

IRIS 2026 Conference

Unsettling Communities: Mobility, displacement and diversity in an age of growing authoritarianism, 7-9 September 2026

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct for the IRIS Conference has been set up to ensure that everyone participating in the conference is treated fairly and respectfully, that the conference runs smoothly and safely and is welcoming to everyone. Our aim is to create an inclusive and safe space that fosters collegial dialogue and creative engagement. We ask everyone partaking in the conference to cooperate in following the code of conduct.

This code of conduct has been inspired by other similar endeavours such as IMISCOE¹, BISA² and RGS³, and is driven by EDI principles.

The main guiding principles of this code of conduct are:

- Freedom to explore ideas through scholarly discourse;
- Professional behaviour;
- Equitable and fair treatment;
- Respectful demeanour; and
- Constructive engagement, even in disagreement.

We aim to provide a harassment-free, inclusive and safe conference experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, social class, body size, race, ethnicity, religion (or lack thereof), national origin, citizenship, language, political orientation, or technology choices. Discrimination, harassment, bullying and behaviours that are patronising have no place at the conference, or in any professional context, and will not be tolerated.

Throughout the conference, we require that conference delegates refrain from violence, harassment, discrimination, intimidation, bullying, and condescending behaviour at all times and in any conference-related setting.

Complaint reporting procedure

Anyone who experiences or observes any of the above during the course of the conference, please either get in touch with any of the conference helpers, who will direct you to a senior member of IRIS (Dr Laurence Lessard-Phillips and Dr Angelo Martins Junior), or contact Laurence or Angelo directly (in person or via l.lessard-phillips@bham.ac.uk a.martinsjunior@bham.ac.uk) who will support and record the incident. All reports will be treated in confidence, but logged, and everyone involved are bound by confidentiality. This is unless a full investigation is necessary.

If the incident occurs during a session, please make a note and make contact with someone affiliated with the conference.

Any incident will be treated seriously and in confidence. The appropriate course of action will be decided upon depending on the nature of the incident (and in discussion with the person reporting

¹ <https://www.imiscoe.org/docman-docs/1338-imiscoe-code-of-conduct/file>

² <https://conference.bisa.ac.uk/about-conference/code-conduct>

³ <https://www.rgs.org/research/annual-international-conference/code-of-conduct>

the incident). If deemed necessary, the conference organising committee will be involved in such discussions, and acted upon as soon as practically possible.

Sanctions

If there is cause, our actions may include issuing warnings and asking a delegate to leave the conference without refund.

If complaints are vexatious or malicious, they will be dealt with accordingly.

Guidelines for chairing

Chairing and moderating are intrinsic to a successful panel and conference. We ask all moderators to be respectful and mindful of diversity among the presenters and audience. Please keep the time of each panel presentation strictly to 15 minutes. To ensure there is enough time for discussion, we recommend that all questions are in the end of all presentations rather than after each individual paper. If you notice any breach of the current CoC during your session, please report to the conference helpers or contact Laurence (in person or via email) who will support and record the incident. Make sure you support the affected individual.

Presentation guidelines

Please keep your **panel presentation** to 15 minutes to respect the other presenters in your panel and the audience, and to allow sufficient time for discussion. If you are using slides, make sure to upload the presentation before the start of your session. We recommend that you avoid long quotes. If you do have long quotes or text, please make sure that it is read out loud for inclusivity. Please try to be mindful for neurodiverse or differently abled people in your audience.