career Impact Fellowship 2023.

Panel 11 | Methodology Matters: Situating Agency and Ethical Responsibilities in Migration Studies

Annie Webster (University of Edinburgh) Following 'Little Amal' from The Jungle (2017) to The Walk (2021): Community Performance and Puppetry as Creative Placemaking Practices

Abstract: This paper engages with a growing body of literary criticism on 'asylum dramas' as it traces the figure of 'Little Amal', a ten-year old Syrian refugee, from her appearance in the Good Chance Theatre production, *The Jungle* (first staged at the Old Vic in 2017), through to *The Walk* initiative in which a twelve-foot puppet of Little Amal travelled from the Syria-Turkey border to the UK in 2021. In contrast to forms of 'verbatim theatre' often used to tell the stories of refugees and asylum-seekers, which emphasise the documentary function of words, these collaborative community and puppet performances, I suggest, focus instead on the significance of place. I argue they function as 'creative placemaking practices' (Markusen & Gadwa Nicodemus, 2010) which explore temporary senses and constructions of place in the border-spaces of increasingly dangerous migration routes. In the first part of the paper, I consider how Good Chance Theatre, a creative initiative which itself began in 'The Jungle' at Calais, self-reflexively explores the construction – and destruction – of communal space in the migrant camp. The second part of the paper looks at how the project evolved into a transnational puppet performance through a series of site-specific 'welcome' spectacles staged along the route of Little Amal's journey. I conclude by suggesting that the physical difficulties encountered in staging these dramas – whether due to eviction notices, the refusal of public permits, or logistical challenges – further expose the obstacles of placemaking faced by migrants in today's shifting geographies of forced displacement.

Bio: Annie Webster is Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in the School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures at the University of Edinburgh. Her research focuses on contemporary Arabic literature and culture, particularly how cultural production in the Middle East engages with experiences of conflict and forced migration from the region. Her current project, *Stories of the Syrian New Scots: Resettlement Geographies in Refugee Arts*, looks at storytelling practices among Syrian refugees resettled in Scotland, particularly in rural and remote communities.

Alessio D'Angelo (University of Derby) Revisiting the 'networked migrant'. Methodological reflections on migrants' journeys, agency and narratives

Abstract: Building on a decade of Social Network Analysis (SNA) research, this paper brings together and discusses practical and methodological considerations about the opportunities and challenges of investigating the journeys, experiences and decision-making of migrants using a network lens. As exemplified by work conducted in the context of the so-called 'Refugee Crisis' (D'Angelo 2021), SNA can add nuance and complexity to individual and collective stories which are often at the centre of over-simplistic media and policy narratives. National boundaries, rigid legal categories, dichotomies of solidarity and exploitation: these and other elements emerge for all their limited, highly Euro-centric nature, challenging migration scholars to develop new research paradigms which can go beyond 'methodological nationalism' (Lubbers et al. 2018; Dahinden, 2016). A network approach can also help us rebalance discourses of passivity and dependence, shedding light on how individual migrants

exercise their agency by activating, re-shaping and re-building connections through space and time. Finally, insights from a range of case studies (D'Angelo, 2015; Ryan and D'Angelo 2018) are used to exemplify the importance of recognising 'social network' research – and qualitative Social Network Analysis in particular – as inherently relational: 'social encounters' between researchers and participants (D'Angelo and Ryan, 2019) through which personal networks are reconstructed, presented and given meaning. As the seminal work of Goffman (1959) and Krackhardt (1987) reminds us, researchers are actively and personally involved, with all the responsibilities that derive from this. In such sense, SNA is also an opportunity for migration scholar to embrace 'conceptual reflexivity' (D'Angelo and Ryan, 2024)

Bio: Alessio D'Angelo is Professor of Social Policy at the University of Derby, where he co-directs the Centre for Applied Social Sciences. He has extensive experience in conducting research on migration, ethnicity and social inequalities. Most recently he has been working on EU and UK funded projects on refugee reception and intra-European migration. His work employs quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods, with particular expertise on Social Network Analysis. Alessio is the co-convenor of the Social Network Analysis Study Group of the British Sociological Association (BSA), a Trustee of the Social Policy Association, and editor of the journal *Social Policy and Society*.

Agnieszka Radziwinowiczówna (University of Warsaw), Power-knowledge approach to research migrations

Abstract: With the reflexive turn in migration studies researchers have become more mindful of ethical challenges in our field of research. However, reflexive discussions have often failed to provide solutions to how to avoid power imbalances in the research process. In this presentation I propose the power-knowledge approach to migration studies. It consists of the reflexive and pro-active dimensions, as it implies reflection about inequalities in knowledge production and concrete methodological solutions to overcome power imbalances. My conception of knowledge production is inspired by Michel Foucault; I take my ethical bearings from feminist writers, particularly Berenice Fisher and Joan Tronto. As I argue in my presentation, an ethics of care should lie at the heart of the research process, with researchers prioritising the wellbeing of people in precarious and distressing situation. Ethics of care involves caring about and taking care of the other, both necessary in the research process. Caring about is the ethical cornerstone of the reflexive dimension of the power-knowledge approach and taking care of should be the basis for the pro-active dimension. Power-knowledge approach opposes against victimising research participants or reproducing paternalistic/maternalistic domination of studies that seek to extract data from research participants. Instead, it prioritises agency of research participants and includes them in knowledge co-production. In my presentation, on the basis of literature review and my own research, I provide examples how power-knowledge approach should address every stage of the research process: from drafting the research proposal to disseminating research findings.

Bio: Agnieszka Radziwinowiczówna is assistant professor at the Centre of Migration Research at the University of Warsaw and honorary research fellow at the University of Wolverhampton. A social anthropologist and Latin Americanist by training, she holds a PhD in sociology from the University of Warsaw. She has published on deportations from the USA to Mexico and the UK to the EU, and co-authored the books 'Ethnomorality of care' and 'Migrants as agents of change'. She is the editor of the book 'Research methods in deportation: The power-knowledge approach' (Edward Elgar, 2024).

Jennifer Allsopp (University of Birmingham), The Journey as Method: Towards A Dantean Ethics and Epistemology in Migration Research with Refugee Youth

Abstract: In 1302, politician, philosopher and poet Dante Alighieri was exiled from his native city-state of Florence. A heated political debate continues 700 years on whether to reinstate his citizenship. For the far-right, Dante is a figure of national unity; for progressive NGO's, he is an advocacy tool par excellence – 'Dante was Italian and a refugee!' Drawing on a collaborative reading of Dante's work conducted with a group of refugee students, this paper sets out a new ethics, epistemology and practice of reflexivity in migration research. Focusing on the journey as method, an ethics of

accompaniment, openness to pluri-vocalness and a normative will to mobility, I argue that in his in-between positionality, Dante and his work can be interpreted - and used both theoretically and practically - as a 'boundary-spanner' to disrupt dominant bordering practices. Alongside unsettling methodological nationalism through complicating notions of geographical displacement, a Dantean approach to knowledge production and dissemination allows us to transcend the borders of the 'the present' with its associated hegemonic structures to produce work that is rooted in a deeper, and more authentic shared reality. This is linked to a wider agenda for temporal liberation in migration studies for which, I argue, Dante's work is an excellent guide. Overcoming the stasis imposed by contemporary bureaucratic policy categories requires a conscious act of displacement at the subjective and scientific level on the part of the researcher. As a method of co-production, it calls on those of us who would seek 'to understand the world, man's vices and his virtues', to at once lead and be led with humility through the unknown.

Bio: Jennifer Allsopp is a Birmingham Fellow, Founder and Co-Chair, University of Birmingham University of Sanctuary Co-Founder and Birmingham Lead, Transatlantic Fellows Programme. Jennifer's work centres on how people move and mobilize to support what they perceive to be viable futures for themselves, their families and their societies in the context of migration. She is drawn to interdisciplinarity and often incorporates the humanities to inform the content and practice of her research. She is passionate about comparative studies in international migration and the pursuit of innovative methodologies and co-production.

Panel 12 | Time and the Other revisited: temporality, control and resistance in contexts of displacement in postcolonial Middle East and Europe

Convenors: Dr Melissa Gatter and Dr Paladia Ziss

Panel abstract: In an increasingly globalised yet segregated world, mobility is not only a spatial issue but also a temporal one – not only a question of 'where' and 'how' but also 'when' and 'how long'. This panel centres time and temporality as an urgent critical approach to research on forced migration in postcolonial Middle East and Europe. It contributes to an emerging field that highlights how the boundaries surrounding lives lived in displacement are articulated temporally. The panel takes time as a producer of racial, ethnic, gendered, and classed 'Others', linking temporal mechanisms and strategies in the top refugee-hosting Middle East contexts of Turkey and Jordan with European responses to the so-called refugee crisis since 2015. Drawing on panelists' empirical work, this panel examines how time is conceptualised and utilised in daily practice by state, humanitarian, and displaced actors to delineate and negotiate the boundaries of refugee governance. The panel explores how the temporal device of the refugee camp in the Middle East and Europe has come to define an era of global apartheid and examines how camp refugees in Athens resist spatial exclusion through exercising temporal autonomy. The panel makes the case for constructing ethnographies of time through a case study of exiled Syrian revolutionaries in Turkey and focuses on state practices of asylum governance across Germany and Turkey that categorise and exclude mobile persons through hierarchies of pasts, presents, and futures. Considering the empirical and theoretical underpinnings of these temporal dynamics offers a critical response to the conference's questions around the impact of rapid global transformations on future avenues for migration research.

Charlotte Al-Khalili Times of displacement / displacement of time: an ethnography of Syrians displaced in Turkey

Forced displacement is often thought of as a spatial phenomenon: people are pushed to flee from a specific space to another looking for safety. However, such focus on place and location overlooks the intimate relation between space and time. As noted by Elias Sanbar in his study of Palestinian displacement during the 1948 Nakba: departing from space equates departing from time (2001: 90).



In this paper, I focus on the temporal effects of Syrian forced displacement to Turkey and Lebanon in the aftermaths of the 2011 revolution and subsequent war in Syria. I analyse the ways in which displaced Syrians find themselves in a spatio-temporal limbo: they consider Turkey and Lebanon as temporal stops before returning home or migrating to Europe and the Gulf. Syrians' everyday life is thus structured by an uncertain waiting that not only deeply impact their present but also their anticipation of the future and recollection of the past. Indeed, my Syrian interlocutors are waiting for the war to end and go back home, for a new route to open and try to reach Europe, for a visa application to be successful and travel to the Gulf, for a family reunification process to lead to their joining relatives in Europe. Their present is thus suspended, and their future aspirations directed towards other places, while they nostalgically long for a past and past spaces that are no longer accessible.

Bio: Dr Charlotte Al-Khalili is a Leverhulme Early Career fellow in anthropology at the University of Sussex. Her research explores the effects of the 2011 revolution and its aftermaths on displaced Syrians' lifeworlds and examines Syrians' evolving understandings, imagination and conceptualizations of revolution and displacement. She is the author of *Waiting for the Revolution to End: Syrian displacement, time and subjectivity* (UCL, 2023).

Paladia Ziss (University of Bristol) Chronotopes of in/exclusion: temporal governance in the Germany-Turkey refugee regime

In this paper I explore how the notion of temporal governance can help us understand differential inclusion, exclusion and membership of refugees in the connected refugee regime of Germany-Turkey. Drawing on policy literature, stakeholder interviews and participant observation with refugees and non-refugees conducted over seven months in Frankfurt and Istanbul in 2021, I describe how refugee reception frameworks in Turkey and Germany employ time to govern who can stay under which conditions (residence) and who can become a "member", legally, discursively and symbolically (integration and citizenship). I show that both states make use of temporal governance: time is a crucial element in differentiating between refugees and citizens. The institution of refuge is principally premised on temporary and restricted residence on state territory. Refugees thus negotiate always being constructed as temporary, "new" and arriving. These ambivalent politics of temporariness and permanence are negotiated through debates about social and political membership, premised on imaginations of homogeneous ethnonational (Germany) or ethnoreligious (Turkey) pasts that render future belonging precarious and partial. Temporal governance is inherent to the legal framework itself, reinforced through bureaucratic implementation, and embedded in shared histories of empire and migration that continue to connect the German and Turkish refugee regimes today. By constructing refugees as on other timelines, outside the temporalities of the state, temporal governance in turn shapes refugees' individual experiences of time, social relations to friends and family, and possibilities for embedding in new communities.

Bio: Dr Paladia Ziss has a PhD in Sociology from the University of Birmingham. She researches the politics and poetics of time, displacement and citizenship using ethnographic and qualitative methods in transnational refugee and non-refugee networks across Germany and Turkey. Prior to her PhD she worked in international development and humanitarian work in Palestine, Germany and Turkey, and she was awarded an MPhil in Development Studies with Distinction from the University of Oxford.

Melissa Gatter (University of Sussex) The age of the camp: locating the refugee camp in a coloniality of time

The violence of the last decade has given rise to the age of the camp, in which host states in the Middle East and Europe have favoured the refugee camp over integration in their management of refugees. These camps have taken on different physical forms but maintain a similar carceral quality, from the rows of prototypical caravans in Jordan, Turkey, and Syria to the Yellow Bubble in Paris and the 'containers' of Calais and even ships on the Italian and English coasts. Putting two years of ethnographic research in Syrian refugee camps in Jordan (2016-2018) in conversation with camps

across the Middle East and Europe, this paper asks how this chain of camp sites collectively write the future of refuge. It considers the refugee camp as a temporal device within an era of global apartheid, an era defined by routine state practices of spatial and temporal division. Specifically, this paper argues that the camp is part and parcel of the ongoing colonisation of time in which linear Eurocentric narratives of modernity continue to marginalise the migrant Other by relegating them to sites that are excluded from citizen time. By naming the camp as a temporal project of exclusion within a coloniality of time—and acknowledging an emerging ‘time of extinction’ punctuated by ongoing genocide in Gaza—this paper poses urgent questions around the future of refuge in a world where the future is reserved for the sovereign.

Bio: Dr Melissa Gatter is a Lecturer in Anthropology and International Development at the University of Sussex, and her research centres on the anthropology of time, forced displacement, and humanitarian aid in the Middle East and US. She has worked and consulted for leading aid agencies in Jordan, where she also conducted extensive ethnographic research in Azraq and Zaatari refugee camps. Melissa is the author of *Time and Power in Azraq Refugee Camp: A Nine-to-Five Emergency* (AUC Press, 2023).

Nerina Boursinou (University of Surrey) & Dr Anna Papoutsi (University of Birmingham) Between the camp and the makerspace: commoning practices, temporal autonomy and care

Abstract: The paper explores the chronopolitics of place-making in the refugee makerspace Habibi-Works and the neighbouring Katsikas refugee camp in Ioannina, in Northern Greece. Camps are created to be ephemeral and this ephemerality is reflected in their materiality and conditions the possibilities available to those that inhabit them. Camp temporalities work by way of destabilising the residents’ sense of self in the present, severing their connections with the past and limiting their future aspirations. In sheer antithesis to the camp, the makerspace disrupts these (temporal) dynamics: it enables the camp residents to manage time as a common resource (commoning), creating autonomous communities of collective care. Through mundane encounters and practices, the makerspace plays an instrumental role in enacting the residents’ autonomy by facilitating access to digital technologies, low-tech manufacturing tools, and skills to reproduce a sense of lost normality. We adopt an ethnographic approach to engage with the makerspace and the camp as well as the various people involved (migrants, volunteers, makers) and understand how migrants narrate their past, negotiate their present and imagine their futures in the context of everyday life. Building on the concepts of peer production, temporal autonomy and radical care, we argue that Habibi-Works opens up a new socio-political space between the camp, the makerspace and the world.

Bios: Dr Maria-Nerina Boursinou is an Interdisciplinary researcher at the intersection of (Forced) Migration, Technology, and Urban studies. She currently works as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Leverhulme News Use Project (2023-2025) at the University of Surrey. Nerina holds a PhD from the School of Media, Communication and Sociology (University of Leicester) where she conducted research on (Forced) Migration, everyday life and ICTs. She is also an Academic Fellow at the Research Centre for the Humanities (RCH) in Greece, an Honorary Fellow at the University of St Andrews and a founding member of the Radical Urban Lab (RUL) where she is co-hosting the podcast *Let’s Step Outside*. Her research interests include migration and media studies, participatory methodologies and research ethics, and the study of the Far-Right.

Dr Anna Papoutsi is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow (2022-2025) at the School of Social Policy. Her project, *Border time: everyday temporal practices in Athens, Berlin, and Liverpool*, aims to unveil, analyse and conceptualise the temporalities of border control and the politics of time involved in migration governance. *Border Time* is designed around three urban casestudies in distinct socio-political contexts: Athens, Berlin, and Liverpool. She is also working on the project ‘Decolonising the City’ (DtC), funded by the Urban Studies Foundation and the Independent Social Research Foundation, working with migrant communities to explore how they practise urban citizenship.

Panel 13 | Comparative Analysis of Logics, Practices, and Transfer Mechanisms in Migration Research

Convenor: Dr Yolanda López García (Chemnitz University of Technology)

Panel abstract: As a multidisciplinary field, migration studies faces a number of challenges in terms of knowledge production and transferability, shaped by socio-economic contexts, power dynamics and political agendas. These challenges, as well as strategies to address them, will be the focus of this panel, which will allow Latin American and European scholars to continue the dialogue on the nexus of migration and crises, initiated in 2020 within the framework of CALAS. In this conference, we would like to critically reflect on how research practices are, should or could be linked to the reality they seek to describe, understand and influence. Particularly in times of polycrisis, we see the urgency to discuss the role of science and scientists, and exchange perspectives and good practices on effective collaboration with key stakeholders at all stages of a study. This includes addressing the often overlooked aspect of translating research results into actionable knowledge. Thus, the three interrelated issues that we will address from different regional perspectives are:

1. The relationship between research and activism in the context of a growing contradiction between ethical principles and political agendas.
2. Participatory research approaches, taking into account different levels and forms of involvement of migrants at the forefront, as well as possible other stakeholders.
3. Different modalities of dissemination of scientific results, in order to give research an impact beyond the boundaries of scientific discourse.

Asmara González Rojas (University of Guadalajara), Doing research in contradictory contexts: (the unbridgeable) gap of the migration issue in Mexico

Abstract: Doing research in contradictory contexts: (the unbridgeable) gap of the migration issue in Mexico. Asmara González Rojas This paper discusses the contradictions between the political discourse on the human rights of migration and the restrictive and violent public policies to prevent it. It will also explore how these contradictions intersect with the research on migration and the dissemination of findings. There is a very different approach to handle privilege migration that clearly shows: first, the influence of the restrictive policy of the USA government in the Mexican decision making; second, the inequity and discrimination among high- and low-income migrants; and third, the situation of the migrant stations (estaciones migratorias) vis a vis the privileged of the richest migrants' neighborhoods. Considering this scenario, and in line with this panel, we will reflect on the positioning of research in the face of these gaps and the socio-political role it assumes when it not only positions itself but also disseminates the results of its analyses.

Bio: Asmara González Rojas holds a PhD in Social Sciences from the University of Guadalajara. MA in International Studies from the University of Sheffield, UK. She is a member of the National System of Researchers. She is currently Associate Research Professor in the Department of Regional Studies - INESER at the University of Guadalajara. Director and editor of the scientific journal Carta Económica Regional. Her research interests are development issues: inequality, ethnicity and public policies in conflict contexts; migration, socio-environmental conflicts; post-development. e-mail: asmara@cucea.udg.mx

Maria Catarina Chitolina Zanini (University of Santa Maria - UFSM), Can interlocutors disagree? Reflections on the potential of collaborative anthropologies in migration studies. Perspectives from Brazil

Abstract: This proposal aims to reflect on the potential of participatory research, as well as its challenges and dynamics in Brazil today. Critically reflecting on the usual distance between researchers and the researched, the author outlines a dialogical, collaborative, participatory anthropology that is

both academically excellent and politically effective. The free preparatory conferences for the II Comigar, National Conference on Migration, Refuge and Statelessness on "Citizenship in Movement", are taken as an object of reflection. Taking place in different places in Brazil, they aim to deepen the debate on the topic, as well as to propose and discuss guidelines. The event is being organised by the Brazilian Ministry of Justice and Public Security and will be held as a national conference in Foz de Iguaçu from 7 to 9 June 2024. In the preparatory phase, the presence of migrants is mandatory, with one third being refugees or stateless migrants.

Bio: Maria Catarina Chitolina Zanini is currently a Full Professor at the Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM) and Associate Researcher at NIEM-UFRJ (Migration Studies Center). She researches in the field of Anthropology, working mainly on: migration, anthropological theory, peasantry and ethnicity. She is a member of Migraidh-UFSM and the Sérgio Vieira de Mello UFSM Chair and develops research, teaching and extension activities on migration and refuge. She is a member of the Brazilian Anthropology Association. e-mail: zanini.ufsm@gmail.com

Luisa Conti (University of Jena) and Mustafa Aksakal (Bielefeld University), Leaving the Ivory Tower: Preparing for a Political Earthquake and Striving for a Sustainable Future – Reflections on the German Context

Abstract: Critically reflecting on the interconnection of science and reality – in particular referring to migration studies – is today extremely relevant and urgent. This paper focusses on the German context. Firstly, it proposes a new assessment of the relationship between research and activism in light of the current political situation, discussing the need to uphold ethical principles and strengthen its transformative stance as anti-democratic forces continue to gain power. Secondly, it presents some examples of participatory research approaches in the field of migration studies, highlighting typical limitations and good practices. Finally, it discusses on the importance of disseminating research findings beyond the traditional academic discourse, presents some examples and reflects on the position of funding bodies such as the BMBF, which are increasingly prioritising it.

Bios: Luisa Conti is a researcher and lecturer at the University of Jena and leads different national and international projects on inclusion/exclusion of migrants in Germany. She is one of the founders of the CALAS dialogue platform on Migration and Crisis and co-editor of the book "Repensando el vínculo entre Migración y Crisis" (veröffentlicht mit CLACSO). She is associate editor of the Journal of Intercultural Education (Taylor & Francis).

Mustafa Aksakal currently works at the Faculty of Sociology, Bielefeld University. He does research in Race, Ethnicity and Political Sociology, Political Economy and Social Theory. He is one of the initiator of CALAS dialogue platform on Migration and Crisis and co-editor of the book "Repensando el vínculo entre Migración y Crisis" (veröffentlicht mit CLACSO).

Virginia Signorini (University of Jena) and Francesca Scarselli (University of Siena), Are you activist enough to do research in politicised contexts? Uncomfortable positionalities and possible solutions in refugee research in Italy

Abstract: It is a well-known fact that doing research in sensitive contexts imposes, on the part of the researcher, a focus on knowing how to position oneself, act ethically, before, during and, after the whole research period. When research ethics is combined with the dimension of activism of the researcher - as he/she comes into contact with politically situated and sensitive contexts - multiple dimensions come into play, putting under the lens of observation no longer who is the object of the research but who is conducting it. Contexts relating to the protection, reception and support of migrants and refugees are undoubtedly the kind of areas where a researcher will have to (or want to) decide which side to be on. Drawing from two field experiences conducted in refugee reception and protection settings in Italy, this abstract will seek to reverse the perspective on the research-activism nexus, bringing back some of the questions that the research field posed to those who entered it to explore, to understand, to research: What kind of anthropologist are you? Do you research reception

systems because you are militant? In questioning the limits and boundaries of research in complex and sensitive contexts, we will reflect on whether and how the dissemination of narratives of rights violations does not become yet another spectacularization of pain but a way to help unveil practices of power and imagine spaces of resistance.

Bio: Virginia Signorini is a researcher with a PhD in Sociology, currently working at the University of Jena. Her research expertise encompasses refugee and migration studies, reception policy frameworks, citizenship theory, border dynamics, and reflexivity in research. Dr. Signorini has a robust background as a social worker, consultant, and trainer, with extensive experience in designing and implementing refugee reception and protection projects across Italy and various European agencies.

Francesca Scarselli holds a PhD in Migration and Intercultural Processes and has worked with various non-governmental organisations, particularly on asylum seekers and refugees. She carried out research in Italy, India and Mexico. She is currently a research fellow at the Department of Social, Political and Cognitive Sciences, University of Siena. Her main research topics are forced and migration studies, diaspora studies, gender studies, life-history.

Panel 14 | Bordering and Debordering in the Americas: Located knowledge, global discussions

Convenor: Dr Esteban Devis-Amaya (Oxford Brookes University)

Panel abstract: As cross-border mobility dynamics across the Americas have become more visible, overlapped, and complex in recent years, diverse bordering and debordering mechanisms have emerged, consolidated, and transformed. The role of authorities, practitioners and people on the move in these processes has been scarcely researched, while a broad set of new analytical questions have emerged alongside. Focused on the observation of broadly-defined, new and old mechanisms of de/bordering across the region, in this panel we are interested in discussing: What can we learn theoretically, conceptually, and methodologically from the diverse ways and forms of de/bordering taking place along the current stage of cross-border mobility in the region? How can we use this located knowledge to contribute to discussions about South-South migrations and to decolonising migration and mobility studies more widely? What new avenues of research and analysis about de/bordering in the region are to be followed in the next years?

Erika Herrera Rosales (University of Warwick) Migrant advocacy, doubt, and silences: migration infrastructures in Mexico during the emergence of the migrant caravans

Abstract: One of the latest chapters in the so-called migrant crisis at the US-Mexico border was the arrival of migrant caravans in 2018. At the time, Donald Trump deployed military troops to stop approximately 7,000 migrants who had been travelling through Mexico. However, the narratives of a migrant crisis at the border have been rendered by US and Mexican authorities since 1981 and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this paper, I explore how discourses of crisis are employed to criminalise migrants from the Global South, especially, Central American migrants. I focus on international and local humanitarian organisations in Mexico that condemn state violence but also reinforce borderwork. In light of this contradiction, I argue that shelters and non-governmental organisations have been aiding, advocating and overall performing practices of support for migrants, however, they have also reproduced bordering practices that disavow colonial, racial and punitive structures that underpin migration infrastructures. Based on nine-month fieldwork in Mexico with migrants and NGOs in three cities –Tapachula, Tijuana and Mexico City – this paper examines the specific mechanisms through which non-state actors reproduce colonial logics and how individuals respond, negotiate and resist them. Through discourses of victimhood and criminal violence from organisations, I identify how migrants are often met with scepticism – a “colonial doubt” – about their identities, mobilities and stories. Moreover, I discuss how this reconfigures migrants’ experiences and agencies, ranging from internationalising ‘illegality’, to defiance and acts of silence.

Natalia Cintra (University of Southampton), Racialising the Venezuelan Displacement in Latin America: Mestizaje vs Creolization

Abstract: With almost 8 billion people displaced worldwide, the Venezuelan displacement is currently the second largest in the world, the majority of which are concentrated in and throughout Latin America. Despite many of the neighbouring countries discursively referring to Venezuelans as 'brothers in need', evidence has shown how Venezuelans have been racialised throughout the countries in the region, determining their displacement experiences, trajectories, decisions and the available responses to them, both *de jure* and in *praxis*. By looking at this apparent paradox, this paper aims to understand under which racial dynamics Venezuelans have been racialised in the region, particularly considering the shared racial and social histories of various countries in Latin America, specifically South America. Using mainly Édouard Glissant's concepts of 'creolization' as opposed to *mestizaje* both to analyse and diagnose the specific racial dynamics between Venezuelans and its main Latin American 'welcoming' societies, this paper will reflect on the narratives of displaced Venezuelan women in the borderlands in Brazil in the context of a three-year long mixed-methods research project between 2020-2023 in order to uncover such paradox and provide an analytical tool to understand the racialisation of Venezuelans in displacement in the region. This specifically contributes to Glissant's concept of orality, an instrument for recovering lived and little-known stories as a fundamental device for the reconstruction of the changing racial dynamics and identities Venezuelans go through and experience in displacement, and the racialised structural and institutional measures that respond to such dynamics.

Mauricio Palma-Gutiérrez (University of Warwick) The Shifting Political Geography of the Darién Gap amid Recent Cross-Border Migration

Abstract: This paper explores the material/discursive transformation of the Darién Gap (Spa. Tapón del Darién) from an indomitable and infrangible "natural border" between South and Central America into a site of multiple contested mobilities, amid diverse ongoing and overlapped humanitarian and migration "crises" in the region. I ask how increased cross-border migration, before and after Covid-19, has transformed the region's political geography, and with what implications. My approach, combining literatures on critical border studies and political geography, focuses on interpreting everyday discussions on how migration transforms this space and vice-versa, through the observation of diverse *de/bordering* procedures. In advancing this view, I consider the political agency of the Darién Gap as substantial in this analysis, introducing a post-human lens into the literature of recent cross-border mobilities in this region. Methodologically, the analysis elaborates on documentary, interpretive analysis with an eclectic set of artifacts produced by a wide set of actors. Ultimately, I aim at challenging dominant historical and contemporary narratives which tend to essentialise the Darién as a geographical gap or "plug" (Spa. Tapón). Instead, I propose to rethink the role of mobility and space as co-constitutive of the shifting political meanings attached to the geography of the region.

Esteban Devis-Amaya (Oxford Brookes University) Racialisation and Aporophobia in South-South migration: the case of Colombia as a migrant receiving county

Abstract: Colombia has historically been known as a country of emigration, rather than immigration, with many of its citizens migrating to neighbouring countries, North America and Europe, escaping violence and economic instability. Nevertheless, Colombia has also received its fair share of migrants, both historically with the migration of individuals from the Levant, and more significantly in recent years, with the arrival of hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans. This paper assesses and compares the experiences these two groups of migrants have had in Colombia and discusses how racial and socio-economic discrimination have impacted their experiences. Arab migration into Latin America was particularly significant between 1890s-1930s, when large numbers of individuals from the Levant migrated to the region. Most studies covering the topic argue that these migrants were largely successful and integrated into the local Latin American elites. However, simultaneously, stories of discrimination and racism appear in interviews to members of the diaspora. Venezuelan migration is

more recent, starting in the early 2000s and intensifying since 2014. Similarly to the previous migration, there are also disparities between some studies and the account of individuals regarding discrimination, racism, and integration. This paper looks at the reasons behind these contrasting accounts of the experiences of individuals by focusing on the socio-economic and racial barriers the migrants have had to overcome, focusing on theories of 'aporophobia', 'pigmentocracy', and migrant desirability to understand the similarities and differences of their integration processes.

Panel 15 | Immigration Detention: Investigating the Persistence of a Failed Project

Convenor: Dr Cetta Mainwaring (University of Edinburgh)

Panel abstract: This panel examines the expansion and diffusion of immigration detention systems, despite evidence that they cause harm and do not deliver stated policy objectives. Immigration detention fails to deter, is disproportionate to immigration control objectives, discriminates on the basis of race, gender and class, and often includes inhuman and degrading treatment. Scholars have highlighted the high financial and human costs of detention that regularly involves the incarceration of already vulnerable adults and children, produces additional vulnerabilities, and harms detained individuals and their families. From the state narratives to the involvement of non-state actors and the sites of incarceration, this panel explores why immigration detention systems are sustained and expand despite their failings, how this continuation is justified, and how it is resisted. The panel focuses on three case studies—Australia, the UK, and US—early adopters of immigration detention and innovators and leaders in the transnational policy field. It asks how we understand the plasticity of detention regimes, alongside an enduring carceral logic, and how detention is resisted at the local, national and international levels.

Cetta Mainwaring (University of Edinburgh), Immigration Detention and Racial Capitalism

Abstract: Immigration detention systems are expanding across the world despite their failure to deter immigration and despite the fact that they regularly involve inhuman and degrading treatment, as well as discrimination on the basis of race, gender and class. This paper investigates why by examining three factors that help us to understand why immigration detention policies continue to be pursued: (1) the ways in which detention acts as a spectacle; (2) the role of different non-state actors that encourage the expansion of detention; and (3) histories of colonialism that connect to current detention policies through their similarly racialized use of violence and incarceration. In doing so, I argue that understanding immigration detention within a framework of racial capitalism allows us to see how the contemporary political economy of immigration detention builds on longer carceral histories of empire.

Bio: Dr Cetta Mainwaring is a Senior Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Edinburgh. Her research interests include migration, borders, solidarity politics, and the Mediterranean. She completed her DPhil in International Relations at the University of Oxford in 2012. Her first award-winning book, *At Europe's Edge: Migration and Crisis the Mediterranean*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2019. She currently holds a UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship examining immigration detention, the way this failed policy travels internationally, and resistance to it in the UK, US, and Australia.

Thom Tyerman (University of Edinburgh), Webs of carcerality: transnational economies of immigration detention and resistance

Abstract: This paper interrogates the impacts of processes of privatisation and financialisation on the global diffusion of immigration detention. Focusing on the USA, UK, and Australia, it examines the role private corporations and financial interests play in the promotion and spread of detention infrastructures and deterrence logics internationally. In doing so, it details how detention economies are imbricated with those of border security, policing, militarisation, and the prison, weaving a web of

carcerality within and between these countries. This provides valuable insights into the mutual reinforcement of outsourcing and externalisation processes and the role of immigration detention in the transnationalisation of migration governance. Furthermore, tracing the international webs of carceral economies raises important questions about the entanglement of racial capitalism, sovereign power, and neoliberal statecraft. Finally, drawing on fieldwork with civil society actors, the paper concludes by asking how these insights might inform strategies of detention abolition and resistance to border violence.

Bio: Dr Thom Tyerman is a Research Fellow in International Relations at the University of Edinburgh. He completed his PhD at University of Manchester in 2016. His research draws on postcolonial, everyday/vernacular, and activist theories and positionalities to examine borders and migrant solidarity politics. He has focused on the UK/Channel context for many years and is currently a research fellow on UKRI project 'Immigration Detention: Investigating the Expansion and Global Diffusion of a Failed Project'. His first book (2022) *Everyday Border Struggles: Segregation and Solidarity in the UK and Calais* was shortlisted for the BISA L.H.M. Ling First Book Prize.

Andonea Dickson (University of Edinburgh) Recycled Sites of Incarceration

Abstract: Contemporary sites of closed immigration detention across the US, the UK, and Australia are defined by hostile, carceral infrastructures designed to separate and contain. Despite purportedly detaining immigrant populations for administrative purposes, detention centres appear as prisons that distance non-citizens from frameworks of rights and operate with high rates of physical and emotional abuse. These centres are interesting sites of analysis in and of themselves. They often have uses that precede that of immigration detention, with many centres previously functioning as military bases, weapons testing grounds, quarantines, or prisons. This paper focuses on repurposed sites of confinement in migration governance, investigating what the recycling of these spaces reveals to us of the sinewy web that connects the current management of immigrant populations to histories of race, empire, and militarism. The paper will examine the physical infrastructures and geographic locations of these recycled centres and what the repurposing of these sites reveals of the interplay between social systems of domination.

Bio: Dr Andonea Dickson is a Research Fellow in International Relations at the University of Edinburgh. Her research focuses on migration, borders, and carcerality. Andonea completed a DPhil in International Relations at Queen Mary University of London in 2021. Her PhD examined the evolving practices of migration governance at sea and the ad hoc strategies of control that work to contain migrants in maritime geographies and the carcerality of such practices. Andonea is presently a research fellow on the UKRI project 'Immigration Detention: Investigating the Expansion and Global Diffusion of a Failed Project'.

Saskia Smellie (University of Edinburgh) Justifying a Failed Policy Approach: Prevailing Narratives on Immigration Detention in the UK

Abstract: Scholarship has highlighted the high financial and human costs of immigration detention. Nevertheless, the immigration detention system in the UK has persisted and expanded in the last decades. Building on scholarship on how migration narratives shape and are deployed in political debate and policy (Smellie & Boswell 2023), this paper traces narratives on immigration detention in the UK over time. Focusing on public political debate and policy from the 1971 Immigration Act to the 2022 Nationality and Borders Act, particular attention is paid to narratives during five critical junctures in the development of the UK's detention system. By identifying the dominant narratives in parliamentary debates, legislation and media coverage during episodes of intense political debate, this article provides new insight into the impact of public and political discourses on the continued use and expansion of immigration detention. The paper finds that narratives on detention in British politics and policy are deeply embedded in long-standing national public philosophies on the need to control immigration, deterrence and established beliefs regarding desirable/undesirable migration and the deserving/undeserving migrant.

Bio: Dr Saskia Smellie is a Research Fellow in Politics and International Relations at the University of Edinburgh. She holds a PhD from the University of Edinburgh and specialises in comparative immigration policy, migration crises and diplomacy, 'responsibility-sharing' in Europe, and decision-making processes from a foreign policy analysis perspective. She lectures on Europe and international migration and has experience consulting the Scottish Government on migration policy. Saskia recently led research on migration narratives in political debate and policymaking in six European countries on the Horizon2020 BRIDGES project and is currently working on the UKRI project 'Immigration Detention: Investigating the Expansion and Global Diffusion of a Failed Project', focusing on the UK.

Panel 16 | Coloniality of migration and citizenship

Michaela Benson (Lancaster University) & Nando Sigona (University of Birmingham). Reimagining, rebordering, repositioning: intersections of the biopolitical and geopolitical in the UK's post-Brexit migration regime

Abstract: This article casts light on the relationship between Brexit and the alternative ideological project put forward of a 'Global Britain', and the politics of migration and migration governance after Brexit. In the wake of Brexit, the migration regime has become increasingly fragmented, complex and contradictory. Through a set of examples—the bespoke humanitarian visas offered to the people of Hong Kong and Ukraine; bilateral mobility agreements within post-Brexit trade deals; deportations and detentions—we draw attention to how the Government seeks to pick and choose who comes to the UK and on what terms, as well as who is forcibly removed from the UK, while also highlighting the nexus between these shifts in the migration regime and the new geopolitical ambitions and obstacles the country is facing in its post-Brexit era. As we argue, making sense of this requires shifting our perspective towards the interplay of biopolitics and geopolitics in the making of migration governance after Brexit. The perspective we propose here offers a heuristic lens through which to interpret the production of stratified routes to entry and settlement in the UK and differentiated rights among those who—in the eyes of the state—are migrants.

Bios: Michaela Benson is Professor in Public Sociology at Lancaster University. She is particularly known for her research on lifestyle migration, Brexit and migration. Her recent research includes ESRC-funded projects on Brexit and British citizens in the EU, migration to and from the UK after Brexit, and a British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship for her research into Britain and its overseas citizens. In recent years, she has developed a profile as a public social science communicator, with a portfolio that includes freelance writing for major outlets, public speaking, and the podcast *Who do we think we are?* (<https://whodowethinkweare.org>).

Professor Nando Sigona is Chair of International Migration and Forced Displacement at the University of Birmingham and Director of the Institute for Research into International Migration and Superdiversity (IRiS). He is also Research Associate at the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford and Senior Research Associate at ODI.

Agnieszka Radziwinowiczówna (University of Warsaw) 'Nobody had their back': the differentiated deportability of racialised Central and Eastern Europeans in the UK before Brexit

Abstract: In this paper I demonstrate how – under the same regulations – some social groups are more vulnerable to bordering than others. I analyse the case of the deportation of EU citizens from the United Kingdom before the abandonment of the principle of EU free movement. My analysis of the law-practice continuum includes law-on-the-books (UK legislation) and law-in-action (primary research among deportees, EU migrants and experts). My analysis finds that before Brexit, the UK introduced laws, policies and practices that made possible the deportation of large numbers of EU citizens. What I call 'differentiated deportability' targeted especially racialised, low- or no-income and working-class men from Central and Eastern European Union, including, but not limited to, Roma people. UK law and practice mobilised crimmigration against vilified poor Europeans, with criminal and immigration legislation converging to facilitate their expulsion. I explain how the illegalisation and criminalisation

of 1) Central and Eastern European Union citizens with criminal convictions; and 2) CEEU citizen rough sleepers contributed to their deportability. The UK deportation regime took active steps to deport these groups (including by creating the 'abuse/misuse'-of-right policy targeting rough sleepers); the treatment they received from UK criminal justice system (high sentencing, lack of free legal aid in deportation cases) heightened their deportability. In a coda, I conclude that that this differentiated deportability of CEEU nationals can be viewed as prefiguring post-Brexit deportation policy in the UK.

Bio: Dr Agnieszka Radziwinowiczówna is assistant professor at the Centre of Migration Research at the University of Warsaw and honorary research fellow at the University of Wolverhampton. A social anthropologist and Latin Americanist by training, she holds a PhD in sociology from the University of Warsaw. She has published on deportations from the USA to Mexico and the UK to the EU, and co-authored the books 'Ethnomorality of care' and 'Migrants as agents of change'. She is the editor of the book 'Research methods in deportation: The power-knowledge approach' (Edward Elgar, 2024).

Aleksandra Lewicki (University of Sussex), Coloniality, Race and Europeanness: Britain's Borders after Brexit

Abstract: The scholarship on the politics of immigration often frames governments' responses to far-right mobilisation as a return to border closures and a rowing back on neoliberalism. In this article, I draw on and expand the scholarship on coloniality to address the limitations of this diagnosis. Specifically, I explore the role of political mobilisation in the making of the post-Brexit border regime. My research draws on the analysis of legal and policy initiatives between 2020-2023 and 25 research interviews with individuals who express their opposition to immigration via engagement in think tanks, grassroots organisations and vigilante groups. The interview data indicates multiple connections between these milieus and shows that each engages in action repertoires beyond the nation-state. And while this prompts border closures, the post-Brexit border regime also encodes openings and loopholes for the circulation of financial elites and precariously employed workers. Thus, I argue that state and non-state actors co-produce a neoliberal border regime of stratified rights, partial inclusions, and gradual exclusions. These variegated entitlements draw on and reinvigorate the racial order of coloniality. The post-Brexit immigration regime enables the free mobility of those racialised as 'West European', facilitates disposable labour mobility of those racialised as 'Eastern European', and restricts the movement of those racialised as 'non-European'. This racial imaginary does not only operate via binary distinctions of (non)-Britishness but puts people in complex hierarchical relations of 'Europeanness'.

Bio: Dr Aleksandra Lewicki is Director of the Sussex European Institute and Reader in Sociology at the University of Sussex. Her work investigates boundary-making and structural inequalities in postcolonial Europe. Specifically, she is interested in political mobilisation, and the role institutions play in crafting and sustaining categories of difference. She has written on citizenship and activism, institutional racism in the welfare state, and the (often ambiguous) racialisation of people positioned as 'Muslims' or 'Eastern Europeans' in Britain and Germany. She has published in leading journals such as Sociology, The Sociological Review, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, Patterns of Prejudice, Citizenship Studies and Ethnic and Racial Studies.

Kate Botterill, David McCollum, Daniela Sime, Bozena Sojka (University of Glasgow, University of St. Andrews, University of Strathclyde, Swansea University), Geopolitics as 'background noise': emotional labours and future proofing among young Europeans in post-Brexit Britain

Abstract: Based on an ESRC-funded study on Young European's post-migration transitions and pathways to citizenship in post-Brexit Britain, this paper considers how young Europeans (aged 16-26) navigate life in the UK amidst changing border regimes and the increasingly polarising political climate on immigration (within and beyond Europe). We draw empirically on longitudinal survey data (2023-24) and 50+ interviews with young Europeans across Britain. Our research shows that whilst young people's narratives are dominated by expressions of optimism and resilience to the geopolitical 'ruptures' they encounter (e.g. Brexit, Covid-19 Pandemic, Russian invasion of Ukraine), many young

Europeans also refer to a lurking discomfort with life in the UK directly connected to the associated legal-bureaucratic, economic and political regimes they now inhabit. Conceptually guided by feminist political geography, we draw on a 'situated intersectional bordering' approach (Cassidy et al, 2018) alongside 'intimacy-geopolitics' (Pain and Staeheli, 2014) to analyse not only how global events are mapped onto everyday lives but what kinds of enduring, racialised labour is required and performed by young people to tune out the background noise of geopolitical threats/fears and 'find a way through'. As such, we argue that young Europeans, re-imagined as an homogenised labour force for the future of 'Global Britain', are mapping their own futures and already engaged in diverse, racialised and unequal forms of silenced labour (e.g. emotional, intergenerational, economic, political).

Bios: Kate Botterill is a critical migration researcher and Senior Lecturer in the School of Geographical and Earth Sciences at the University of Glasgow. Her research focuses on youth migration, citizenship and (ontological) security, particularly the impact of securitisation and the migration state on youth futures. Kate currently leads an ESRC-funded longitudinal study exploring the post-migration transitions and pathways to citizenship of young Europeans in post-Brexit Britain. Since graduating from Newcastle University in 2012 she has published research on Polish youth migration in Brexit Britain, the 'everyday geopolitics' for young racialised minorities and lifestyle migration in East Asia.

David McCollum is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Geography and Sustainable Development at the University of St Andrews. Since gaining his PhD in 2010, he has worked on research projects for the ESRC Centre for Population Change (labour market aspects of East-Central European migration to the UK), the UK Government Office for Science (environmental mobility) and the Centre for Housing Research at the University of St Andrews (intergenerational justice and family welfare).

Daniela Sime is Professor of Youth, Migration and Social Justice in the School of Social Work & Social Policy at the University of Strathclyde. Daniela's research interests include young people's rights and participation, tackling social inequalities, migration policies and migrants' rights and the inclusion of traditionally marginalised groups. She has led several research projects involving young people and their families, with funding from the Economic and Social Research Council, British Academy, Save the Children and the Scottish Government.

Bozena Sojka holds a PhD in Human Geography from Swansea University. She joined the School of Geographical & Earth Sciences at the University of Glasgow in August 2022. Her research focuses on the geographies of migration and youth, with a particular emphasis on the transition experiences of young migrants and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the UK. Previously, she also investigated their access to social security and the challenges they encounter during their integration process.

Panel 17 | Queering the UK Border

Convenors: Dr Patrick Vernon and Pip McKnight

Panel abstract: It is well documented that LGBTQ+ forced migrants face a unique set of challenges when negotiating borders, especially when they are seeking asylum based on their sexuality or gender identity. In particular, they are often forced to perform homonormative, homonationalist or cisnormative stereotypes in order to be considered a legitimate candidate for asylum in Western states. Simultaneously, a moral panic surrounding migration to Western states and the existence of trans/gender non-conforming people has meant that borders (plural) are becoming increasingly fortified and extended into new areas of social and political life, including healthcare and education systems, the media, and everyday interactions. By 'queering' the border, this panel focuses on both LGBTQ+ and migrant communities' experiences of in/formal bordering processes, and on the use of queer theory to radically destabilise the naturalised existence of the border and the state. Doing so, it emphasises the urgency of using a coalition of queer approaches to highlight the imbrication of sexual and gendered normativities in bordering processes and reflects on possibilities for building solidarity and resistance in complex socio-political contexts.

Patrick J. Vernon (King's College London) Queering Carcerality: A Study of Media Representations of Trans and Migrant Communities

Abstract: With an increase in migrants crossing the English Channel in small boats and a right-wing government determined to reduce, and arguably scapegoat, people seeking asylum to the UK, the figure of 'the illegal (im)migrant' has been constructed as a figure of ultimate threat by British policymakers and the media in recent years. This has legitimised policies such as the controversial 'Rwanda Scheme', in which men seeking asylum will be sent to Rwanda whilst their claims are being assessed. Concurrently, and with an increasing intensity, a culture war debate which depicts trans women as sexual predators who are attempting to invade 'women's spaces' has emerged, again fuelled by both policymakers and a hostile media environment. This has also had severe impacts upon trans* communities, with 'women's safety' being cited as a reason for the UK Government blocking the Scottish Gender Reform Bill (2023). Looking at these two cultural figures as depicted in a range of media discourses from Jan-October 2023, this project unpacks and compares representations of them both. Drawing upon queer, feminist, decolonial, and trans* insights as appropriate, the paper interrogates the extent to which depictions of them invading perceived 'protected spaces' (i.e. 'the Women's Only Prison' or 'the British homeland') operate through the same logics, what this says about the politics of carcerality, the character of British political discourse, and dominant understandings of the nation itself.

Bio: Patrick J. Vernon is a Lecturer in Gender and War Studies at King's College London. Their research studies gendered, sexual and racialised representations in discourses and practices of security. They are particularly interested in the study of political violence from the micro to the global level, having researched topics including online abuse, hostile media representations of minoritised groups, bordering practices, genocide, and humanitarian intervention. Patrick has published work in journals including *Millennium*, *International Studies Review*, *International Political Sociology*, and *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations*.

Pip McKnight and Dawn River (University of Birmingham) Between a rock and a hard place: expectations of performance and participation in SOGI asylum claims

Abstract: In June 2022, the Belfast Pride parade was led for the first time by a group of LGBTQIA+ asylum seekers and refugees. Although finally safe to do so according to the letter of UK law, many participants felt compelled to cover their faces as the public celebration of their sexual or gender identity was complex and not without risk. Participation in UK LGBTQIA+ culture is almost a requirement in Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) asylum claims. In a system which assumes heterosexuality as default, the burden of proof falls to claimants to provide evidence of sexual or gender orientation based on Western conceptions of relationships and stereotypes of how queerness is performed. In this paper we use data from the SEREDA research programme into forced migration and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to explore how survivors traverse in/visibility, past and present trauma, and hetero/homonormativity to make their case for protection. We argue that the UK

Bios: Pip McKnight is a Research and Impact Fellow in the School of Social Policy, ESRC-funded PhD candidate and IRIS member. A registered midwife, Pip's research interests in forced migration, gender and reproductive health inequalities are informed by a clinical background in providing maternity care and advocacy for pregnant asylum seekers.

Dawn River is the Director of Education and International Lead for the Department of Social Work and Social Care at the University of Birmingham. She is a registered social worker and participates in community projects supporting people seeking refuge and asylum. Dawn identifies as a queer academic and is committed to giving voice to the experience of LGBTQIA+ people.

Claire Fletcher (Solent University) Heteronormative Accommodations: asylum policy making and the creation of hostile spaces for LGBTQ+ people in the asylum process.



Abstract: The UK Government has increasingly sought to impose greater control on people moving through the asylum process. A particularly pernicious element of this can be seen in the recent developments of its asylum accommodation policy. This paper explores how these policy developments have created hostile spaces for LGBTQ+ people housed in asylum accommodation. Recent developments in asylum housing policy are ever more exclusionary in design, focusing on the procurement of large-scale accommodation sites, self-contained sites, and expanding the detention estate and contain and restrict the mobilities of people seeking asylum. I argue that these policies, whilst having hostile outcomes for all people seeking safety, put LGBTQ+ people at particular risk of harm and violence. Despite this risk, a recent report by the National Audit Office noted that the Government's position towards LGBTQ+ people accommodated in the asylum housing estate was to acknowledge that, while there may be a risk to this group, the Home Office 'considered that any indirect discrimination that might arise was proportionate to achieving its policy aims.' This stance leaves LGBTQ+ people living in these spaces to face daily negotiations regarding their queer subjectivity and requires people to draw on heteronormative strategies of in/visibility to keep themselves safe. However, this is indirect contradiction to the requirements within the legal asylum process where sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) claimants are expected to perform and comply with homonormative stereotypes in the global North to be accepted as credibly queer and eligible for state protection. I therefore argue that hostile accommodation space creates an additional barrier for LGBTQ+ people seeking protection.

Bio: Claire Fletcher is a Lecturer in Sociology at Solent University. She recently completed her PhD at University College London which was funded by the ESRC. Claire's research explored the experiences of religion for LGBTQ+ people seeking asylum. Alongside her academic work Claire has worked and volunteered in refugee organisations since 2014 with specific experience in supporting LGBTQ+ people who are impacted by the UK asylum system.

Panel 18: 'Migranticizations' in an Aging Demographic Context: Intersectional Perspectives on the Social Construction of Migrants

Panel abstract: Migration has often been cited as one of the solutions in addressing the multifaceted challenges posed by population ageing, yet the categorisation of migrants remains ambiguous within the broader context of global inequalities, ageing populations, and labour shortages in Europe. In our panel, we embark on a collective exploration of the intricate web of factors at play. We investigate the interplay between migration dynamics, regional policies, and evolving social factors within the complex shifting landscape of demographic ageing. Our panel places a particular emphasis on intersectional issues such as gender, class, and race. We seek to unearth a deeper understanding of how these multifaceted dimensions influence perceptions, categorisations, and the broader narratives surrounding the roles migrants assume in both labour markets and society at large. Our discussions revolve around the interconnected themes related to the social construction of "migrants'" roles, casting light on issues such as notions and categories of citizenship, affinity, deservingness and "wanted" and "unwanted" migration while also focussing on dynamics of inclusion/exclusions, intersectionality and the subjectivities emerging within these broader realities. Our panel brings together diverse insights, empirical research, and perspectives from different European contexts. By delving into these complex interactions, we hope to contribute to a more nuanced and informed discussion on the impact of demographic ageing on migration and the lived experiences of migrants.

Johanna Bastian (DeZIM-Institute), What makes a labour migrant? Young migrants positioning in neoliberal work and life worlds

Abstract: Young peoples' perspectives and strategies they employ to navigate their position on the labour market in the context of demographic ageing and the neoliberal structuring of society.

Bio: Ms Johanna Bastian: With a background in cultural geography, feminist theory and participatory research approaches, Johanna Bastian is interested in the interplay of emotions, relationships and space. In her doctoral thesis at the Humboldt University (Berlin), she looks at friendship networks and the politics of belonging in the context of translocal migration trajectories. She is currently working in an international project on the “Life Strategies of Young Migrants in Ageing Society” at the German Centre for Integration- and Migration Research.

Emmanuel Charmillot (University of Neuchâtel), Filling labour shortages in aging societies through international mobility? Ethics and governance of migration in the Swiss case

Abstract: This paper examines the ethical challenges of utilizing migrantized workers in sectors like healthcare in aging European societies, focusing on Switzerland and addressing diverse

Bio: Dr. Emmanuel Charmillot Emmanuel Charmillot is currently working as a postdoctoral researcher at the Laboratoire d'études des processus sociaux of the University of Neuchâtel. Emmanuel received his PhD in 2023 at the Laboratoire d'études des processus sociaux and the National Center of Competence in Research – at the University of Neuchâtel. Inspired by critical and reflexive studies on migration, Emmanuel's thesis proposes an in-depth analysis of the social organization of difference in a Swiss valley at the interface of different forms of mobility and lived and situated experiences of peripherality.

Melanie Fleisch (MCI Innsbruck) and Dr Lukas Kerschbaumer (MCI Innsbruck), Categorization and Differentiation Strategies among Young Labor Migrants in an Aging Austria: An Intersectional Perspective

Abstract: The article examines how policymakers, employers, and societal institutions categorize young labor migrants in Austria amid demographic shifts and labor shortages, with a focus on young migrant perspectives and experiences related to these categories.

Bios: Dr. Lukas Kerschbaumer earned his Ph.D. in Sociology from Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich in 2023. His research spans social dynamics, long-term unemployment, poverty, qualitative methods, and refugee and youth integration in the labor market. He previously worked at the Institute for Employment Research (IAB) in Nuremberg, contributing to projects on labor market, social security, and unemployment. He conducts research on social contexts' influence on health at MCI | The Entrepreneurial School, where he heads the Nonprofit, Social, and Health Management programme.

Melanie Fleisch is a Ph.D. candidate in the Sociology department at the University of Innsbruck. Her research interests focus on power and inequality dynamics, agency concepts, and intersectional discrimination dynamics in institutions. In her dissertation project, she explores the construction of the 'other' and the agency of individual actors in the context of Austrian labor migration. Currently, Melanie works as a project collaborator at the 'Center for Social and Health Innovation,' is a member of the Social Theory Research Center, and serves as an external lecturer.

Camilla Spadavecchia and Juan Sebastian Olier (Tilburg University), Visual Narratives of Migration: A Comparative Analysis Unveiling Emotional Depictions and Socioeconomic Influences Across Countries

Abstract: Amidst dynamic geopolitical shifts and growing power imbalances, understanding the visual narratives surrounding migration across various countries becomes increasingly critical. This conference presentation delves into findings from two sequential studies aimed at comprehending the visual portrayal of distinct migrant groups in diverse global contexts. The first study examines the visual representation of three migrant categories, namely migrants, refugees, and expatriates, in 10 countries. It explores the power dynamics inherent in these categories and discerns discrepancies in emotional depictions. Through an AI-based analysis of gender, age, and physical attributes, the study uncovers nuanced differences in the portrayal of these groups, where negative emotions are predominant and several stereotypes are evidenced. The second study focused on the relationship

between socioeconomic factors and immigrants' representation in media images across 45 countries. We analyzed indicators such as perception of corruption, GDP per capita, and income inequality to understand how they are associated with the visual discourse of immigration in media. Our results showed that corruption scores and GDP per capita significantly predict the emotional content of media images related to immigrants, aligning with theories indicating that higher perceived competition for resources due to inequality or scarcity can translate into immigrants being seen as threatening out-groups. We also found that these factors mediate the relationship between income inequality and emotional information in images. Lastly, results also show gender differences in emotional representation, with negative emotions being more prevalent in pictures associated with immigrant men than those associated with women.

Bio: Camilla Spadavecchia: I am an Assistant Professor and Academic Director at the Department of Culture Studies at Tilburg University. My research primarily focuses on migration and gender, and I am particularly interested in studying migration well-being, entrepreneurship, policies, and visual representation of migration. In my studies, I apply an intersectional lens of analysis to better understand power dynamics and how these dynamics shape policies.

Juan Sebastian Olier: I am an assistant professor at the Department of Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence at Tilburg University. My research focuses on applying and developing Artificial Intelligence methods to harvest insights from data related to social phenomena. I am enthusiastic about interdisciplinary perspectives and endeavors to define and address problems and achieve deeper understandings.

Panel 19 | Narrating migration, writing journeys, mobilising identities

Peter Auger (University of Birmingham), Foreign-Language Publication and the History of Migration

Abstract: Thousands of books were written in languages we now consider foreign to their country of publication in the first centuries of print. They are an essential resource for understanding how the mobility of people, texts, and ideas shaped how people once lived and communicated. Yet they have scarcely been studied because they fall outside a dominant intellectual and disciplinary framework that treats each modern nation-state as having a settled national literature in one language only. This talk sets out some of the barriers to using foreign-language publications as evidence for studying migration and diversity of the past. It also explores how we might overcome them, taking the activities of Huguenot (French Protestant) refugees in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century England as an example.

Bio: Peter Auger is Lecturer in Early Modern Literature at the University of Birmingham. His research interests centre on the relation between literature, power and cross-channel mobility in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century England, Scotland and France.

Chrysi Kyratsou (Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick), Mobilising Identities through Music: Performance of (Forced) Migration Narratives as a Means to Establish Selfhood across Borders

Abstract: Nation-states as the prevalent form of organization of modern societies determine the frames within (im)mobilities take place. By regulating any movement across their borders, they shape the linearities pertaining spatial movement. Furthermore, they sponsor legitimate forms of (non-)belonging, as the latter are expressed in the various forms of socio-political and legal status, and the respective capacity entailed to be (in)audible and (in)visible. The rigidity of this paradigm is challenged by the relentless human and cultural mobilities that shape continua, form pockets of shared cultural norms and experiences, and in turn, facilitate possibilities for cross-borders common patterns. Forced migration poses a distinct mode of (im)mobility, as it unfolds across two poles of non-belonging, the home and host settings. In this context, it emerges as particularly complex and urgent to understand,

the fashions in which humans choose to situate themselves, (non-)performing certain (aspects of) their identities, and thus indicating the underpinning politics. This paper focuses on refugee musicians and their performances, and it considers their creative practice as a means to navigate the multiple borders underpinning their (forced) migration experience. It examines the agentic choice of the repertoire they perform, as a means to encounter with the audience addressed each time, and as a site of enacting identity politics. Furthermore, it shows that concerts are a site of negotiation between chosen and imposed identities, performed amidst the musicians-audience dipole and the constant ‘feedback’ underpinning their relation. The paper foregrounds human actors and their creative (re)construction of (forced)migration by means of music performance.

Bio: Chrysi Kyratsou is a Postdoctoral Research at the project MUSPACE, Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick. She previously held an Irish Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship at UCD School of Music. She holds a PhD in Anthropology from Queen's University Belfast, and degrees in Musicology, Music Education, and Ethnomusicology. Her research interests comprise musicking, encounters, (im)mobilities, (non)belonging. Chrysi's fieldwork research into refugees' sheltering in reception centres explores how refugees' aesthetic agencies are informed by their shifting backgrounds in which they live, and how they shape their sociality.

Abida Younas (University of Warwick), Narrating the Less-than-Human Journey of Refugees in Refugee Literature

Abstract: This paper discusses refugee narratives to illustrate the way necropower is exercised on borderscapes where life is presented at its extreme limit. At these borderscapes, humans and non-humans meet to form lesser-than-fully-human subjects. They are not recognized by the state – neither their own country nor the host society, and hence cannot claim human rights. The border thus works to categorize human beings as non-people who remain in the Fanonian's zone-of-nonbeing, and Mbembe's death worlds. The refugee camps erected on borders, which I call borderscapes, are a place of pause for refugees where they will stay momentarily before heading to their new home. This place of pause eventually became a concentration camp where they permanently settled not only with defined boundaries but also administered. While some critics like A.A.Gill call refugee camps cities, makeshift cities, or cities-in-the-making, I argue that refugee camp is a necrocity that denies free movement to refugees, access to the citizens' space, and the status of being full humans as revealed in Behrouz Boochani's *No Friends But the Mountains* and Atia Abawi's *A Land of Permanent Goodbyes*. This paper maps the refugee journey and settlement to investigate how refugee camps act as necrocities in the heart of biopolitical states. Working at the intersection of refugee narratives, immigration law, human rights discourse, biopolitics, heterotopia, and necrocities, this paper argues that refugee narratives expose the ontological negation of refugees, illustrating the way Western countries disregard the 1951 UN Refugee Convention.

Bio: I am a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the University of Warwick, UK. My major interest lies in researching newer possibilities and I like to explore new areas related to the current situation of Postcolonial countries (South Asian and Middle Eastern Countries) and its effect on contemporary literature. My monograph reads contemporary Anglo-Arab writing through a critical-theoretical framework of Deleuze and Guattari to revise the concept of minor literature according to the emerging postcolonial literature. Along with publication in different journals, I have delivered talks at different International and National conferences held in Pakistan, the UK, Europe, and the USA.

Núria Codina (KU Leuven) and Anna Sofia Churchill (KU Leuven), Writing With and Writing Against: Political Effects of Transnational and In-Group Collaboration in Contexts of Migration

Abstract: Responding to what concepts and theories are needed to address challenges and opportunities of migration-driven diversity, as part of the interdisciplinary ERC StG Project COLLAB, we explore implications of collaborative writing to redefine notions of collective national and transnational belonging. Using literature as a tool that can influence processes of nation-building, we counterpoise the political effects of transnational and in-group collaborations in contexts of migration

and displacement. Focusing on the UK, we compare the transnationally co-authored memoir, *The Lightless Sky: A Twelve-Year Old Refugee's Extraordinary Journey Across Half the World* (2019), by Gulwali Passarlay and Nadene Ghouri, and the in-group anthology, *The Good Immigrant* (2012), edited by Nikesh Shukla, to analyse quotidian experiences of migration and relationships to the nation. Whilst the memoir employs self-narration to provide an inclusive, multicultural account of nationhood, the anthology runs against the homogenizing effect of the memoir by compiling voices of disparate origins positioning themselves outside of nation state institutions. Exemplifying transnational collaboration, *The Lightless Sky* juggles critique of the UK's asylum system with emphasis on linguistic and cultural integration. Whereas *The Lightless Sky* criticizes exclusionary politics and upholds the nation as a common framework for collective belonging across ethnic divides, *The Good Immigrant* uses the anthological form to circumvent the British "old boys' network" by demarcating its own in-group network of BAME contributors thus redefining British national identity by way of both inclusion and exclusion. Comparatively analysing narratives of collaboration by combining theoretical frameworks from the social sciences, political theory and literary studies, we explore the limitations and opportunities of writing with and against to understand the complexities of multicultural conviviality in the UK.

Bios: Núria Codina is an assistant professor at the University of Leuven and the Principal Investigator of the ERC Starting Grant project "Making Migrant Voices Heard through Literature: How Collaboration Is Changing the Cultural Field" (COLLAB), which looks at a wide array of collaborative practices for making literature in contexts of migration and displacement. Her previous research, funded by the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), studied the role of multilingualism and refugee writing in contemporary world literature.

Anna Sofia Churchill is a PhD candidate in Translation Studies on the ERC Starting Grant Project COLLAB: "Collaborative Practices of Making Literature in Contexts of Displacement and Migration" at KU Leuven. Prior to this, she obtained a MA (summa cum laude) in English Linguistics and Literature at KU Leuven and worked as a professionally trained opera singer (MMus, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland) in the UK and France."

Panel 20 | Civil society actors and actions in SD neighbourhoods and arrival areas: inclusion and integration in conditions of superdiversity and socioeconomic marginalization

Convenor: Gabriella Elgenius, University of Gothenburg

Panel abstract: How and why do civil society support integration in SD neighbourhoods support integration. This paper responds to questions about how and why civil society supports integration in superdiverse neighbourhoods or the mechanisms and conditions under which civil society operates, the activities provided and the ways of working. The mechanisms include different types of social capital generated (bonding, bridging, and linking) and how they correspond to formal and informal civil society action. The conditions of civil society include the nature of local opportunity structures, the barriers faced, the factors actors identify as challenging to their organisations. The material for this paper is based on an extensive dataset compiled 2019 – 2023, the micro mapping of civil society action and interviews with over 200 representatives in seven superdiverse areas in England and Sweden.

Gabriella Elgenius (University of Gothenburg) (with Jenny Phillimore), How and why do civil society support integration in SD neighbourhoods support integration

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Bio: Gabriella Elgenius is Professor of Sociology at the Department of Sociology and Work Science at the University of Gothenburg. She is Co-Director for the Swedish Research Council's Graduate School in Migration and Integration.

Jenny Phillimore (University of Birmingham), Small scale civil society activity in superdiverse areas: uncovering actions and resources

Abstract: In this paper we ask, 'what kinds of voluntary sector organisations exist in superdiverse (SD) areas and how does their use of resources reflect what is known about the wider voluntary sector?' Considerable attention has been given to grassroots and small voluntary and non-profit organisations in the US, but less so in Europe (Waters and Davidson 2018). Existing studies attend largely to organisations serving a single homogenized 'group' or context (Maton 2000). Yet scholars have acknowledged the emergence of unprecedented socio-demographic changes under conditions of superdiversity and questions have been raised about how the voluntary sector has evolved to represent superdiverse populations (Vertovec 2008; Vertovec and Meissner 2015). We use data from SD neighbourhoods in England and Sweden to begin to remedy the deficit in knowledge by uncovering a hidden aspect of civil society.

Bio: Jenny Phillimore is Professor of Migration and Superdiversity at the Department of Social Policy, Sociology and Criminology. She is the founder of IRIS.

Susanne Wessendorf and Tamlyn Monson (Coventry University) Infrastructures of Care in the Context of Migrant Arrival.

Recent literature has highlighted the importance of locality in migrant arrival, showing the crucial role of place-based opportunity structures, also conceptualised as 'arrival infrastructures', in migrants' ability to access resources. These consist of, for example, civil society organisations, religious sites, cafés, and publicly funded places like libraries. Drawing on ethnographic research in East London, this paper analyses the opportunities and barriers migrants encounter in accessing support. It shows how individual factors such as cultural and social capital, combined with systemic barriers, differently shape access to support. It also highlights the crucial role of 'brokers' who form part of arrival infrastructures, ranging from civil society actors to pastors, shopkeepers, and street-level bureaucrats. By drawing on 'infrastructures of care' this paper highlights how it is often thanks to these acts of informal care that newcomers manage to forge a living.

Bios: Susanne Wessendorf is a Professor of Social Anthropology at Coventry University's Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations.

Tamlyn Monson is a post-doctoral research fellow at Coventry University's Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations.

Panel 21 | Climate security, human mobility and the coloniality of humanitarianism

Bia Silveira Carneiro and Giulia Tucci (Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT) Mapping public debates about the climate security-human mobility nexus in Mozambique: a social media analysis

Abstract: The intersection between climate, peace and security, and human mobility has received increased attention in global research, policy, and practice, with the scientific community recognising that the effects of climate change-induced stresses on mobility and immobility are heavily context-

specific. Investigating the evolving public discourses on these issues, can provide insights into key priorities, concerns, and framings among the general public, affected populations, as well as the diverse actors engaged with these communities. This paper uses online issue mapping to explore two research questions: 1) How is human mobility in Mozambique represented in local and international social media conversations? 2) What associations between human mobility and climate security-related topics are present in these public debates? A Digital Methods approach was applied to extract, process and analyse thousands of publicly available Tweets to characterise migration and displacement narratives in Mozambique. Thematic queries in Portuguese and English, using geolocated criteria, aimed to unpack the perspectives of different actors. Overall, results show diverging agendas between national and international actors, with national discussions focusing on immediate livelihood needs and international discussions highlighting displacement and natural resource availability. However, a common trend across the datasets was noted: while tweets about climate or conflict presented lower frequencies overall, they generated the most engagement. This signals their significant implications to migration and displacement, as the diffusion of such information is less frequent but receives much more attention.

Bios: Bia Carneiro is a research team leader at Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT. She co-leads the digital innovations thematic area of CGIAR FOCUS Climate Security, where she focuses on the application of digital methods, natural language processing and social network analysis to explore the discourses and dynamics of food insecurity, as well as of the climate, peace and security nexus. She holds a Joint Major in Communication and Latin American Studies from Simon Fraser University, and a MSc Social Policy and Development from London School of Economics. She is currently a PhD Sociology candidate at the University of Coimbra.

Giulia Tucci is a Ph.D. in Information Sciences. She holds a master's degree in biomedical engineering and a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. With expertise in mathematical and computational modelling, since 2017, she has been investigating information flows and misinformation dissemination on digital platforms within the context of Brazilian electoral processes. Her current research encompasses computational social sciences, political studies, network analysis, digital research, and digital methods. Giulia is a Visiting Researcher at the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, contributing to the digital innovations thematic area of CGIAR FOCUS Climate Security.

Andrea Maria Calazans Pacheco Pacífico (Paraíba State University), Environmentally displaced persons in Brazil: The Case of the drowning of Maceio, Brazil (2018-2023)

This paper highlights the causes and consequences of the drowning of five neighbourhoods of Maceio, capital of the state of Alagoas, in the Northeast of Brazil, characterising the affected inhabitants as internally displaced people (IDPs), giving them international visibility, and trying to make the Brazilian government responsible for their protection. Maceio is the fifth most populated city of the Brazilian Northeast, with more than 1,031,597 people (IBGE, 2022) and Braskem is the biggest Latin American salt and chlorine industry. The process of extracting salt from the soil caused craters, affecting the local environment and residents, for instance, quakes and cracks on roads and houses. It has led to socio, economic, cultural, environmental, and legal consequences in the city and its surroundings. According to the 2020 National Geological Service report, some mines caused land destabilisation and underground caves, with a risk of collapsing. The disaster has caused environmental degradation, more than 60,000 IDPs from five neighbourhoods, and loss of historical, material, and cultural heritage. However, in Brazil, IDPs are invisible, without laws or public policies to recognise and protect them. This paper identifies structural, environmental, emotional, financial, socio-economic, cultural, and legal consequences of the disaster, living IDPs without assistance from the government and without recognition of guilt from Braskem. The research was quali-quantitative, case-study, with deep literature review and interviews, applying historical and inductive methods, so that other IDPs from anthropic disasters, in Brazil and abroad, may be recognised as such as protected.

Bio: Andrea Maria Calazans Pacheco Pacifico is Associate professor of International Relations at Paraíba State University, where she has been founding coordinator of the Study and Research Centre on Environmentally Displaced Persons (NEPDA) and De Mello Chair coordinator. She has been a funded researcher of the Brazilian Research Council (CNPq) and of the Research Foundation of Paraíba (FAPESQ). She has been Senior Research Affiliate of the University of London Refugee Law Initiative, and full collaborator researcher at the Graduate Programme in Comparative Studies on the Americas, at the University of Brasília. She has published books, chapter books, and articles on environmentally displaced persons for more than ten years.

Pilar Luz Rodrigues (University of Galway), From Rural Brazil to Rural Ireland: Place-Making Among Brazilian Migrants in the Town of Gort.

Abstract: Scholars familiar with Brazilian migration are sure to have heard of the wave of Brazilian migrants to Framingham, Massachusetts, in the United States. This emblematic case of migration is most peculiar due to the fact that many of the Brazilians who migrated were from a specific city in Brazil, called Governador Valadares. A similar pattern has developed in Ireland, with the migration of Brazilians, most of whom are specifically from the city of Anápolis, to the countryside of Ireland, Gort in particular. Gort has gained attention since the 90's as 'Ireland's Little Brazil', because of the considerable number of Brazilian migrants there and because it hosted the first wave of Brazilian migration to Ireland, spurred by the recruitment by Irish meat plants of a group of workers from a closing plant in Brazil. Curiously, the town has remained an important place for Brazilian migrants, even after the closure of the local meat plant. Why Gort has outlasted its function as a host to its meat plant migrant workers to become a permanent destination for Brazilian migrants in the Irish countryside was a question that kept surfacing throughout the present research. This study was based on a year and a half of qualitative research, with intermittent field observation and interviews. It employed the double absence theory (Sayad 2004) and place theory (Agnew 2005; Tuan 1977; Relph 1976; Gieryn 2000). A key finding from the research was that the Brazilian migrants have, over the years, attributed intangible meaning and value to Gort, which has provided them with the comfort of a home away from home and has helped them mitigate their everyday experience with precarious life in Ireland.

Bio: Pilar Luz Rodrigues is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Moore Institute for Research in the Humanities and Social Studies, of the University of Galway. She is currently working on the Irish Research Council funded project "Rural Villages, Migration and Intercultural Communication". Dr. Rodrigues concluded her PhD in Sociology in 2023, with the thesis titled "Mitigating the Effects of Precarity: Brazilian Migrant Workers and Place-Making in Rural Ireland". Her research involved 18 months of fieldwork with Brazilian migrants in rural Ireland, particularly in Gort, Ireland's Little Brazil. She previously worked as a Junior Consultant at the International Organization for Migration.

Fazila Bhimji (Independent Researcher) Who are the 'real' refugees? Blacks and people of colour from Ukraine encounter discriminatory policies and housing challenges in Berlin

Abstract: This study demonstrates how exclusionary social policies in Germany have impacted on the everyday realities of black and people of colour, that is, third-country nationals fleeing the war in Ukraine. The study draws on 26 interviews and ethnography in Berlin among individuals whose origins are in the Global South. While border studies have mainly focused on external borders and the externalization of borders, there has been limited discussion of the internal borders which obstruct people arriving in cities in the Global North from the Global South. As El-Kayed and Hamman (2018) have pointed out, it is important to address local variations in how refugees are able to access their rights to basic amenities such as housing. This ethnographic study shows how third-country nationals experienced difficulties in finding accommodation, as they were precluded from entering the housing market, which resulted in further stratification between themselves and Ukrainian citizens in Berlin, Germany, where the majority of refugees from Ukraine arrived. While there has also been much discussion of exclusionary social policies, border regimes and discriminatory actions by humanitarian organizations regarding refugees from working-class backgrounds, there has been only limited

discussion of the impact of discriminatory policies on skilled and middle-class refugees and migrants who have been displaced and who have come to settle in metropolitan regions in the Global North. This study argues that the experiences of formally educated third-country nationals who were denied temporary protection and encountered several challenges and obstacles must be understood in racial terms.

Panel 22 | Spaces of Resistance: Migration and Solidarity

Convenor: Dr Maurice Stierl (University of Osnabrueck)

Panel Abstract: In the face of state criminalisation of migration and solidarity, and exploding border violence, struggles around mobility take on political urgency, while also involving increased risks. In this panel, we consider how particular spaces and geographies, histories, and memories shape practices of solidarity and resistance around migration. In this “new era of protest” (Ataç et al. 2015) around migration and given the issue’s centrality in political polarization around the world, how can we understand the uneven and heterogeneous nature of solidarity work in different spaces? How do local contexts shape the possibilities of resistance? What possibilities exist for translocal and transversal solidarity across borders? In this panel, scholars from different disciplines, including Migration Studies, Geography, and Social Movement Studies, working in diverse regions, will present their research on the spatiality of resistance and solidarity.

Pierre Monforte (University of Leicester) and Elias Steinhilper (German Center for Integration and Migration Research): “Fragile Solidarities: Contestation and Ambiguity at European Border zones”

Abstract: Borders as legal, social, and material spaces of inclusion/exclusion constantly spark resistance, by both migrants and solidarity actors. In this paper, we combine the dual observation of a proliferation of both border control policies and of migrant and solidarity activism to analyse how different types of border control policies affect the forms of resistance that emerge in them. We inquire on three different cases: first the Calais region at the territorial border between France and the United Kingdom; second the camps and detention centres for refugees and migrants marking borders within Europe; and third the intimate space of encounters between citizens and migrants during practices of migrant support. In our theory oriented qualitative analysis, we carve out how power relations, and thereby notions of inclusion/exclusion, deservingness and (il)legality play out differently on the ambivalent solidarities unfolding in these settings.

Bios: Pierre Monforte (University of Leicester) is a political sociologist with research interests in the fields of social movements and activism, migration and citizenship. He focuses primarily on civil society and social movements with a particular emphasis on migrants' rights movements and the contentious (and ambivalent) politics of compassion and solidarity in contemporary societies. Recently, he has worked on research projects on migrants' experience of the citizenship test in Britain, and on charity action within the 'refugee crisis' in the UK and in France. He is the author of *Europeanizing Contention: The Protest against “Fortress Europe” in France and Germany* (Berghahn Books 2014).

Elias Steinhilper (German Center for Integration and Migration Research) steinhilper@dezim-institut.de: Elias Steinhilper is a political sociologist with a special interest in migration, racialization, and social movements. He holds a PhD in political science and sociology from Scuola Normale Superiore in Florence and has completed visiting research stays at Harvard University, the University of California, Berkeley, and Sciences Po Paris. He is the author of the monograph *Migrant Protest. Interactive Dynamics in Precarious Mobilization* and has published in peer-reviewed journals such as *Sociology*, *European Societies*, *Social Movement Studies*, and *Journal of Refugee Studies*.

Lucy Kneebone (Queen Mary University of London): “Carceral islands and archipelagic struggle: Acts of resistance on Manus Island and beyond”

Abstract: Since the 1990s the number of dedicated immigration detention facilities around the globe has proliferated, and while the rate of expansion has fluctuated in recent years the Global Detention



Project currently maps 1612 immigration detention centres that collectively detain tens of thousands of people. These regimes of population management, and the multinational security companies that enforce them, link sites in an archipelago of camps that share information and resources, replicate colonial logics, and forcibly mobilise or immobilise people between ‘islands’ of imprisonment. This paper interrogates the transdisciplinary concept of the ‘archipelago’ that has been used in different contexts as both a figure of carcerality and as a way of thinking new forms of solidarity and connection. The carceral archipelago describes a dispersed, yet interlinked, system of exclusion and enforcement. It also captures the violent fragmentation and dispossession inflicted through histories of (neo)colonialism and racial capitalist extraction. Beginning with acts of resistance that emerged from the Australian-run Manus Island detention centre in Papua New Guinea and their connections with other carceral sites, this paper explores how people in detention and their supporters resist the carceral archipelago through another kind of archipelagic thinking. Their acts create new modes of relation, collaboration and resistance that subvert both the logics of the nation-state and the anti-relationality of contemporary capitalism. They show how resistance and solidarity can be particular and situated and at the same time transversal and interconnected, even in contexts of enforced isolation.

Bio: Lucy Kneebone (Queen Mary University of London - l.kneebone@qmul.ac.uk): Lucy Kneebone recently completed her PhD in politics from Queen Mary University of London, and currently holds teaching and research associate positions at QMUL and King’s University. Her research interests include critical approaches to migration, mobility and bordering; forms of carcerality; and political activism and resistance.

Maurice Stierl (Osnabrück University) and Cetta Mainwaring (Edinburgh University): “Islands of Solidarity: Migration and Resistance at Europe’s Edge”

Abstract: The Republic of Malta has long considered itself at the centre of a ‘migration crisis’ in the Mediterranean. Maltese politicians have strongly denounced what they perceive as a lack of solidarity from EU member states and institutions and argued that they carry a disproportionately large migration ‘burden’. In response, they have adopted systematic practices of maritime abandonment and non-assistance. While groups and organisations in Malta regularly voice criticism of Malta’s non-engagement at sea, they have largely focussed attention on the treatment of migrants in Malta rather than when out at sea. Moreover, while political claims of border abolition and freedom of movement are often voiced by grassroots activist networks outside of Malta, they rarely feature among Maltese networks. Investigating this limited engagement with search and rescue and the role of radical political claims, we explore how actors in Malta navigate the issue of migration in their activism and campaigning. Through this empirical focus, and based on interviews, we investigate how spaces shape activism and campaigning, analysing how certain national and geographical contexts condition activist interventions and understanding, and how histories of struggle and memories of place inform contemporary activism. By bringing together literatures on social movements and island studies, we explore the particular factors in the Maltese context that condition possibilities of activist engagement and political claims.

Bios: Maurice Stierl (Osnabrück University - maurice.stierl@uni-osnabrueck.de): Maurice Stierl leads the research group “The Production of Knowledge on Migration” at the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies, Osnabrück University. Before, he was a lecturer in International Relations at the University of Sheffield. He has also taught at the University of Warwick and the University of California, Davis. His research focuses on migration struggles in contemporary Europe and (northern) Africa and is broadly situated in the fields of International Political Sociology, Political Geography, and Migration, Citizenship and Border Studies. His book ‘Migrant Resistance in Contemporary Europe’ was published by Routledge in 2019.

Cetta Mainwaring is a Senior Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Edinburgh. Her research interests include migration, borders, solidarity politics, and the Mediterranean. She

completed her DPhil in International Relations at the University of Oxford in 2012. Her first award-winning book, *At Europe's Edge: Migration and Crisis the Mediterranean*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2019. She currently holds a UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship examining immigration detention, the way this failed policy travels internationally, and resistance to it in the UK, US, and Australia.

Panel 23 | Migration and racialisation: intergenerational dynamics

Giulia Marroccoli (University of Turin) Immigrants descendants in Italy between labelling processes and discriminatory narratives

Abstract: With over five million immigrant residents, foreign presence has become a structural feature in Italy, constituting nearly 9% of the total population. Consequently, an increasing number of individuals have migrant heritage: according to available estimates, there are over one million immigrant descendants in the country. While this is still a relatively young population, many of them are either entering or already participating in the labour market, thus contributing to an increasingly diverse workforce. However, this diversity encounters a labour market that remains ethnically segregated, with immigrants frequently concentrated in low-skilled sectors. Furthermore, Italy struggles to acknowledge the growing diversity of its population, often relegating immigrant descendants to the ambiguous (and inherently problematic) category of foreigners. This label, that seems to transcend generations, frequently leads to processes of racialization and exclusion. The contribution stems from a broader research project aimed at challenging dominant narratives on immigration in Italy and proposing new narrative frameworks to counteract discrimination and exclusion. The paper seeks to analyse the dominant discourses contributing to labelling processes and discrimination that hinder the career opportunities of young graduates of migrant heritage. The methodology involves interviews with activists of migrant backgrounds and focus groups comprising both students and graduates of foreign origin, as well as experts from various sectors (e.g., trade unions, training agencies, labour-market associations). The objective is to explore whether immigrant descendants are perceived differently from their parents or if the 'foreign' label extends to subsequent generations, discussing its impacts and identifying practices to reshape the dominant narrative.

Bio: Dr Giulia Marroccoli is research fellow at the University of Turin, where she collaborates on a project focused on deconstructing the dominant (negative) narrative on migration in Italy. Additionally, her research explores the impact of discrimination on the professional trajectories of immigrant descendants. She holds a PhD in Sociology, and her thesis analysed upward social mobility pathways among youth with migrant heritage, employing a comparative perspective between Turin, Italy, and Lyon, France. Her research interests include social mobility, professional paths, and social inclusion processes of immigrant descendants; interethnic relations; international migration; and social stratification and inequalities.

Annavittoria Sarli and Kombola T. Ramadhani Mussa (University of Parma), Reproducing or contesting difference in everyday interaction: a multi-voice reflection among racialized and non-racialized Italians.

Abstract: Reproducing or contesting difference in everyday interaction: a multi-voice reflection among racialized and non racialized Italians. Literature shows that, in contemporary Italian society, young people of migrant descent are often subjected to othering dynamics. However, their opportunities for claiming belonging are poorly investigated (Sarli 2023; Frisina and Agyei Kyeremeh 2022). This paper presents a participatory research-action aimed at exploring the possible ways in which processes of difference reproduction can be challenged in everyday interactions. Key in this work is the concept of "boundary events" (Twine 1996): everyday life encounters (Wilson 2017) in which, through the interaction between the subjects involved, social boundaries become evident and can be reiterated or contested. The research process consisted of two stages. First, through focus groups with young

racialized Italians, we collected narrations of boundary events. Descriptions of the responses to acts of boundary construction were elicited, as well as explanations of the reasons behind such reactions. Secondly, some theatre workshops inspired by the narrations collected were performed in secondary schools. The workshops were based on forum theatre, a methodology developed within the theatre of the oppressed, that conceives theatre plays as spaces of collective learning. After some actors performed a paradigmatic boundary event, students from the audience were invited to take part in the dramatizing process, by performing Their suggestion to overcome the critical issues at stake. On the one hand, this research experience allowed for an exploration of the discourse around boundaries. On the other, it prompted a multi-voice reflection over the available opportunities for social change, towards the construction of more inclusive representations of the collective self.

Bios: Annavittoria Sarli is a researcher in social sciences and an expert in qualitative methods. Her main fields of interest are migrations, intercultural relations and issues of racial in/justice. She collaborated with the ISMU Foundation in Milan and worked as a MSC fellow at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (University of Birmingham). She is currently working at the University of Parma. There she is conducting a research work based on creative, participatory methods, aimed at exploring the dynamics of difference construction experienced by young racialized people, as well as the tactics they enact to claim belonging.

Kombola T. Ramadhani Mussa was Leverhulme Research Fellow at Cardiff University and is currently working as research fellow at the University of Parma. Her recent research investigates the history of the Zigula, an ethnic group based in Somalia and Tanzania, as a distinctive and instructive example of African diaspora and of multilingual experiences. In particular, her research work employs categories elaborated by critical race theory, oral history and memory studies and explores the creation of post-colonial and multicultural Italian identities in the context of widespread racial prejudice.

Stefano Piemontese (University of Birmingham), Balancing Self and Society: The “Politics of the Personal” among Racially Minoritised Italians in the United Kingdom

Abstract: This paper investigates the unique experiences of young racially minoritised Italians in the UK, focusing on how they interpret their biographies in relation to the expectations set by their families, communities, and society at large. To this end, I introduce the notion of the "politics of the personal", which refers to the act of interpreting one's biography as a reflection of specific societal processes or identities, and choosing to either share or withhold it from the public domain. This concept expands on the feminist principle that "the personal is political" (Hanish 1969), similarly challenging the divide between private and public spheres. However, while the original principle underlines that personal issues often necessitate collective action for resolution, the "politics of the personal" adapts it for a neoliberal context, prioritising individual narratives (albeit representative) over collective ones. Within this framework, the paper delves into the fatigue associated with managing societal expectations that demand a politicisation of personal existence. This pressure pushes minoritised subjects into representative roles based on their ascribed racial, ethnic or religious identity, potentially leading to tokenisation, overexposure, or invisibilisation of other identities, such as professional ones. This also include the pressure of 'giving back' to the community after achieving successful social mobility careers. More specifically, the paper examines how frictions and affinities between individual aspects of youth transitions and broader expectations related to civic engagement and political activism are redefined through migration, particularly contemplating how relocation to a more diversity-accustomed country can offer an escape from such roles.

Bio: Stefano Piemontese is a Social Anthropologist and Research Fellow at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (UOB). His research centers on youth, migration, and racial and ethnic identities. Ethnography, paired with collaborative, multimodal, and audio-visual research techniques, is his primary investigative method. During his Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship, he worked on the RETRY project (2019-2022), examining intergenerational patterns of social and geographic mobility among racially minoritised European youths. He is currently involved in the Horizon Europe I-CLAIM project

(2023-2026), studying how irregularity arises from the interaction of immigration policies and practice, labor market and welfare regimes, and prevailing narratives and perceptions.

Grace Chimela Eze Nwoke (Independent researcher), The Black communities in Greece and the project "the AfroGreeks"

Abstract: This article opens a discussion regarding the African Diaspora in Greece and how Afro-Greek identity is being shaped and perceived by the wider Greek society and the community itself. As a Second Generation of Nigerian descent whose upbringing was in Greece, I examine how the First Generation, and consequently the Second Generation, of African descent is naturalized, referring to the feeling of belonging and factors that influence that feeling. I make an explanation of the use of the term Afro-Greek, as well as refer to the movement that has been created due to it. I discuss the subject matter through my personal experiences in Athens and the lens of the ongoing artistic collective community project "the AfroGreeks" by the team Døcumatism, of which I am a member and have undertaken anthropological research and community engagement. Døcumatism is an Athenian collective that has been documenting this movement of Afro-Greek visibility and representation, being the very first attempt made to capture audio visually the history of the African Diaspora in Greece in the 20th and 21st century, using art as a tool to create public debates and social interactions.

Bio: Grace Chimela Eze Nwoke is a Greek social scientist and performer of Nigerian descent. She completed her postgraduate studies at the Department of Social Anthropology of Panteion University and is continuing her research about the African Diaspora in Athens, contributing to the conversation of its visibility in Greece. She is a member of the team Documatism and has undertaken the research, organization, and artistic supervision of the collective community project the "AfroGreeks", with the filmmaker Menelaos Karamaghiolis. She has experience in organizing live events, public discussions, educational and exchange programs, using creative artistic performances to delve deeper into matters regarding the inclusivity, visibility, and empowerment of African communities in Greece. Grace is also the co-founder of the African community engagement platform Afrosocially.

Panel 24 | Intersectionality, gender, family, and youth

Andrea Verdasco (UCL), Distancing and digitalisation: how refugee mothers (mis)communicate with the welfare state, the case of England

Abstract: When COVID-19 hit, the world was silenced, locked down and told to keep a distance. Distancing became important, it became the best strategy against the virus. Children attended school online, Zoom and Teams were the new meeting rooms. In the UK, and across the globe, distancing translated into an increased digitalisation of services. How did this distancing impact how refugee families communicated with others and the welfare state? I argue that this distancing that has remained post-COVID has had far-reaching consequences on the everyday lives and rights of refugees. For refugee families, this distancing, in the shape of emails and letters from the Council and appointments over the phone, has had severe consequences on their access to rights. Distance is not always measurable, but rather, Handel (2018) argues, is based on experience, affect and language. Distance is socially, bodily and politically produced (Ibid). In this paper, I argue that distancing has been used to control and manage refugees. I aim to unfold the ethnographic material among refugee mothers who, in the context of the East of England, had to seek support from charities to communicate with the welfare state when unable to answer an email or make a phone call to the local Council.

Bio: Andrea Verdasco is a social anthropologist that holds a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship (UKRI funded) at Thomas Coram Research Unit at UCL. Her research interests lie at the interstices of welfare-refugee encounters, motherhood, childhood, belonging and relatedness. In her current project: 'Family reunification and refugee integration: the impact of the 'deserving refugee mother' she investigates how refugee mothers negotiate and navigate complex bureaucratic systems as mothers and women in the context of the UK. She examines how they negotiate 'deservingness' in their encounters with advocates and frontline workers. Her work is grounded in ethnographic methods

through participatory approaches; to date she has conducted fieldwork with migrant youth and families in Mozambique, Denmark, and England.

Dirk Geldof, Kathleen Emmery and Silke Peeters (University of Antwerp & Centre for Family Policies Odisee), When the family becomes superdiverse. How bi-cultural couples challenge categorisations

Abstract: Studies on superdiversity have predominantly focussed on the individual perspective and the neighbourhood level. Nonetheless, superdiversity also profoundly influences relationships and partnership formations. Families are becoming increasingly superdiverse, with a rise of intercultural relationships in Belgium, embedding people in global families and transnational extended family structures. Research indicates that the increase of intercultural couples (with at least one partner of foreign origin) can be interpreted as a sign of integration and acceptance of immigrants in the host society (Hannemann et al., 2018; Hohmann-Marriott & Amato, 2008; Koelet et al., 2011). However, these intercultural couples tend to encounter more challenges, possibly due to the biculturalism aspect of their relationship, as well as probable socio-economic disparities. Intercultural couples have a heightened likelihood of partnership dissolution, as evidenced by Emmery & Geldof (2022) regarding Belgian intercultural couples. This paper is based on an ongoing empirical analysis of population data in Belgium. We first analyse how processes of superdiversification in Belgium impact the diversification of relationships and families. Secondly, we explore the higher risk of separation among intercultural couples. Employing a superdiversity lens, we adopt a broad definition of intercultural couples and encompass a wide spectrum of origin groups, by conducting a multidimensional analysis in which we try to transcend the ethnic lens by considering variables beyond the ethnicity aspect. In the final part, we reflect on the implications and limitations of categorizing relationships by ethnicity and the paradox inherent in both reinforcing and transcending beyond the ethnic lens at the same time.

Bio: Dirk Geldof is professor Sociology at the Faculty of Design Sciences (University of Antwerp) and senior researcher at the Centre for Family Studies (University of Applied Sciences Odisee). His research focuses on migration, superdiversity and refugees in Belgium.

Kathleen Emmery is head of the Centre for Family Studies (University of Applied Sciences Odisee). Her scientific work focuses on relationship support, family transitions and family policy.

Silke Peeters holds a master in sociology and works as a researcher at the Centre for Family Studies (University of Applied Sciences Odisee). Her research interests lie in family and partnership formation, changing life courses and (super)diversity.

Nicola Burns (University of Glasgow), Lost at the intersection: looking for disability in migration studies

Abstract: Recent debates in migration studies have considered intersectional inequalities and how these shape migration experiences, with scholars tracing the experiences of people on the move and structural discrimination on the basis of gender and sexuality in tandem with legal status, citizenship and nationality. This work offers crucial insights into the processes which shape migration practices and experiences. Yet within migration studies, the construction and use of disability within migration and bordering practices is rarely commented upon. This paper aims to think through the implications of engaging with disability critically within migration studies. Reconfiguring disability beyond medical approaches to consider it as a identity, allows for a shift in analytical focus that moves beyond dominant discourses that elide health and disability. Recognising disability as an identity offers greater opportunities to explore intersectional inequalities in migration systems through, for example interrogation of the ways in which disability is constituted within historical and contemporary migration systems; the lived experiences of people on the move in destination countries. Finally the paper reflects on what such theoretical engagements mean in the study of disability and migration in the field. Drawing on an ongoing collaboration with disability and migrant rights organisations to develop research, the paper reflects on community building, resistance and solidarity as key actions arising from an intersectional approach.

Bio: Dr Nicola Burns is a Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Disability Studies in Sociology, University of Glasgow. An inter-disciplinary researcher, her work is underpinned by engagement with issues of equality, human rights and social justice. Her research and teaching focuses on diverse issues including disability, equality and human rights, migration and health. She has particular interest in the intersection of migration and disability. She has published widely within the fields of disability, and health and migration.

Panel 25 | Situating racialization and othering

Bernardo López Marin (Durham University) Racialization and internalised racism among NGOs and humanitarian workers: The case of Ceuta

Abstract: The rapid increase of irregular arrivals to the Spanish enclave of Ceuta has been changing the ways of migration management which is now reflected on the racialization of migrants and the hierarchization of access to services. This is the case of Moroccan migrants who are openly discriminated by NGOs, humanitarian organizations and workers in the sector in Ceuta, claiming that giving equal services to Moroccans will encourage placing Ceuta under threat by the so-called ‘call-effect’. While the ‘call-effect’ consists according to right-wing actors, in the possible massive arrival of new ‘illegal’ immigrants to Spain, given the possibilities of legalization offered by regulatory process and the access to services migrants get while staying in Ceuta. The reality is that this conception is used to legitimize an open form of racism and discrimination perpetrated against Moroccan migrants on the basis of deservedness. Exclusionary discourses comparing the harder migratory circumstances faced by Sub-Saharan crossing the desert and facing greater hardship are far different from those Moroccans who come from the neighboring country, especially from nearby towns in northern Morocco. This presentation aims to formulate a critique to the coloniality and hierarchization of migration systems and the nature of humanitarian aid that differentiates people on a journey through racialization and normalized racism. The study includes a mention of how Moroccans arriving in Ceuta are deemed to be exclusively economic migrants but are historically discriminated through racism.

Bio: Dr. Bernardo López Marín is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Durham University UK working on the project ‘Contesting Migration’. Bernardo has been researching on topics of migration focusing on social and political anthropology. He received a PhD from La Trobe University Australia focusing on a comparative study about the subjective experience and the development of emotions, feelings and sentiments of people on a journey in transit through Mexico and Morocco. Bernardo completed a MSc. in Social Anthropology at the National School of Anthropology and History in Mexico City and a BA. in Native American Indian Languages and Cultures, University of Copenhagen.

Bernadette Nadya Jaworsky (Masaryk University) ‘People like us?’ Tensions and Transformations in Racialization and Othering in a New Immigration Context

Abstract: In this paper, we discuss the transformative potential of tensions that result from the growing presence of people with a migratory background in a new immigration context. Applying a novel epistemological and methodological approach, the “reverse sociology of migration,” which privileges the voices and perspectives of people with a migratory background, combined with a critical cultural sociological perspective centered on the meaning-making processes of social actors, we explore how these people negotiate tensions related to their positioning in the society and how they incorporate, reproduce and transform racialized classifications. In other words, how do they face the unspoken question: are they “people like us”? We situate our study in Czechia, a relatively new context of reception for immigrants, where anti-immigrant sentiments have been increasing rapidly in recent years. Using qualitative in-depth interviews among residents with a migratory background from different regions and countries - the Middle East/North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Slovakia, Vietnam and Ukraine - we unpack the different forms of racialization and Othering they experience. We combine theories of cultural racism and symbolic boundaries to critically examine different grounds for boundary work that shape immigrant experiences with Othering and racialization in Czech society

as well as their responses to it. We pay close attention to how they draw boundaries in relation to different Others – both native-born and immigrants - and how they make sense of their position in the society they inhabit, employing cultural repertoires internalized before migration, as well as those available to them in their new country.

Bio: Bernadette Nadya Jaworsky is a professor of sociology at Masaryk University, Brno, Czechia. Recent books include *A Critical Cultural Sociological Exploration of Attitudes toward Migration in Czechia: What Lies Beneath the Fear of the Thirteenth Migrant* (with Radka Klvaňová, Ivana Rapoš Boží?, Alica Rétiová, and Jan Kotýnek Krotký, Lexington Books, 2023). Her current research focuses on in-depth cultural sociological analysis and reconstruction of public issues such as perceptions of migration, and the “reverse sociology” of migrant responses to racialization and Othering.

Hannah Ryan (University of Birmingham) White Saviours versus White Borders: Constructions of Race in the Visual Representations of Refugees in UK Newspapers

Abstract: Constructions of whiteness and white privilege stem from the era of European empires and colonialism. During this period, a racial hierarchy was produced with white Northern European colonialists seen as superior, modern and enlightened while people of colour were seen as primitive, barbaric and child-like. This paper will argue that these notions of racial hierarchies still exist and are ever present in the visual representation of refugees and asylum seekers in UK newspapers. Drawing on a mixed method analysis of a sample of 377 photographs published in four UK newspapers over a three-year period, I will argue that whiteness and white privilege are represented through a dual construction: the ‘White saviour’ and the ‘White border’. I will use Boltanski’s 1999 work *Distant Suffering* as the basis for my paper, arguing that, with the photographs of the White saviour, the asylum seekers of colour are shown to be objects of pity whilst the White celebrity is shown to be the benefactor (the saviour) and also the voice of these people. Importantly, the pity towards these asylum seekers of colour relies on them being kept at a distance from the West, predominantly in far-away camps. When asylum seekers of colour are shown to be coming into proximity with the West, pity turns to fear and whiteness moves from the saviour celebrity to the protective border guard – the ‘White border’.

Bio: Hannah Ryan is a Teaching Fellow at the Birmingham International Academy, University of Birmingham having recently completed her PhD at Aston University. Her research explores the visual portrayal of refugees and asylum seekers in British newspapers, drawing on an intersectional framework which examines the impact of gender, race, religion, and age on visual representation.

Hannah Jones (University of Warwick) Belonging and ownership: ‘family’ as a stand-in for ‘race’ in settler-colonial identity claims possibilities for new politics of solidarity.

Abstract: Family – as both rhetoric and personal relationship – has long been a preoccupation of national and racial projects. Think of ‘motherland’ and ‘fatherland’, or the policing of inter-marriage in colonial race-building enterprises. This paper engages with questions of belonging as constructed through family histories of colonial settlement and re-settlement. This is approached by thinking through two senses of belonging: feelings of belonging to a nation, and a sense of ownership of nation (nation as a belonging). My discussion draws on interviews with white Australian women tracing the migration of previous generations of their family from Britain to Australia. The research aimed to listen attentively to the meanings and importance attached by these women to their intergenerational identity-building, while also thinking with them through the implications for current migrant-settler-indigenous politics in Australia and related politics in Britain. In doing so, the paper highlights some uncomfortable ways in which the seeking of comfort in ancestry-based identities can highlight ongoing colonial encounters, and asks whether paying attention to this discomfort opens up possibilities for new politics of solidarity.

Bio: Hannah Jones is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Warwick where she writes, researches and teaches on racism and antiracism, belonging, the politics of emotion, and critically engaged public

sociology. Her most recent book is *Violent Ignorance: Confronting Racism and Migration Control* (Zed/Bloomsbury, 2021).

Panel 26 | Everyday negotiations between borders and place, self-governance and leisure in the asylum system

Christy Kulz, Christine Barwick-Gross (Technical University Berlin and Humboldt University), Making borders through the senses: everyday experiences of diversity in two Berlin neighbourhoods

Abstract: This contribution places the focus on a neglected field of research in migration and border studies, namely the sensory's role in classification and bordering processes. The effects of migration are to a large extent visible and experienced in cities where urban residents interact with diversity daily. While living together in diverse settings and the limits or porosity of boundaries in everyday interactions has been researched extensively, this is primarily through research reliant on interviews and participatory observations. Building on this work, we seek a different methodological entry point through a focus on the senses. Based on fieldwork in diverse streets of two Berlin neighbourhoods, we explore how difference is generated through smell and sound, and how interpretations of different sensory experiences work to draw – or cross – boundaries between urbanites of differing ethnic and migratory backgrounds, but also gender or age. Our research includes sensory walks followed by group discussions, interviews with local shopkeepers, and our own experiences with walking these streets. It highlights the crucial role of sensory experiences in the construction and (re-)production of race. This functions through what sounds and smells are expected or not, by whom they are experienced as either pleasant or annoying, and how this relates to an overall 'rating' of the streets which encompasses feelings of safety and security. The designation of some areas adjacent to these streets as *kriminalitätsbelastete Orte* or crime-ridden locations by the local state shapes how the walks and walkers can raise suspicion amongst already racialized and heavily monitored shopkeepers.

Bios: Christy Kulz is currently a guest professor at the Institute of Sociology at the Technical University Berlin. As a sociologist, her research interests centre around exploring how intersectional classificatory systems like race, class and gender are historically constructed in relation to particular formations of space and power, and how these shifting signifiers are (re)made through everyday practice. Christy has also worked as a Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellow at the University of Cambridge and completed her doctorate at Goldsmiths College.

Christine Barwick-Gross is guest professor at the Department of Urban and Regional Sociology at Humboldt-University Berlin. Her research deals with how migration-related diversity manifests on the urban and the European level; asking e.g. how cross-border mobility is experienced differently depending on race, class or gender, how diversity is understood and discrimination and racism are (re-)produced in different contexts (in diverse neighborhoods or in the labor market). Christine has previously held positions at Sciences Po Paris, the Centre Marc Bloch Berlin and the European University Flensburg.

Marzana Kamal (Liverpool Hope University) Race and Migration in Contemporary Liverpool

Abstract: This paper demonstrates the significance of race in studying migration and migrant communities in a contemporary English city. Acknowledging the cogent research on slavery and established Black communities in Liverpool, this paper aims to reflect on the experiences of recent migrant in this current urban space. Qualitative data molded following the concepts such as global and mobile precariat, and negotiations in everyday space, revealed multiple layered of racism experienced by the migrant communities in Liverpool. International students who work part-time at restaurants, food delivery riders, and care workers are some key occupations of the migrants who participated in this research. The article re-emphasizes the importance of contextualizing race in future studies of migrant labor in Western urban places.



Bio: Dr Marzana kamal is a lecturer in Sociological Studies at Liverpool Hope University. Her research interests are in gender, migration and diaspora studies.

Marnie Howlett and Daryna Dvornichenko (University of Oxford), Without a Home: Belonging for Ukraine's Twice Internally Displaced Women

Abstract: While much work has explored the experiences of people displaced both internally and internationally because of humanitarian crises like war and environmental disasters, few, if any, studies have investigated the phenomenon of double internal displacement. Whereas the experiences of all forcibly relocated people are significant and unique, those of individuals who have had to move from their homes after settling in a new place remain underexplored, especially their complex feelings of belonging and attachment to/with both the place(s) they have left and those they have settled in. As women are generally disproportionately affected by war, the experiences of those displaced in these volatile contexts, regardless of the number times, are exceptionally acute and critical for understanding the wide-range effects of conflict. This paper accordingly investigates the double internal displacement of women from Ukraine's northern, eastern, and southern regions following Russia's 2022 full-scale invasion. By examining their stories of forced migration within Ukraine as a result of Russia's ongoing aggression, the study uncovers internally displaced women's complex feelings of home and belonging in their host and home communities. As the first paper exploring women's experiences of double internal displacement, the project offers important theoretical and empirical contributions to the study of displacement and migration. By elevating the voices of internally displaced Ukrainian women, who have been noticeably absent in international discourse around the Russia-Ukraine war, the paper also integrally highlights the grassroots implications of the conflict and the immense challenges to be addressed to foster social cohesion in Ukraine going forward. This research is partially supported by the British Academy's Researchers at Risk Fellowships Programme

Bios: Marnie Howlett is Departmental Lecturer in Russian and East European Politics Oxford School of Global and Area Studies (OSGA), Department of Politics and IR, University of Oxford, Nuffield College) and Daryna Dvornichenko is a research fellow, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford.

Panel 27 | Connected migration histories: Brazilian colonial and post-colonial projects and legacies shaping contemporary migration journeys

Convenor: Dr Angelo Martins Jr, University of Birmingham

This panel explores the legacies of Brazil's colonial and post-colonial histories of nation and racial formations shaping contemporary migrant experiences. The discussion will center on research conducted with Brazilians in the UK, Portugal, and Japan, as well as with Sub-Saharan Africans in Brazil. Throughout Brazil's history, migration patterns have been intricately intertwined with social, political, economic, and racial projects. Portuguese colonization between the 16th and 19th centuries resulted in the forced migration of 4.9 million enslaved Africans to Brazil. Additionally, significant waves of immigration occurred in the 19th and 20th centuries, with European immigrants, notably Italians, Germans, and Spaniards, drawn to Brazil for agricultural and industrial opportunities. Influenced by Eugenics ideologies, the Brazilian government facilitated this immigration to ostensibly 'whiten' the population. The early 20th century witnessed further immigration, including Japanese, Lebanese, and Syrian arrivals, amidst anti-African sentiments. Conversely, emigration surged in the latter 20th and early 21st centuries due to economic and political instability, social inequalities, and aspirations for a 'Western lifestyle'. Currently, around 3.3 million Brazilians live abroad, with the United States, Japan, Portugal, Italy, Spain, and the UK being key destinations. Meanwhile, Brazil hosts over 1.5 million immigrants, with recent years seeing a rise in immigration from Africa and other regions. Against this backdrop, the panel will examine how Brazil's historical projects of nation-building and racial formal



shape the experiences of Brazilians abroad and Africans within Brazil, encompassing living and working conditions, as well as identity formation and sense of belonging.

Angelo Martins Jr (University of Birmingham) Reflections on the coloniality of migration: Brazilians in London & Africans in São Paulo

Drawing on in-depth interviews and ethnographic observations, this paper reflects on how Brazilian colonial and post-colonial histories and legacies shape the journeys of Brazilians in London and Sub-Saharan Africans in São Paulo today. By the time slavery was abolished in Brazil, in 1888, 4.9 million Africans had been forcibly taken to Brazil as slaves. After abolition, Brazil embarked on a whitening project – influenced by eugenic racial assumptions – which incentivised European immigration as way to ‘civilise’ the new nation by ‘improving’ its mixed ‘blood’. This new population of European (and Japanese) migrants was concentrated almost entirely in the south and south-east of Brazil, regions that, since independence, had acquired the central position in the national economy, especially with the production of coffee and, later, industrialisation. At the same time, anti-African immigration acts were imposed in the country, while the formerly enslaved and their descendants have been marginalised both in the configuration of urban space and in the labour market, dealing with daily exclusion, discrimination, degradation and state violence. Today, moving geographically ruptured the racial privilege of many lighter skinned and white middle-class Brazilians (decedents of Europeans) in London, who had never previously felt it possible that they would be perceived as a de-valued inferior Other, as a ‘social problem’. For them, being positioned as a ‘migrant’ implied the possibility of experiencing classed, ‘racial’ and social degradation. Meanwhile, sub-Saharan Africans in Brazil face daily harassment, racial attacks, poverty and exploitative work despite Brazil’s current progressive asylum and immigration legislation.

Bio: Angelo Martins Junior is Assistant Professor in Sociology at the Department of Social Policy, Sociology & Criminology, University of Birmingham. He undertakes ethnographic research in the areas of difference, intersectionality, social inequalities and decolonial sociological approaches to contribute to debates on Migration, as well as on ‘Modern Slavery’. Angelo has carried out extensive research on how differences of ‘race’, class and gender, rooted in colonial histories, are constantly being re-created and negotiated in the everyday making of inequalities faced by marginalised and criminalised populations (i.e migrants, informal workers, and sex workers) experiencing various forms of precariousness, inequality, exploitation and violence in Brazil, Europe, and Western Africa. He is a member of the Institute for Research into International Migration & Superdiversity (IRiS). Author of *Lives in Motions* (WhyteTracks, 2014) and *Moving Difference: Brazilians in London* (Routledge, 2020).

Angelo Ishi* (Musashi University), Media, memory and migration: How Brazilians in Japan are writing their history(ies)

Brazilians in Japan are a peculiar group among Brazilian diaspora worldwide, as most of them are people of Japanese descent (the so-called Nikkeijin). The revised Japanese Immigration Act in 1990 enabled foreigners of Japanese descent to get long-term visa and they become de-facto non-skilled workers in Japan. Due to this legal reform, Nikkeijin from South American origin (mainly from Brazil) have been one of the most significant ethnic minorities in Japan. A variety of diasporic media have been launched by/for Brazilians in Japan. And these media have played a significant role on the conception of their collective memory. Meanwhile, some key persons and associations have taken initiatives aimed at preserving the memory of the pioneers of this migration. In this presentation, I examine some key events and spaces created by Brazilians, which help us understand their interpretation of time and space. I analyze the similarities and peculiarities of multiple moves, with a focus on the literary (fictional and non-fictional) production and on the projects of an “official” commemoration of the “history” of Brazilians in Japan. I argue that 2008, the year of the Centenary of Japanese immigration to Brazil, was the starting point of collective “historicization” efforts, as a series of events held in that year marked the “20 years of Brazilian presence” in Japan. By clarifying the

dynamics of public-private (states and citizens) partnerships, I try to assess the (im)possibilities of a consensus on “when” the history of this migration started, and how (and why) it should be named.

Bio: Angelo Ishi is Professor at the Faculty of Sociology, Musashi University in Tokyo. He has studied Brazilians in Japan as well as the Brazilian diaspora worldwide, with a focus on media and cultural issues. Member of the Board of the Japanese Association for Migration Studies, Managing Director of the Association of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad, and member of advisory panels of several Japanese Ministries regarding migration policies. Also joined the NODE network. Coauthor of *Searching for Home Abroad: Japanese-Brazilians and Transnationalism* (Duke University Press) and *Living in two homes: Integration and education of transnational migrants in a globalized world* (Emerald Books).

Amanda Fernandes Guerreiro (University of Lisbon) Acting through music: Brazilianess, agency and musical practices among migrants in Lisbon, Portugal

Despite the colonial history that connects Brazil and Portugal, the presence of Brazilians in the European country began to take on some significance at the end of the 1980s, with the so-called first wave of Brazilian migration. Since then, this movement has intensified significantly, continuing to grow every year and helping to consolidate the Brazilian community as the largest migrant community in Portugal. The presence of Brazilian cultural goods in the country spanned the entire 20th century independently of migration flows and was responsible for reproducing countless representations and stereotypes about Brazil. These ideas of Brazilianess, fostered both by the shared colonial past and the consumption of Brazilian expressive culture, permeate the daily experience of migrants in Portugal. Based on ethnographic research carried out among Brazilian musicians in the central and tourist areas of Lisbon, I was able to observe how the potential for circulation and consumption of certain musical rhythms that carry the label of Brazilianess enables the transgression of negative stereotypes and subalternities underlying the migratory experience. In this work, I intend to show how musical practice transcends the immateriality of music and has a concrete impact on the lives of those involved in its production. Brazilian migrant musicians undertake labour migration trajectories permeated by mishaps. However, by developing an artistic career, they draw on the historical presence of Brazilian music in Lisbon and capitalise on its prestige, enhancing a capacity for action from which they subvert the condition of subalternity often associated with labour migrants.

Bio: Amanda Fernandes Guerreiro is a Guest Professor at ISCS, University of Lisbon, and Associate Researcher at ICS, University of Lisbon. During her PhD in Anthropology (University of Lisbon, 2020), she worked with Brazilian musicians in Lisbon, seeking to understand the relationships between migratory experience, the development of artistic careers and the impact of migrant communities on cities. Since 2008, she has been researching issues related to the international mobility of Brazilians, having conducted research both in sending societies in Brazil and in Portugal on the daily dynamics that characterise migration trajectories, working mainly with ethnographic and anthropological approaches.

Julio Davies, ‘Making Progress’ at home and abroad: journeys of Brazilian queer sex workers in their pursuit of freedom

This paper brings original fieldwork data from the project *Modern Marronage?: The Pursuit and Practice of Freedom in the Contemporary World* into dialogue with histories of enslaved queer’s efforts to move closer to freedom through the strategic use of their sexualities and the social and legal regulation of prostitution. In the second half of the 19th century, Brazilian doctors advised authorities to import foreign (European) female cisgender sex workers as a “public policy” to curb widespread non-heterosexual male practices (Soares, 1992). Although female ‘prostitution’ was considered far from ideal, queer sexual practices were even more ‘scandalous.’ The combination of “unnatural” sex with paid sex practices unevenly pathologised both queer “slaves” and free whites. Today, Brazilian queer sex workers have their identities and labour occupations dehumanised. Migrating elsewhere becomes a strategy to move away from stigma and violence, improve material conditions and earn money to afford bodily interventions such as breast implants. Drawing from fieldwork with ten LGBTQ+

Brazilian sex workers in London (2024) and four trans women in Ribeirão Preto (2023), state of São Paulo, I discuss how queer journeys are perceived and narrated as strategies to “make progress.” While in Brazil colonial legacies dehumanise trans women and effeminate queer men, working in London has allowed for possibilities of self-commodification to some, exocitising themselves as “the other” from the South. For both internal and international queer sex workers, mobility is narrated as a cosmopolitan experience of having access to a “modern” life abroad or in Brazilian urban settings.

Bio: Julio Davies is an anthropologist focused on migration and diaspora studies, processes of nation-formation, racialisation and post-colonial legacies. Julio holds a BA in Social Sciences awarded by Universidade Federal Fluminense (Brazil), and was awarded a MSc by King’s College London in Sociology in 2015, discussing dynamics of Brazilian migration to the UK. In 2022, he completed his PhD in Anthropology at Universidade Federal Fluminense (Brazil) with the thesis ‘Diasporas in the plural: different ways of being Lebanese in Montreal’, based on eight months of ethnographic fieldwork with different Lebanese organisations.

Panel 28 | Channel Crossings: Criminalised Mobility, Racism and Imperial Fantasies in Postcolonial Britain

Convenor: Dr Lucy Mayblin, University of Sheffield

Panel abstract: This panel explores the British government’s responses to people crossing the English Channel to claim asylum. The movement of people in small boats across the English Channel to claim asylum has created a policy and media ‘spectacle’ in the UK. Whilst extensive bordering practices in N. France and within the UK have clearly restructured (im)mobility in the region over several decades, the visibility of these journeys has led to a flurry of policy responses, most infamously the UK-Rwanda partnership and the expansion of the denial of rights of asylum. This panel aims to explore how/why these journeys have increased and explore the politics of the bordering practices which are posed as responding to this movement. Central to the themes explored in the panel are understanding the colonial, structural and ecological politics of bordering in the UK and beyond. The paper thus pay close attention to how colonial and capitalist social relations are remade through immigration regimes. The papers speak in different ways to: how we can understand the control of racialised mobility under far-right nationalism, the role of neoliberalism in reproducing systems of dehumanisation, the role of the environment in border infrastructure and the persistence of colonial fantasies of control. In this way, as well as asking how we can understand the politics of people moving in small boat crossings, we also ask what the movement of people in small boats tells us about the wider politics of postcolonial and late capitalist social-economic order.

Tesfalem Yemane (University of Liverpool) “Dismantling Smuggling Networks, Saving Lives”: Necropolitical empathy as a technology of ‘borderization’ in the English Channel

Abstract: This panel examines how the UK government deploys the rhetoric of ‘breaking the business model of people smugglers’ in the English Channel (and beyond) as the means of threading a web of violent bordering practices and denial of right to asylum in the UK. Over the past two decades, the movement of people from northern France into Britain has become a salient feature of policy, political and media discussions in the UK. Successive British governments have prescribed various (b)ordering practices both within and beyond the UK, the recent examples of which include the Illegal Migration Act 2023 and a series of UK-France agreements. In this panel, we show how the narratives on the allegedly criminal and exploitative dimension of smuggling networks, coupled with the construction of the smuggled as feminized, vulnerable, and passive victims who suffer at the hands of smuggling gangs (hence needing ‘saving’) offer Britain the resources to create a manufactured ‘scene of empathy’ (Breithaupt, 2019) for Channel crossers. And in this way, we demonstrate how it projects itself as the saviour state while simultaneously transforming its borders ‘into uncrossable places’ (Mbembe, 2019) for the racialised migrants. We propose to understand the entwinement of dismantling smuggling gangs with saving lives in the politics of asylum through what we term ‘necropolitical empathy’.

Bio: Dr. Tesfalem Yemane is a Research Fellow on the ESRC 'Channel Crossings' project. His work explores the colonial conditions of migration and forced displacement. His recent work examines the politics of government responses to people crossing the English Channel to claim asylum, the role of smuggling in the dominant framing of borders and the role of soft power in shaping global mobilities.

Joe Turner (University of York) The Border-Security Economy in the English Channel: Small Boats, Racism and the Shifting Dynamics of Imperialism

Abstract: The movement of people in small boats across the English Channel to claim asylum has created a policy and media 'spectacle' in the UK. This paper examines the bordering infrastructure along the N. French Coast and in the UK which have shaped these criminalised journeys. It does so by focussing on the political economy of bordering and the wider global and social interests that shape the border-security economy. Whilst it is fairly well established that the fortification of ports such as Calais, coercive policing and surveillance have directed people towards maritime routes in the Channel, what is less developed is an understanding of whose interests are served by these strategies. We thus ask: In whose material and symbolic interests do borders such as this work? Drawing on conceptualisations of the neoliberal 'carceral archipelago' (Axster et al 2021) and historical materialist work on the state, this paper focusses on three overlapping dynamics to make sense of this: 1) The investment in private border security and state contracting as a mechanism of elite wealth extraction and profiteering; 2) Neoliberal state hegemony and the reproduction of consent; 3) the colonial/global dynamics of the contemporary imperialism. In this way, it explores how the 'small boats' phenomenon (in a continuum with other maritime borderzones) should be seen as a revealing the contradictory dynamics of late capitalist accumulation, dispossession and exploitation in the face of ecological breakdown.

Bio: Dr. Joe Turner is a Senior Lecturer in International Politics at the University of York. His interdisciplinary research examines how border regimes in post metropolises like Britain are structured by imperial and colonial histories and hierarchies of human value. He recently published *Migration Studies and Colonialism* (with Lucy Mayblin) and *Bordering intimacy: postcolonial governance and the policing of family*.

Thom Davies (University of Nottingham) Eco-coloniality and the Violent Environmentalism of the UK-France Border

Abstract: This paper examines the eco-coloniality of the UK-France border and specifically the transformation of the Calais 'Jungle Camp' into a nature reserve. Empirically examining the ecological politics of Calais and the afterlife of the Fort-Vert camp area, it argues that environmental constructs play an increasing role in both enacting and obscuring border violence. To focus on the environmental dimensions of borders the paper asks: What is at stake by converting a notorious refugee camp into a nature reserve? What role does the environment play in both producing and disguising the violence of borders? And how might environmental ideas that were once forged during empire, continue to shape the dispossession of racialized groups today? By deepening our understanding of what counts as border violence and tracing the colonial genealogy of environmental racism, this paper further develops the concept of eco-coloniality. This builds upon burgeoning research at the intersection of critical border studies and political ecology, which has explored the co-option of 'nature' into violent border practices (Squire 2014; Schindel 2019; Rullmann 2020; Pallister-Wilkins 2022; Ozguc and Burridge 2023), and the deepening links between ecofascism and exclusionary migration regimes (Hultgren 2015; Turner and Bailey 2022). Ultimately, it suggests that the protection of the environment—both at the border and during empire—is used as a pretense for dispossessing racialized groups.

Bio: Dr. Thom Davies is an Assistant Professor in Human Geography at the University of Nottingham. He researches border violence, critical migration, and toxic geographies. He recently co-edited the book "Toxic Truths: Environmental Justice and Citizen Science in a post-truth age" (with Alice Mah 2020).

Lucy Mayblin (University of Sheffield) & Arshad Isakjee (University of Liverpool) “Bringing Order to the Border”: (Il)liberal Racism, Technocratic Fantasies, and Postcolonial Borders

In 2018 people began to cross the English Channel to seek asylum in the UK small boats for the first time in several decades. These crossings were produced by the steady development of bordering and policing of the Channel, and the fortification of the port of Calais since the 1960s. These recent small boats crossings have sparked a political crisis and a raft of new legislation seeking to criminalise Channel crossers and end rights to seek asylum in the UK. In this paper we explore the interaction of two sets of fantasies that are advanced by politicians in the UK; one set espoused within the right-wing Conservative government and another forwarded principally by the opposition Labour Party and its policy networks. We characterise these different approaches to border governance as varying between ‘right-nationalist’ and ‘managerial-technocratic’ projects. Whilst right-nationalist approaches to governing refugee mobility through the Dover strait relies on illiberal racist fantasies that extreme, dehumanising and performative punishments, the managerial-technocratic approach approximates a solution through ‘efficient’ cost-saving governance and liberal technocratic acts of securitisation. Each of these fantasies show echoes of colonial governance, and though they contrast, they may also at times intersect and converge. Our contention in this paper is that these modes often have violent and racist effects that can be categorised as reproducing liberal and illiberal forms of racism (Mondon and Winter 2019). We conclude by arguing that a narrow approach to addressing Channel Crossings focussed primarily on reducing the number of journeys is not only likely to reproduce the racism of the British and EU immigration systems, but will likely fail on its own terms.

Bios: Dr. Lucy Mayblin is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at University of Sheffield. She was recipient of the Philip Leverhulme Prize in recognition of the “significant international impact” of her research and her publications include the books *Asylum After Empire: Postcolonial Legacies in the Politics of Asylum Seeking* (2017) and *Impoverishment and Asylum: Social Policy as Slow Violence* (2019).

Dr. Arshad Isakjee is a Lecturer in Human Geography at the University of Liverpool. He researches the politics of informal and irregular migration into Europe and border activism. He regularly publishes in leading Geography journals.

Panel 29 | Security utopias and resistance

Nina Perkowski (University of Hamburg), From Existential Unease to Security Utopias

Abstract: Multiple, complex and overlapping crises are fuelling ontological insecurity worldwide. This state of existential unease, exacerbated by rapid social, economic, and environmental change, leaves communities feeling disoriented and vulnerable. In this context of heightened insecurity, migration, the climate crisis, and anti-democratic movements form a complex triad, with insecurities linked to climate-related transformations and ongoing migration fuelling anti-democratic movements that capitalise on and further stoke existing fears. Building on recent work on everyday security and urban (in)security, this paper examines how these complex developments play out in urban areas, critically analysing everyday urban (in)security in times of multiple crises. Drawing on ten participatory workshops with diverse residents in different neighbourhoods of Hamburg in the spring and summer of 2023, the paper explores how uncertainty and (in)security as well as local infrastructures of community and care are experienced and understood by residents. It highlights differential needs, imaginaries as well as political demands emerging among different residents, emphasising the importance of intersectional approaches to uncertainty and (in)security in the urban realm. In doing so, the paper also demonstrates how participatory methods allow for a multifaceted and open-ended engagement with questions of uncertainty and (in)security and can serve as important tools to facilitate the construction of positive imaginaries in challenging times.

Bio: Nina Perkowski is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Hamburg. Previously, she worked at the IFSH, the University of Hamburg and the University of Warwick. Nina holds a PhD from the University of Edinburgh. In her research, she focuses on how borders are drawn, contested, and

navigated within and around European societies, critically examining the interplay of border security and border violence across different contexts. Her monographs “Humanitarianism, Human Rights, and Security: The Case of Frontex” and “Reclaiming Migration: Voices from Europe’s ‘Migrant Crisis’” (written with Vicki Squire, Dallal Stevens, and Nick Vaughan-Williams) were published in 2021.

Federica Mazzara (University of Westminster), Borders as Playscapes of Resistance

Abstract: This paper is interested in identifying forms of creative visual resistance to a prevailing logic of border enforcement aimed at curbing undocumented human movement. These forms of resistance serve to underscore the porosity of borders and the irrational violence that increasingly defines their global management. This phenomenon is perpetuated through policies, rhetorical strategies, speech acts, and media narratives that contribute to a toxic discourse of exclusion, effectively immobilising movement. From the perspective of this paper, visual forms of resistance serve as a means to ‘mock’ the border, and to enact a form of carnivalesque resistance (Bakhtin) that subverts and liberates the functional meaning of borders, highlighting their inefficiency while transforming them into arenas of creative and critical resistance. This paper undertakes an analysis of two instances of aesthetic production that mock the border while turning the borderland into a playscape. The case studies analysed include aesthetic interventions in the US-Mexico and the Israel-Palestine borderlands.

Bio: Federica Mazzara is Reader in Cultural Studies at the University of Westminster, London. Her research interests are situated at the intersection of migration studies and cultural studies. She has published widely on border politics and art. She has also curated exhibitions on migration, including Sink Without Trace: An Exhibition on Migrant Deaths at Sea (June-July 2019, P21 Gallery, London). She is the author of *Reframing Migration: Lampedusa, Border Spectacle and the Aesthetics of Subversion* (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2019), and is currently working on a monograph titled *Mocking the Border: Carnivalesque Resistance in Times of Migration*.

Luke Nwibo Eda (University of the West of England) The Search for Order in a Migration Crisis World: On the EU’s Biopolitics of Racialised Bordering and Everyday Struggles of Migrants at Europe’s Spaces (Geographies) of Exception

Abstract: The contemporary making of EU immigration law and policy shape and are shaped by the biopolitics of inclusive-exclusion that seeks to draw a binary line between the legal subjects of law (inclusion) and those excluded from the law’s protection (exclusion). The consequence for migrants seeking protection in Europe but trapped in Europe’s spaces (geographies) of exception is the forcible reduction of their life to mere biology when they are stripped of political rights by the state which has the ultimate sovereign power to determine who is in/excluded from legal protection as worthy human beings. Drawing upon Foucault’s ‘biopolitics’ theory (Foucault, 1998), Agamben’s concept of ‘bare life’ (Agamben, 1998) and Arendt’s concept of ‘right to have rights’ (Arendt, 1973), the paper critically investigates the foundational structures of exception deeply rooted in EU migration laws and policies designed to regulate migrant lives. The paper argues that the systemic biopolitical ‘Othering’ of migrants inherent in the EU migration governance system results in a series of insidious outcomes— (1) deprivation of migrants’ ‘place’ in the European political community; (2) uprooting of migrants’ ‘legal personhood’ in Europe’s rural-urban sanctuaries; and (3) stripping of migrants’ political agency to claim rights in Europe. The paper recounts European migration events of modern history (e.g., the Left-to-Die Boat Case) in which one legal-political imperative emerged: a bid to the EU, its member states, and its institutions—to recognise the structures of exception in the EU migration system, to question those structures, their founding principles, and to search for and find a new migration order or system devoid of state of exception and premised on the shared values of human dignity.

Bio: Dr Luke Eda is a Lecturer in Law at the University of the West of England, Bristol Law School and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. He completed his PhD in Law at Bournemouth University in 2021, specialising in ‘Missing Migrants’. Luke has presented papers at leading international conferences in the world including at the University of Oxford (2019), the University of Cambridge (2023), the University of Essex (2020), and the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law

and Human Rights (2023). His research interests encompass various aspects of Public International Law, including International Criminal Law, Human Rights and Migration Law.

Panel 30 | Epistemic and Pedagogical Approaches to Border and Migration Studies

Katy Budge (Aberystwyth University), Acknowledging and articulating 'epistemic ignorance' in Critical Border Studies

Abstract: This article traces my own 'epistemic ignorance' through my research on the violence of the EU's border regime. Epistemic ignorance is a response to what Boochani (2019) terms the 'epistemic privilege' of those with lived experience of border violence, as opposed to the limited experiential and socio-political imagination of those with 'citizenship privilege'. In developing this concept, I draw on feminist and critical race approaches which emphasise how epistemologies of white ignorance are implicated in the persistence and pervasiveness of racialised hierarchies, ontologies and economies (Mills 1997, Sullivan and Tuana 2007). Through an explicit acknowledgement of how my own epistemic ignorance manifested in my research and fieldwork encounters, the paper seeks to counter the tendency among (white) critical borders scholars to distance ourselves from (our complicity in) the epistemic and material violence in which our research is situated. In doing so, it draws attention not only to the limitations of our analyses of border violence, but also points to the restricted and ambiguous scope of our imaginaries of resistance. Nevertheless, I also try to point to the critical potential of acknowledging and articulating the epistemic ignorance that conditions, and constrains, research.

Bio: Katy Budge is a Lecturer in International Politics at Aberystwyth University. Katy's research draws on critical and postcolonial interventions to examine the construction and contestation of borders, as well as to ask questions about knowledge production in migration / refugee / critical border studies.

Mirian Alves Souza (University Federal Fluminense) Marronage Meets Theatre of the Oppressed: Counter-Narratives Through Participatory Art with Migrants and Refugees in Brazil

Abstract: This paper proposal explores an artistic and academic experience resulting in the film "Theatre Marronage", based on the play "Ngana Nzambi: The Migratory Bureaucratic Life as it Is". I intend to discuss such experience, highlighting the contributions of the Theatre of the Oppressed, a participatory methodology devised by Augusto Boal in 1979, in enhancing participatory research practices. This methodology, designed for non-professional actors, is a powerful tool for refugees and migrants to articulate their narratives, thereby facilitating a critical reflection on their histories, current circumstances, and aspirations. Through this framework, oppressed voices engage in dialogue, narrate their experiences, and actively seek solutions to existing oppressive structures. This proposal seeks to discuss the Theater of the Oppressed experience with researchers and artists who are themselves refugees and migrants at the University Federal Fluminense in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as part of the ERC-funded project 'Modern Marronage: The Pursuit and Practice of Freedom in the Contemporary World', whose aim is to work with research participants to co-produce counter-narratives to conventional stories of "migrants and asylum seekers" as a problem, and, by communicating them through performance as well as text, encourage more nuanced widespread and political debate on the contemporary meaning and practice of freedom of mobility (Martins Jr. & O'Connell Davidson, 2022).

Bio: Mirian Alves Souza holds a PhD and a Master's degree in Anthropology from the University Federal Fluminense, Brazil, where she is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology. She is currently a visiting scholar at the University of Birmingham, engaged in the project "Modern Marronage: The Pursuit and Practice of Freedom in the Contemporary World." Her research primarily explores themes within migration and refugee studies.

Asli Kandemir (University of Birmingham), Spatiality of Populism: Discourse of Tolerance as Symbolic Border

Abstract: Considering Louis Althusser's education as an ideological state apparatus and David T. Goldberg's racial neoliberalism, this paper discusses that education policy in Britain is instrumentalised in discourse-making for 'b/ordering'. The government self-responsibilises 'ethnic' youth for governance within the ideological (populist) project of the right. Populism in Britain has intensified in the discursive realm over the last two decades and prevailed into the education policy to redeem the state's failing hegemony and legitimate its (in)effective governance. To achieve it, right-wing populist discourse has perpetually presented a 'problem' or a 'threat', facing 'the people' to be socially fragmented due to self-segregation of 'the Other'. Hence, it has re-imagined the nation, re-defined 'deservingness' to be part of the nation and relied on education policy and practice to appropriate children and young people as future 'deserving' citizens. Transforming into a discursive practice, populism seeks and finds its spatiality to be operational in a material form through the promotion of former 'Fundamental British Values (FBVs)' and current 'British Values'. Therefore, this chapter aims to respond to three key questions: 1) how is populism effective in the instrumentalisation of FBV discourse as a governing tool within education policy, 2) how are young people shaped through meaning-making of 'appropriate citizen' and 'ideal student' within the FBV narrative, and 3) how is tolerance constituted as a symbolic border to mark and spatialise the 'appropriateness' of 'ethnic' youth in the populist realm? Drawing on reflexive thematic analysis of a corpus of education policy documents released in Britain between 2010 and 2022, this paper argues that the value of tolerance becomes a spatiality of populism and is materialised as a symbolic border between deserving and undeserving British citizens.

Bio: Asli Kandemir is a sociologist and researches about race/ethnicity, immigration, and inequalities in education policy and practice. Her current focus is on state power, symbolic borders, and cultural racism with a developing interest in decolonisation of mentoring. Asl? currently works as a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Leverhulme Trust-funded project, "'Free' expression at School? The Making of Youth Engagements with Race and Faith" at the School of Education, University of Birmingham, where she leads the qualitative component of this mixed methods project. Asl? writes, teaches, and mentors students, scholars, and professionals. She is a former DJ and now a capoeirista.

Panel 31 | Emergent bordering practices and everyday imaginaries as horizons

Convenor: Dr Aila Spathopoulou (University of Stirling), Dr Isabel Meier (Northumbria University)

This panel brings together legal, relational, and abolitionist engagements with bordering practices and their emergent manifestations. Bringing together contributions from different geographical locations, situated experiences, discourses, representations, policy and legal frameworks, this panel interrogates how these bordering practices criminalise, other, and govern people through the ongoing reconfiguration of legal categories of migration, such as the 'asylum seeker' and 'illegal immigrant'. Sophie's paper critically interrogates the end of asylum at the South-West US border through the 2023 notice of proposed rule-making entitled 'Circumvention of Lawful Pathways'. Isabel's paper explores migration as a relational space as well as the power of relational imaginaries to situate oneself globally and navigate colonial boundaries of belonging, comfort, safety and connection. Aila's paper reflects on everyday incarcerations and injustices in the context of the Bibby Stockholm barge on the Isle of Portland and the ways in which floating vessels transcend their immediate physical presence, becoming symbolic of people's desires to connect and their dreams to travel against and beyond borders through abolitionist views and horizons.

Aila Spathopoulou (University of Stirling) Displacing border violence: Floating detention, everyday incarcerations and abolitionist journeys and horizons

In this presentation I explore the complex interplay between mobility, freedom, and borders as the result of the global landscape of migration and border control, in the context of the Bibby Stockholm barge on the Isle of Portland. Based on ethnographic research on the Isle of Portland between May

and September 2024, I approach these issues methodologically from the situated angle of the embodiment of everyday incarcerations and injustices in the concrete experiences of people (including the researcher herself), as they walk to and from and in between the multiple prisons on the islands. I am particularly interested in the ethico-political issues and possibilities at stake in walking together in a context of unfreedom as well as the context of academic research and the boundaries of the so-called 'field'. By reflecting on the 'carceral view' of the barge from the vantage point of another prison, the HMP the Verne, and its simultaneous invisibility down at the port, I proceed with a discussion on imaginaries and experiences of everyday incarcerations but, also, connections emerging between groups of people that states aim to divide and separate along racialised and gendered lines. I conclude this discussion with an image of a travelling ship that was visible in the horizon, as we engaged in conversations about our ongoing journeys that brought us to the Isle of Portland and our dreams for future ones and hopes to reconnect, to reflect on abolitionist views and horizons. In this way, floating vessels transcend their immediate physical presence, becoming symbolic of people's desires to connect and their dreams to travel against and beyond borders and prisons.

Bio: Aila Spathopoulou is a Lecturer in Criminology and a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow (2022-2025) at the University of Stirling. She is also co-coordinator at the Feminist Autonomous Centre for research (FAC research). Since 2015, she has been engaged in research and activist work that interrogates border violence in the context of the Aegean (Greece) and more recently offshore carceral spaces in the UK. Her current Leverhulme project titled 'Refuge or Return: The changing spatio-temporalities of EU refugee asylum' interrogates the uneven spatio-temporalities of refuge/asylum and return from and across Europe (Greece, Finland, Poland) and the UK (England and Scotland) with a particular focus on how ferries, cruise ships and barges are being used as offshore floating prisons for people racialised and criminalised as "refugees", "displaced people", "asylum seekers" and "migrants".

Isabel Meier (Northumbria University) Beyond citizenship: Engagements with borders and belongings through relational imaginaries

This paper explores borders, belonging and political engagements through relational imaginaries beyond citizenship as the prevailing framework to understand systems, practices, and experiences of inclusion/exclusion, belonging/unbelonging as well as safety/unsafety. It puts the main argument forward that citizenship as a legal, cultural and political concept is defined through differentiation and demarcation from "the migrant" or "stranger" or "other", however a closer examination of these two constructs reveals blurry boundaries that disguise underlying dynamics of exclusion, othering and criminalisation rooted in colonial ways of relating. Citizenship as such reproduces and justifies arbitrary violence at the border and within states while also at the same time creates very real harmful realities for many people and hence immigration status matters, empirically and normatively. This paper explores what it means to think migration as a relational space as well as the power of relational imaginaries to situate oneself globally and navigate colonial boundaries of belonging, comfort, safety and connection. It draws on ethnographic work from two research projects conducted in Germany and the UK from 2015-2018 on the "politics of asylum" (2015-2018) and "politics of hope and survival at EU borderscapes" (2021-2024).

Bio: Isabel Maeier is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at Northumbria University working on issues of affective borders, politics of asylum and migration. Her project, *Everyday Politics of Survival and Hope at European Borderscapes* (2021-2024) explores migrants' agencies and experiences of survival and hope across four European case studies: seasonal workers in Germany, internationally recruited nurses in the UK, illegalised migrants in Finland and people living in camps on the Greek islands. Recent publications: Potter, J. L., & Meier, I. (2024). Distanciation as a technology of control in the UK hostile environment. *Critical Social Policy*; Meier, I. (2023). Acts of disengagement in border struggles: fugitive practices of refusal. *Antipode*; Spathopoulou, A., & Meier, I. (2023). Practising refusal as relating otherwise: engagements with knowledge production, 'activist' praxis, and borders. *Fennia-International Journal of Geography*. orcid.org/0000-0001-7539-1104.

Sophie Capicchiano Young (Independent legal consultant) The End of Asylum in the United States

Through a complementary framework of laws, policies, and practices, the current US administration has built upon the immigration agenda of the previous administrations, restricting the right to seek asylum for those arriving at the Southwest border almost entirely. It has expanded certain laws and policies implemented by the previous administration - some of which it has vigorously defended in court – and implemented new laws and policies, specifically a Final Rule entitled ‘Circumvention of Lawful Pathways,’ which limits asylum but for the most exceptional circumstances. As this presentation will demonstrate, those exceptional circumstances have been interpreted and applied by Customs and Border Patrol officers in terms even narrower than the Final Rule permits. The restriction of asylum has been realised through two specific modifications of US immigration law and by extension, fundamental precepts of International Refugee Law: the conflation of asylum seekers and migrants as classes of individual subject to undifferentiated legal processes, and through the qualification of asylum based on mode of arrival, specifically, arrival by land at the Southwest border having already passed through another Central American state – a condition that applies to all land arrivals by non-Mexican nationals. Through an analysis of quantitative data, and a series of qualitative interviews with legal service providers, shelter providers, independent researchers at US PoEs including at San Ysidro, Brownsville, Hidalgo, Laredo, and El Paso, and a former US Border Patrol official, this presentation will demonstrate that the implementation of the current US administration’s immigration agenda and the practice of Customs and Border Protection agents has continued a unified immigration agenda of multiple sequential administrations, and has created extreme dangers for asylum seekers arriving at the Southwest border, as the provision of asylum has all but ended, even for those that are clearly in need of protection.

Bio: Sophie Capicchiano Young is a lawyer, legal consultant, independent researcher, and doctor of international law, with specialisation in International Refugee Law, and mixed movement frameworks in Central America and the US. Sophie lives in Mexico City.

Panel 32 | Thinking Through 'Pathways': Exploring the Everyday Navigation of Migration and Integration Bordering Regimes in Belgium

Convenor: Mieke Groeninck, Dirk Geldof

In the broader realm of mobility and migration research, the concept of ‘pathways’ has been employed to elucidate the contingent acts of people and/in their – often conceptualized as ‘everyday’ – surroundings, as a way to indicate the presence of human or other agency in structures. Scholars have for instance illustrated pathways towards mobility, housing, ‘integration’, and ‘incorporation’, or ‘irregularity’. The socio-spatial metaphorical concept of ‘pathway’ typically refers in these instances to the assemblage of movements, negotiations, navigations, or thinkerings of and between different entities, who are co-constituted throughout the process of inter-action (Bryant 2011). Lingerings between governmentality and agency perspectives, these might encompass humans and/in/with social structures, spaces, technologies, materialities, meanings, actions, knowledges, affects, needs, aspirations, relations, capacities, etc. This panel seeks to understand whether the concept of ‘pathways’ helps to examine the everyday navigation of bordering regimes. We explore this question through five ongoing research projects from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Dirk Geldof, Katja Fournier, Kaat Van Acker: Pathways on Hold? Asylum Centers in Belgium as Liminal Spaces (AMIF research)

The limbo period between asylum application and acceptance decision in Belgium halts asylum seekers' lives and inclusion pathways. Asylum centers, with their ambivalence between control and assistance, serve basic needs but hinder deep connections, rendering them 'non-places' disconnected from the real world. Drawing on 123 interviews with parents (58), children (38) and staff (38) in 9

Belgian centers (AMIF research: Fournier et al, 2022 & 2024), we provide a socio-spatial perspective on children and families' experiences. Analyzing the social space of asylum centers in terms of infrastructures, procedures and power relations, we observe 'isomorphic effects' on both refugees and staff, constraining one unit in a population to resemble other units in the same environmental conditions (Di Maggio & Powell 1983). We reflect on the significance of a spatial-temporal lens to better understand and improve living conditions in reception infrastructures, supporting rather than impeding inhabitants' future inclusion pathways.

Mieke Groeninck: Pathways Towards 'Well-being Re-invented'

This abstract is derived from the REFUFAM project (Belspo, 2021-25), exploring how Belgian migration and integration policies influence the psycho-social well-being of refugee families and their access to crucial domains such as employment, education, and housing. Employing a mixed methodology approach, we conducted recurring interviews with 27 families who received international protection in Belgium from 2015 onwards. In this paper, we delve into refugee families' pathways towards well-being, considering it as a construct continually 're-invented' (Wagner 1989) along its trajectory. Departing from the notion of fixed ideas on well-being, we view it as an evolving assemblage amidst dynamic and mobile forms of life. Specifically, we aim to unravel how the 'happiness duty' implied by a dispositive of 'inclusion' through 'integration' towards citizenship is experienced, negotiated, or contested along particular pathways. To what extent can these pathways towards 'well-being re-invented' be considered an everyday politics?

Pascal Debruyne, Sylvie Van Dam, Elsemieke Van Osch, A Life Course Approach to Undocumented Families; Pathways to Other Futures

In our study, we use a life course approach (Elder 1998) to explore the experiences of undocumented families, focusing on their agency within societal structures. Through empirical data from interviews and longitudinal ethnography from two research projects, we trace how these families navigate various challenges posed by government bordering practices while striving for future stability (Persdotter, Lind, & Righard, 2021). Our approach recognizes the complex interplay between biographical and sociohistorical factors in migrant experiences, challenging simplistic economic models of migration (Papadopoulos & Tsianos, 2007). Methodologically, we address temporal changes within migrant lives, particularly within family dynamics, identifying critical moments where lack of legal status exacerbates family dynamics, identifying critical moments where lack of legal status exacerbates vulnerabilities. Furthermore, we examine the role of social workers in mitigating these challenges and fostering inclusive futures for undocumented families. Our research highlights the importance of combating inequality at the intersection of residency and social rights, illuminating new pathways towards inclusive futures for undocumented families.

Aliki Tzouvara, Shila Anaraki, Elisabeth Mareels, Bruno Meeus, Luce Beeckmans, Mieke Groeninck, Karel Arnaut, Mapping Pathways Out of Precarious Citizenship

In the ATLAS project (2023-26), our research shifts from crisis driven to future oriented approaches, focusing on pathways out of precarious citizenship in Brussels. We aim to propose socio-spatial strategies countering exclusion from housing and social infrastructure, penetrating the multi-scalar governance of the city. Identifying three provisional logics of housing and social infrastructure, we delineate hypothetical routes out of precarity, each shaping citizenship differently: human rights based citizenship in emergency shelters, infrastructural citizenship through policy adaptations and bricolage, and care citizenship within alternative community infrastructures. We confront these hypotheses with actual pathways, exploring their intricate interplay and overlap within everyday practices and space. One of ATLAS' aims is to critically map these 'dwellings' (Sanchez 2022) and analyze how everyday practices intersect with space, shedding light on the pathways in and between provisional logics, in order to forecast new (spatial) scenarios for future pathways out of precarious and towards redrawn citizenship(s) in Brussels.

Biographical notes authors (in order of presentation):

Dirk Geldof is professor Sociology at the Faculty of Design Sciences (University of Antwerp) and senior researcher at the Centre for Family Studies (University of Applied Sciences Odisee). His research focuses on migration, superdiversity and refugees in Belgium.

Katja Fournier holds a Master in Political Sciences, with an extra degree in European and Migration Law. She works as a researcher on the AMIF-project focusing on how to make reception centers more child and family-friendly at the Centre for Family Studies, in the research group Social Work of the University of Applied Sciences Odisee. Her research mainly focuses on children's rights in the context of migration, family dynamics in exile and the political and institutional dynamics within reception sector.

Kaat Van Acker is a Lecturer in Social Work at Odisee University of Applied Sciences where she coordinates the Social Work Research Centre. She is also a Lecturer in Psychology at KU Leuven and holds a Phd from the same university. Her research is situated in the domains of migration and intercultural relations, particularly focusing on emotions, parenting and resilience among refugees and other groups of migrants with precarious legal status. She also works as a psychotherapist in a private practice.

Mieke Groeninck holds a PhD in Social and Cultural Anthropology obtained at KU Leuven (2017) in the field of Anthropology of Islam. As a postdoctoral researcher, she has worked in the field of Islamic authority formation and piety processes at KU Leuven and Leiden University. Since 2019, she additionally conducts research at Odisee University of Applied Sciences on inclusion pathways, precarity and well-being of refugee families in Belgium. Currently she's also the content coordinator at KU Leuven of the ATLAS-project on 'Access to Shelter and Social Infrastructure' for people with precarious citizenship in Brussels.

Pascal Debruyne finished his PhD in 2013 at the Department of Conflict and Development from Ghent University, where he focused on the spatial re-articulations of statehood, examining 'Jordan's Geographies of Power under Globalization'. His postdoctoral research focused on "solidarity in superdiversity" and undocumented Eastern-European citizens. Afterwards, he worked for 'Refugee Action' as a policy coordinator on integration policies. Since 2019 he is working at Odisee University for Applied Sciences, teaching courses on migration and superdiversity for social professionals. Debruyne's most recent research is on family reunification of refugee families, undocumented migrant families and (migrant) beggary in Brussels.

Sylvie Van Dam is a researcher at the Social Work Research Centre at Odisee University of Applied Sciences and guest professor affiliated with the Bachelor of Sociology and the Master of Social Work at the University of Antwerp. Her research mainly focuses on vulnerable groups, (informal) social work, migration and migrant organizations, poverty and social exclusion.

Elsemieke van Osch is a PhD researcher in Social and Cultural Anthropology at KU Leuven. She holds an MA in International Migration and Human Rights Law from the University of Kent. Her PhD monograph is based on a longitudinal, follow-along ethnography of families' trajectories through the asylum regime in Belgium, analysing how families navigate and contest repressive asylum policies in their everyday and private lives, as well as how normative understandings of "family" become entangled in bordering processes, to determine access to legal status, rights or benefits. She regularly collaborates with civil society organisations working on migration and asylum-related issues.

Aliki Tzouvara is a PhD candidate in the Department of Architecture at KU Leuven. Trained as an architect in Athens and later in urbanism at KU Leuven, her research focuses into practices, imaginaries, and spaces of life in common and collective care within contemporary urban contexts marked by widespread processes of neoliberalization and 'crisis'. In her role within ATLAS she utilizes mapping beyond traditional spatial representation and research by design to investigate how mapping

can transcend conventional boundaries and categories, to forecast new (spatial) scenarios that incorporate and facilitate social reproduction practices of people with precarious citizenship.

Shila Anaraki (she/her) is a PhD candidate in the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at KU Leuven. She conducted research for the Horizon 2020 project ReROOT and is currently engaged as a researcher in ATLAS, a prospective study on precarious citizenship in Brussels. Her doctoral research focuses on the co-construction of informal shelter by and for people with precarious citizenship, exploring the socio-material practices that navigate this complex situation. With a background in the performing arts, Shila has also been teaching in the Fine Arts Department of KASK and Royal Conservatory in Ghent for several years.

Eli Mareels holds a PhD in anthropology and conducted research within the recent Brazilian Pentecostal diaspora in Belgium (2007-15). Afterwards, she worked at DoucheFLUX: a Brussels' day center for homeless persons (2016-22). Since 2022, she has been teaching at the Social Work Department of Odisee University of Applied Sciences. She has also been engaged in the AIMEC research project, examining the various ways in which migrants build a livelihood through 'arrival infrastructures' in Cureghem (Brussels). Currently, she is part of the ATLAS research project concerned with Access to Housing and Social Infrastructure for people with precarious residence status in Brussels.

Bruno Meeus (Utrecht University of Applied Sciences) is a senior lecturer in ecosocial work, strives for social and ecological justice in a diverse society, and researches the housing and living environments of people in precarious situations. He obtained his PhD in urban geography in 2011 at the University of Leuven.

Luce Beeckmans is a research professor at the Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, KU Leuven University. Studying the materialities and spatialities of trans-national migration (particularly from sub-Saharan Africa) at multiple spatial scales, her research is situated at the intersection of migration, city and architecture. More specifically she focuses on the housing and home-making of refugees and migrants, combining insights and methods from different realms, including urban/architectural theory and design; urban ethnography; human geography, post-colonial studies, de-colonial theory and critical, intersectional and feminist thought. She acts as supervisor in the ATLAS-project.

Karel Arnaut, Associate Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology at KU Leuven, specializes in migration, mobility and diversity. His research emphasizes alternative strength-based, place-based, and resource-oriented approaches to transnational migration and diasporic social and cultural work. He has conducted research on student and youth autochthony movements in Côte d'Ivoire, particularly in Bondoukou and Abidjan. As an academic activist, he addresses postcolonial dynamics of Africa(ns) in Belgium and Europe, notably in Matonge (Brussels). He currently (co-)guides several collective research projects, which focus on place-making and lifeworld-building in migration-driven contexts.

Panel 33 | Asylum, identity and bureaucratic hurdles

Caroline Oliver (UCL), María E. López and Louise Ryan (London Metropolitan), Afghan resettlement in England: initial findings

Abstract: This presentation draws on research among newly arriving Afghan migrants in England. Following the Taliban takeover in August 2021, over 20,000 Afghan evacuees (of whom half are children) arrived under two official resettlement schemes operated by the UK Home Office and its contractors: the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS). In the context of increasingly strict means of entry via other asylum routes under the Nationality and Borders Act 2022, this ongoing research (2024-25) explores what it means to be arriving under these schemes, and experiences of resettlement across different localities in the

country, and within different housing types, including in Ministry of Defence properties, the private rental sector and Local Authority provided housing. Initial evidence points to how various challenges have impacted significantly the experiences of those arriving. These include problems of adequate data collection from the Home Office and related safeguarding risks, the impacts of political imperatives that implemented a swift and sharp closure of bridging hotels without prior securing of housing suitable for large households, and problems associated with the short-term nature of funding commitments. It draws on first-hand evidence gained through a scoping review, including significant work undertaken with regional migration partnerships, Local Authorities and voluntary organisations across the country. It also reflects on initial impressions gained from ongoing experiences of doing survey research with newly resettled Afghans.

Bios: Dr Caroline Oliver is Associate Professor in Sociology at UCL's Faculty of Education & Society, co-director of UCL's Migration Research Unit and Centre of Sociology of Equity in Education. Her expertise is in refugee reception at local level, including research into city-led innovation in asylum seeker reception and Afghan resettlement in England.

Professor Louise Ryan is senior professor of Sociology, Director of the Global Diversities and Inequalities (GDI) research centre, London Metropolitan University with expertise in migration and currently working on Afghan resettlement schemes in England, drawing upon earlier work in Islington, London.

Professor María López is Professor of Sociology and Deputy Director of the Global Diversities and Inequalities (GDI) Research Centre at London Metropolitan University. She has worked extensively on migration in several global hotspots and is currently working on Afghan resettlement schemes in England, building on previous work in Islington, London.

Liza Dumovich (KU Leuven), Searching for a new identity: negotiations of belonging among two Turkish Muslim women refugees in Europe

Abstract: This presentation will tell the story of Esma and Merve, two Turkish Muslim young women who fled their homeland to Europe after the July 2016 failed coup attempt in Turkey. Although both women are committed participants of the same translocal Turkish Muslim community, they have experienced exile in quite different ways. After facing incarceration for 8 months, Esma fled Turkey for Greece by boat and bought a fake identity card and a flight ticket to the Netherlands, where she applied for asylum. Merve also crossed the Maritsa River to Greece but chose to fly to Poland. Seven months after she applied for asylum, Merve realized she would not be granted refugee status in Poland, so, unaware of the Dublin Accords, she went to Belgium. My presentation will focus on these two interlocutors' trajectories since they became targets of the Turkish government's persecution, not so much because their experiences are representatives of what other members of the same religious community have lived since July 2016, but rather because their individual experiences gather many of the various elements that I have encountered in other interlocutors' narratives of persecution, flight, and life rebuilding. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork with forced migrant Turkish Muslim women in Belgium and the Netherlands, this paper will analyze how persecution, religion, and community intertwine in experiences of exile from a gendered perspective. It will show the different ways in which two committed Muslim young women have resignified their losses and engaged in rebuilding their lives under abnormal circumstances.

Bio: Liza Dumovich is currently a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at KU Leuven. Her research project focuses on homemaking practices among Turkish Muslim forced migrants in Belgium and the Netherlands. She holds a PhD and an MA degree in Anthropology from Universidade Federal Fluminense (UFF), Brazil. She is also a Research Associate at the Centre for Middle East Studies (NEOM) at UFF and co-editor of *Revista Diáspora – Oriente Médio & Norte da África*, a collaborative digital magazine on the MENA region and diasporas. Her research interests include migration, religious subjectivity, and gender.

Hanain Brohi (University of Manchester), Sara Ganassin (Newcastle University), “We came to the UK to find safety, not to be dumped in Rwanda”: exploring the edges of vulnerability in refugee women in the UK

Abstract: The experiences of displaced peoples and racially minoritized groups in the UK more broadly are marred by systemic inequalities, from punitive border politics such as the proposed Rwanda bill the present UK government is seeking to legislate, to the employment barriers refugees and racially minoritized groups face (Lancee et al, 2019; Young et al, 2022). For this paper, we draw from our study funded by the British Academy small projects fund that sought to explore employment barriers refugee women face. As part of this study, we facilitated workshops at a small York-based charity, which primarily supported Muslim refugee women. Crucially, data from the workshops showcases an acute awareness amongst the women of structural Islamophobia, which has been well documented as a pervasive issue, most notably through the surveillance of Muslims in the UK more broadly (Kundnani, 2014; Manzoor-Khan, 2022). Issues around surveillance impacts displaced peoples in the UK as the police have been documented to collect data from lone refugee children (Gidda, 2023). This is particularly poignant given that following the concluding workshop at this charity, we learnt that they invite a policewoman to deliver monthly ‘empowerment’ sessions for the displaced women. In this paper, we will therefore explore how refugee women make sense of their post-displacement journeys to re-employment—namely through a consideration of how they construct their own sense of collective ‘vulnerability’ (Badwan, 2021)—and also reflect on the ethics and tensions around a grassroots organisation dedicated to supporting refugee women while collaborating with the police.

Bios: Hanain Brohi is a Lecturer in Intercultural Communication at the University of Manchester. Her work centres Critical Discourse Studies, with a specific focus on Islamophobia in the UK, the linguistic securitisation of Muslims, as well as experiences of Othering and systemic discrimination of racially minoritized communities and vulnerable migrants in Britain. She is currently working on a project exploring the experiences of highly-skilled refugee women in the UK.

Sara Ganassin is a Senior Lecturer in Applied Linguistics and Communication at the School of Education, Communication and Language Sciences, Newcastle University (UK). Her research interests include migrant and refugee communities; Chinese heritage language learning and teaching; and ethics and reflexivity in research with vulnerable groups. She has been involved in different European projects on internationalisation, intercultural learning, migration and displacement. Sara also previously worked in the voluntary sector as project coordinator and researcher with migrant and refugee women and young people. <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-0373-542X>.

Workshop 1 | Podcasting amidst the politics of migration

Over the past few years, academic podcasting has taken off. Inspired by the prospects of podcasting for engaging broader publics, migration scholars have been among those turning to this medium to communicate their research. This session brings together a panel of migration scholars who podcast—Rob McNeil, Migration Oxford; Nando Sigona, Conversations with IRiS; Michaela Benson, Who do we think we are? (other speakers to be confirmed)—to reflect on podcasting about migration and with migration researchers in the context of a heightened politics of migration. In conversation, the panellists will draw on their own experiences of podcasting on migration to consider the following questions:

- What is the potential of podcasts for unpacking a topic that is so often at the heart of public and political debate?
- What are the opportunities and affordances of podcasting for migration scholars? How can you make the most of these? Conversely, what are the perils and pitfalls? And how can you overcome these?
- How can podcasting as a platform offer alternative ways of thinking that break through common sense understandings of migration?

- How do you bring expertise and research to life for listeners?
- What tips do you have for those curious about or just starting out on their podcasting journeys?

Convenor: Michaela Benson (Lancaster University)

Speakers

Rob McNeil (Migration Observatory) is the Deputy Director and Head of Media and Communications at the Migration Observatory at the University of Oxford. He is responsible for public relations strategy, parliamentary and community outreach and the news and commentary work at the Migration Observatory. Rob was part of the team who launched the Migration Observatory in 2011 and, since then, has been working to embed Migration Observatory analysis in public debates.

Rob also participates in Oxford University and COMPAS research projects, examining the social environments from which news stories and narratives about migration and migrants emerge, how media debate affects migration policy decisions (and vice versa), and how information gaps affect how these issues are discussed. He lectures on migration and the media for the MSc in Migration Studies.

Mukti Jain Campion is the founder of Culture Wise, BBC radio documentary maker and podcast producer. She has had a wide-ranging and distinctive public service career as a writer, producer, reporter, trainer, and champion for greater cultural diversity in mainstream media production. She trained as a documentary maker at BBC Television before discovering the joys of radio feature making. She came to Britain from India as a young child and her outlook has been profoundly shaped by her family's experience of migration.

Michaela Benson is Professor in Public Sociology at Lancaster University. She is particularly known for her research on lifestyle migration, Brexit and migration. Her recent research includes ESRC-funded projects on Brexit and British citizens in the EU, migration to and from the UK after Brexit, and a British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship for her research into Britain and its overseas citizens. In recent years, she has developed a profile as a public social science communicator, with a portfolio that includes freelance writing for major outlets, public speaking, and the podcast Who do we think we are? (<https://whodowethinkweare.org>).

Nando Sigona is Professor of International Migration and Forced Displacement at the University of Birmingham and Director of the Institute for Research into International Migration and Superdiversity (IRiS). He is also Research Associate at the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford and Senior Research Associate at ODI.

Workshop 2: Understanding and reimagining migration through its asynchronous, conflicting and contested times and temporalities

This workshop would like to provide a space for discussing an emerging theme in migration studies, time and temporality. While time is not a recent theme in migration studies (Hägerstrand 1969), for a long migration has been approached as a spatial process where time was implicit (Griffiths et al., 2013). In the last years, the migration increased complexity required new perspectives and time provided a needed dimension. In particular, time has been analysed as a technology of power, and constraining migrants' times was analysed as a bordering practice (Tazzioli 2018, Mercier et al. 2021, among others). Temporariness was analysed as an essential category, shaped as temporary by policies and eventually resisted by migrants' agency (Triandafyllidou, 2022). This workshop would like to contribute to this stream of scholarship on migration and time by providing an opportunity to discuss and map new perspectives and focusing notably on migration's asynchronous, conflicting and contested time. Building on the research conducted by the participants on bordering through time (temporariness, waiting time, routines and rhythms), what is the role of migrants' agency on time as a technology of

power? How does asynchronous (Baas and Yeoh 2019) temporality of transnational and transtemporal (Coe 2014) living, help us understand the variable forms of transnational living and practices? How do asynchronous and conflicting temporalities affect migrants' resource mobilisation for integration and futuring? Challenging the representation of migration as limited to the productive mid-life allows us to embody migration in the body temporality. How do migrants' body and biographical temporalities intersect bordering time and institutional temporalities? Finally, time can help deconstruct the intertwining of knowledge production with dominant power structures. It allows to blur the difference between migration and immobility (Baas and Yeoh 2019), for instance by including 'waiting' as a core part of the migration experience. How can the temporality lenses help question the "processes of social attribution that differentiate between 'migrants' and 'non-migrants'" (Amelina 2017)?

Convenor: Maria Luisa Caputo (University of Parma)

Chair: Anna Krasteva (CERMES/New Bulgarian University)

Speakers

Başak Yavçan is Migration Policy Group's Head of Research. She is responsible for all of MPG's research activities and research agenda development.

Maria Luisa Caputo is a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Parma where she worked on the social and economic impact of migration in rural and remote Scotland (Horizon 2020 MATILDE project).

Michela Sempredon is Researcher and Lecturer in Sociology and Sociology of Migration at the University of Parma, in the Department of Law, Politics and International Studies.

Olga Gheorghiev is a researcher at the the Czech Academy of Sciences, where she conducts gender-sensitive research on labour market integration of vulnerable groups.

Soazig Dollet (Center for European Studies and Comparative Politics / SciencesPo Paris). Soazig worked on processing asylum application files before joining the ICRC. In 2009, she became the head of the MENA desk of Reporters Without Borders. Since 2019, she has been pursuing a Ph.D.

Workshop 3 | A critical exploration of migrant students, carceral borders and universities in the Global North

This workshop is interested in cultivating a discussion around the joint issues of carceral border policies as exercised within universities, governments and how the marketisation of international higher education factors into carceral border structures. We come together to learn how carceral borders are changing the landscape of migrant students and migrant university staff experiences in higher education, particularly in the Global North. We will also discuss resistance strategies by migrant students and staff within higher education around border violence and exploitation. A discussion about the global Palestine encampment movement and the treatment of migrant student activists by universities through the weaponisation of their student and visa status will also be explored in this workshop. Additionally, we seek to include discourses of how migrant, refugee, asylum seeker and undocumented students and workers through their activism are challenging the neoliberalisation of university-led decolonising, diversity, and inclusion programmes. These kinds of programmes deliberately gloss over universities and how they continue to be complicit in both exercising border controls on campus and also their links with industries and funders that are extending the border, prison, genocide and military-digital industrial complexes both at home and globally. Questions and issues who hope to unpack are the following:

1. How do border controls as exercised on and off university campuses transform the learning environment?
2. How do media projections concerning migrant students shape and transform immigration policies related to migrant students?

3. Migrant students are seen as necessary for the financial stability for many countries' higher education systems, particularly in the Global North, but also perceived as nuances, who are also blamed for "undermining the integrity and quality" of universities. What critiques and activism can we cultivate to these xeno-racist positions and policies both by governments and universities which position migrant students as an unlimited bank to plunder or view them as 'bogus students'?
4. Unpacking cases of disabled migrant students who are fighting two fronts: for better disability support and against how their disability is weaponised against them both by the university and the government when they request study extensions to remain on their course.
5. Challenging the carceral nature of carceral capitalism in the treatment of migrant students. We seek to understand how the threat of withdrawal and revocation of student visas are often employed to migrant students unable to pay tuition fees within their allotted instalment plan because of financial problems at home. Increasing visa fees also factors in this discourse and how sudden visa fees and other costs make it difficult for migrant students to continue their studies in Global Northern countries.
6. How can we nurture a sanctuary university system that does not allow universities and/or governments to weaponise precarious immigration status? How do we push back on the respectability politics involved within sanctuary university discourses that positions these students as "resilient good migrants" and seek to work within carceral university spaces versus migrant students who are organising for border abolition and labour rights on and off campus?
7. What ways in which educators and students can resist the electronic border in the classroom?
8. Does the narrative on decolonising higher education understand the very colonial ways in which migrant students are exploited within the neoliberal, marketised higher education system? If not, what are people doing on the ground to cultivate an understanding on these issues? Are those invested in decolonising getting the message or simply ignoring the problems at hand?
9. How are migrant students shaping labour and immigration rights on campus?
10. Palestine activism on campus and the weaponisation of migrant students through immigration and counter-terrorism.

Convenor: Sanaz Raji (Northumbria University)

Speakers

Shahd Al-Hadid is a PhD candidate at the University of Sheffield and a member of the Sheffield Campus Coalition for Palestine (SCCP). She heads SCCP's Palestinian Student Advocacy workgroup, and resultantly has firsthand experience navigating and challenging the hostile and systemic border policies present within academic institutions.

Sanaz Raji (she/her) is the founder of Unis Resist Border Controls (URBC), a national campaign launched in March 2016 that works to end the Hostile Environment and border controls in UK higher education. Currently Sanaz is an Independent Social Research Foundation fellow at Northumbria University, in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, UK, exploring the nexus between immigration and marketized higher education in UK universities. Her work has been featured in *The Guardian*, *Red Pepper Magazine*, in addition to academic journals and edited books.

Lili Schwoerer is a Teaching Fellow in Sociology at Oxford Brookes University. She is interested in the relationship between political economy, institutions, and radical knowledge production.

Momodou Taal is a PhD student at Cornell university. His research focuses on African political philosophies in the post-colonial era. Momodou is also host of The Malcolm Effect. He was one of two migrant students facing a disciplinary for their activism within the Cornell Palestine encampment.

Unis Resist Border Controls (URBC) is a 8 year migrant-led grassroots national campaign working to end the Hostile Environment policy and how border controls are exercised within UK higher education.

Workshop 4 | Methodological perspectives on researching difference and belonging in the European South

Increasingly restrictive border regimes, anti-immigrant rhetoric, and policy developments have led to the constant (re)drawing of boundaries within our societies. 'Everyday bordering' (Yuval-Davis 2019) is used to describe this encroachment of borders into everyday and intimate spaces. The boundaries between "foreigners" and "citizens" transcend generations, and often impact on racialised and minoritised citizens, producing a lasting otherness (Fischer, 2020) that is embedded in policy, popular culture and public discourse. In this workshop, we are interested in the body, how racialised bodies occupy public space, and are perceived in public, and how the sense of belonging is shaped by this very corporeality. We intend to bring together contributions on the main methodological approaches, risks, and ethics of researching diversity, difference and related inequalities, with a focus on the European South. We will consider ways to avoid reproducing existing boundaries and roles, reducing othered, racialised individuals to mere embodiments of the diversity they (are supposed to) represent. For example, research has shown that, especially in countries with recent immigration histories, such as Italy and Greece, people of migrant heritage often feel pressured to serve as representatives and spokespeople of their minoritised ethnic or cultural groups, or as bridges between these groups and the majority society. How can we as researchers avoid reproducing and perpetuating the sense of foreignness they experience within these roles? What kind of alternative, creative and innovative methodologies, such as art-based or multisensorial approaches, can help us in this quest?

Chair: Giulia Marroccoli

Speakers:

Annavittoria Sarli is a researcher in social sciences and an expert in qualitative methods. Her main fields of interest are migrations, intercultural relations and issues of racial in/justice. She collaborated with the ISMU Foundation in Milan and worked as a MSC fellow at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (University of Birmingham). She is currently working at the University of Parma. There she is conducting a research work based on creative, participatory methods, aimed at exploring the dynamics of difference construction experienced by young racialized people, as well as the tactics they enact to claim belonging.

Anna Papoutsis is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow (2022-2025) at the School of Social Policy. Her project, *Border time: everyday temporal practices in Athens, Berlin, and Liverpool*, aims to unveil, analyse and conceptualise the temporalities of border control and the politics of time involved in migration governance. *Border Time* is designed around three urban casestudies in distinct socio-political contexts: Athens, Berlin, and Liverpool. She is also working on the project 'Decolonising the City' (DtC), funded by the Urban Studies Foundation and the Independent Social Research Foundation, working with migrant communities to explore how they practise urban citizenship.

Grace Chimela Eze Nwoke is a Greek social scientist and performer of Nigerian descent. She completed her postgraduate studies at the Department of Social Anthropology of Panteion University and is continuing her research about the African Diaspora in Athens, contributing to the conversation of its visibility in Greece. She is a member of the team Documatism and has undertaken the research, organization, and artistic supervision of the collective community project the "AfroGreeks", with the filmmaker Menelaos Karamaghiolis. She has experience in organizing live events, public discussions, educational and exchange programs, using creative artistic performances to delve deeper into matters regarding the inclusivity, visibility, and empowerment of African communities in Greece. Grace is also the co-founder of the African community engagement platform Afrosocially.



Paladia Ziss has a PhD in Sociology from the University of Birmingham. She researches the politics and poetics of time, displacement and citizenship using ethnographic and qualitative methods in transnational refugee and non-refugee networks across Germany and Turkey. Prior to her PhD she worked in international development and humanitarian work in Palestine, Germany and Turkey, and she was awarded an MPhil in Development Studies with Distinction from the University of Oxford.

Charline Kanza is an independent researcher and member of the Associazione Afroveronesi

Stefano Piemontese is a Social Anthropologist and Research Fellow at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (UOB). His research centers on youth, migration, and racial and ethnic identities. Ethnography, paired with collaborative, multimodal, and audio-visual research techniques, is his primary investigative method. During his Marie Skłodowska -Curie Fellowship, he worked on the RETRY project (2019-2022), examining intergenerational patterns of social and geographic mobility among racially minoritised European youths. He is currently involved in the Horizon Europe I-CLAIM project (2023-2026), studying how irregularity arises from the interaction of immigration policies and practice, labor market and welfare regimes, and prevailing narratives and perceptions.

Workshop 5 | Enabling support for refugees

Our workshop will focus on the nature, impact and ethics around refugee support and hierarchies of deservingness. This timely theme reflects wider discussions around how refugees are treated in the UK and how we, as migration scholars, can work with refugees and refugee organisations to ensure parity of treatment, meaningful support and to treat forced migrants as agents of change, whilst also recognising and responding to ongoing struggles and vulnerabilities. The idea for this workshop stems from research carried out by Elizabeth Mavroudi, Alena Pfoser, Anastazie Toros and Angelika Zimmerman from Loughborough University on refugee support for Ukrainian refugees and on hierarchies of deservingness. The key questions to be addressed in the workshop are as follows:

- How are policy makers and organisations treating asylum seekers and refugees differently in the UK?
- What are the politics of funding support?
- Who is providing support for refugees and asylum seekers? What is the nature of this support? What are the opportunities and challenges? What issues, like housing and language, are particularly important?
- How do refugees and asylum seekers feel about the nature of this support?
- What can be done to better support refugees and involve them as decision makers and agents of change?
- What is our role as migration scholars towards creating equity for forced migrants?
- How do we create diverse and inclusive spaces which are supportive for migrants?

Chair: Elizabeth Mavroudi is a Reader in Human Geography in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities. She is a migration scholar who has focused on diasporic identities and politics, as well as on changes to UK immigration policy. She is interested in work which helps to ensure migrants and those in diaspora feel that they belong and are included in the different communities and spaces which are important to them. Her most recent work has focused on how recent Ukrainians arriving in England have been supported by non state actors. She is also current EDI Co-Director for the School of Social Sciences and Humanities and as part of that has been involved in various projects on race, gender and disability inclusion.

Speakers:

Anastazie Toros started her PhD in the School of Design and Creative Arts in October 2022. Anastazie's research is focused on visual storytelling in the context of mass migration of humans and artistic ideas during the current Russian-Ukrainian war. Anastazie examines the impact of war on national identity. Anastazie Toros is a visual artist and a theatre director. Being Ukrainian, and having spent a great

amount of time in the UK and the Czech Republic, she has a unique transcultural perspective on storytelling and is interested in finding new ways to discuss and enable belonging.

Evariste Tshindo has been involved in the NGO and charity sector work for over 25 years in the UK and abroad. At Africa Innovation Group, he oversees projects, human resources, funding, partnerships and projects, focusing on strategic work and is well-known locally as a young Congolese community leader.

Alena Pfoser's research focuses on cultural memory, heritage and identity in the transnational arena. She is particularly interested in memory and heritage in contested settings, bottom-up approaches to nationalism and international relations, and migration and cultural belonging. She is interested in ways to support refugees and migrants and has looked at how 'ordinary' people belonging to different ethnic groups and generations negotiate identity and place in relation to polarised official discourses.

Irina Kuznetsova's research expertise includes areas of migration, forced displacement, health, and critical urbanism. Her recent projects focus on social consequences of population displacement in Ukraine, Russia, Rwanda, Nigeria and Japan, including mental health and well-being, and the impact of migration on rural communities.

Natalia Kogut is a specialist in human rights, right to life and health, comparative analyse of health care systems in different countries. She is a researcher on *Post Socialist Britain and Futures of Ukraine: youth, mobility and post-war reconstruction*.