Contents

THEME ONE: Crises, Precarity and Refugeeness

Panel: Challenges to the refugee integration process in a global context – Part 1

Barbara Franz, Riders University
Karolina Lukasiewicz, NYU
Jamie Liew & Mara Sidney, Rutgers University
Tanzilya Oren, Fordham University

Panel: Challenges to the refugee integration process in a global context – Part 2

Halina Grzymala-Moszczynska, Jagiellonian University
Tolu Lanrewaju, Rutgers University

Panel: Migration, precarity and contradiction: contesting categorizations and exclusions

Tanya Aberman, York University
Genevieve Ritchie, OISE/University of Toronto
Philip Ackerman, Seneca College

Panel: Behind Closed Doors – The Judicial Administration of Secret Evidence

John Campbell, School of Oriental & African Studies
Graham Hudson, Ryerson University
John Jackson, University of Nottingham

Panel: Sexual and Gender-based Violence in the Refugee Crisis: Vulnerabilities, Inequalities and Responses

Lisa Goodson, Institute for Research into Superdiversity, University of Birmingham; Dale Buscher, Women’s Refugee Commission
Hannah Bradby, Uppsala University; Saime Ozcurumez, Bilkent University
Cathy Vaughan, University of Melbourne; Karen Block, University of Melbourne
Jenny Phillimore, Institute for Research into Superdiversity, University of Birmingham

Comparative Responses to Refugee Protection: EU/Canada/Australia

Jona Zyfi, University of Toronto; Idil Atak, Ryerson University
Anthea Vogl, University of Technology Sydney

Panel: Endangered rights and precarious lives

Nassim Majidi, Samuel Hall
Heaven Crawley, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University
Shahram Khosravi, Stockholm University
Abstracts

Karen Jacobsen, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy and Feinstein International Center, Tufts University

Panel: The Challenge of Welcome for Resettled Refugees in New Zealand, Japan, the UK, and the US

Maria Hayward, Auckland University of Technology
Jody McBrien, University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
Linda Morrice, University of Sussex

Panel: Refugeeness and Precarity: A view from the Global South

Ranabir Samaddar, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group
Paula Banerjee, Sanskrit University
Nasreen Chowdhory, University of Delhi

Panel: Silenced and Undocumented: Gender effects in Forced Migration in Turkey

Emel Coskun and Lucy Williams, University of Kent
Kamile Dinçsoy and Beril Eski, Bilgi University

Panel: Statelessness, Precarity and Representation of Rohingya Refugees: South Asian Perspectives

Meghna Kalja, University of Delhi; Nasreen Chowdhory, University of Delhi
Meherun Ahmed, Asian University for Women (AUW)
Biswajit Mohanty, Deshbandhu College; Babita Verma

Panel: Crossing boundaries, crossing borders: Forced migration and resettlement for queer refugees – Part 1

Edward J. Alessi, Rutgers University School of Social Work; Raoul Wieland, McGill University School of Social Work / McGill Faculty of Law
Azar Masoumi, York University
B Camminga, Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA), University of Cape Town

Panel: Crossing boundaries, crossing borders: Forced migration and resettlement for queer refugees – Part 2

Sarilee Kahn, McGill University School of Social Work
Edward J. Alessi, Rutgers University School of Social Work

Panel: Queering asylum across Europe: The legal and social experiences of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) asylum seekers

Nuno Ferreira, University of Sussex
Carmelo Danisi, University of Sussex
Moira Dustin, University of Sussex

Panel: Moving camps and carceral junctions – Part 1
Cecilie Odgaard Jakobsen, AMIS, University of Copenhagen ................................................... 43
Katrine Syddpi Kohl, University of Copenhagen & VIVE ........................................................... 43
Kirsten McConnachie, School of Law, Warwick University ...................................................... 44

Panel: Moving camps and carceral junctions – Part 2 .............................................................. 44
Ditte Krogh Shapiro, University College Absalon ..................................................................... 44
Simon Turner, AMIS, University of Copenhagen ...................................................................... 45
Zachary Whyte AMIS, University of Copenhagen and Michael Ulfstjerne; University of Aalborg ..................................................................................................................................... 45

Legal and Policy Issues ........................................................................................................... 45
Stephanie Nawyn, Michigan State University, Kelly Birch Maginot, Michigan State University, .................................................................................................................................................. 45
Bram Jansen, Wageningen University; Marit de Looijer, Wageningen University ............... 46
Michael Gordon, McMaster University .................................................................................... 46

Deepa Mattoo, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic and the Rights of Non-Status Women's Network, Julia Romano, University of Toronto Faculty of Law ................................................ 47
Seema Nadarajah, SALCO ......................................................................................................... 47
Petra Molnar, International Human Rights Program, University of Toronto Faculty of Law... 48

Panel: Entangled Trajectories of Violence, Precarity, and Exploitation ..................................... 48
Maegan Hendow and Albert Kraler, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) ..................................................................................................................................... 49
Suzanne Menhem, Lebanese University .................................................................................. 49
Roberto Forin, Mixed Migration Centre ................................................................................... 50

Panel: What are the relationships between human trafficking, 'modern slavery' and forced migration? .................................................................................................................................................. 50
Patricia Hynes, University of Bedfordshire ............................................................................... 50
Hannah Lewis, University of Sheffield ...................................................................................... 51
Kiril Sharapov, School of Applied Sciences, Edinburgh Napier University........................... 51
Elizabeth A. Faulkner, Staffordshire University ........................................................................ 52

Refugees in Europe (1) ............................................................................................................ 52
Panagiotis Peter Milonas, York University .............................................................................. 52
Seyedeh Akhgar Kaboli, Finland Futures Research Centre, University of Turku................... 53
Raluca Bejan, University of Toronto ......................................................................................... 53

Panel: The Potential of ‘Big Data’ to Improve our Responses to Forced Displacement .......... 54
Abstracts

Susan McGrath, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University .................................................. 54

Susan Martin, Donald G. Herzberg Professor Emerita of International Migration, Georgetown University ................................................................. 54

Lisa Singh, Georgetown University ......................................................................................... 55

Kira Williams, Wilfrid Laurier University ................................................................................ 55

Regional Perspectives: Central and South America, Mexico, Haiti ........................................ 55

Jorge Morales Cardiel, Universidad Autonoma de Zacatecas .................................................. 55

Luann Good Gingrich, School of Social Work & Centre for Refugee Studies, York University and Julie E.E. Young, Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition, University of Lethbridge ................................................................. 55

Yannick Gill, Howard University School of Law ................................................................. 55

Roundtable: Protection Mechanisms for Migrant Young People and the European Border Regime ........................................................................................................... 56

Jennifer Allsopp, University of Oxford; Marianella Kloka, PRAXIS; Jovana Arsenijevic, MSF Serbia ................................................................. 56

Panel: Beyond the crisis frame: unpacking the complexities of the enduring phenomenon of separated child migration from Central America and Mexico to the US ........................................ 57

Amy Thompson, University of Texas Austin, School of Social Work ........................................ 58

Angel Escamilla Garcia, Northwestern University, Sociology Department ................................ 58

Chiara Galli, University of California Los Angeles, Sociology Department ................................ 59

Panel: Forced Migration Law’s broken seams: When the normative framework is part of the problem ......................................................................................... 59

Ángela Iranzo Dosdad, University of Deusto ................................................................. 60

Beatriz Eugenia Sánchez-Mojica, Independent Researcher ..................................................... 60

René Urueña and Maria Angelica Prada, Universidad de los Andes ........................................ 61

Refugees in Europe (2) ........................................................................................................ 62

Ine Lietaert, Ghent University; Malte Behrendt, Ghent University ........................................ 62

Agata Blaszczyk, Polish University Abroad in London ......................................................... 62

Molly Fee, University of California, Los Angeles ................................................................. 63

Jane Freedman, Université Paris 8 ....................................................................................... 63

Syrian Refugees (1) ........................................................................................................ 63

Myriam Ouellet, Université Laval; Danièle Bélanger, Université Laval ........................................ 63

Deniz Gökalp, American University in Dubai ........................................................................ 64

Thomas McGee, Independent Researcher ........................................................................... 64

Refugee Issues: A view from Africa ...................................................................................... 65
Abstracts

Eveliina Lyytinen, Migration Institute of Finland ................................................................. 65
Roberto Forin, International Centre for Migration Policy Development ............................... 65
Reem Mussa, University of Oldenburg .............................................................................. 65
Hanna Haile, McGill University Faculty of Law .................................................................. 66
Caroline Kihato, University of Johannesburg ...................................................................... 66
Laurence Juma, Rhodes University ..................................................................................... 67

Regional Perspectives on Refugee Issues: Asia/Southeast Asia ............................................. 68
Minati Kalo, Jawaharlal Nehru University ........................................................................... 68
Basundhara Tripathy, Wageningen University and Research .............................................. 68
Chaphiak Lowang, Jawaharlal Nehru University ................................................................. 69
Lucy Fiske, University of Technology Sydney (UTS) ........................................................... 69
Mary Rose Geraldine A. Sarausad, Asian Institute of Technology ........................................ 69
Saima Raza, Asia Pacific Refugee Network ........................................................................... 70

Regional Perspectives: Refugees in the Middle East ............................................................ 70
Oroub El-Abed, SOAS- London University ......................................................................... 70
Suzanne Menhem, Lebanese University ............................................................................... 71
Samia Qumri, Independent researcher ............................................................................... 72
Sena Duygu Topcu, Max Planck for Social Anthropology ..................................................... 72

Regional Perspectives: North America, Australia, New Zealand, and the UK ....................... 73
Ranjith Kulatilake, York University .................................................................................... 73
Jessica Darrow, University of Chicago; co-presenter: Jessica Howsam, University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration ......................................................... 73
James Simeon, York University ........................................................................................... 74

Panel: Temporary & Durable Responses to Displacement Crises: Comparative Perspectives .... 74
Christel Querton, Newcastle University ................................................................................ 74
Evangelia (Lilian) Tsourdi, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford ........................... 75
Nick Maple, University of London ......................................................................................... 75
Hugh Tuckfield, University of Sydney .................................................................................. 76
Ruvi Ziegler, University of Reading ..................................................................................... 76

Roundtable: Refugeeeness and Precarity: Separated Children, Security, Terrorism and Exclusion from Refugee Protection ................................................................................. 77
James Simeon, York University; Yao Li, University of Potsdam; Joseph Rikhof, University of Ottawa; Maarten Bolhuis, VU University Amsterdam; Elspeth Guild, Radboud University; Didier Bigo, King’s College London and Sciences-Po Paris ................................................................. 77

Regional Perspectives: Greece ............................................................................................... 78
Abstracts

Olga Demetriou, PRIO ............................................................................................................... 78
Jovana Mastilovic, Griffith Law School ..................................................................................... 78
Vasiliki Kakosimou, Head officer of the Asylum Unit in Piraeus ............................................... 78
Roundtable: Mediated Greek family: The transformation of refugee families through crisis..... 79
Larissa Noel, York University .................................................................................................... 79
Unaccompanied children.............................................................................................................. 79
Océane Uzureau, Marina Rota, Ilse Derluyn, Ghent University ............................................... 79
Jovana Arsenijevic, Médecins Sans Frontières ......................................................................... 80
Simon Goodman, Coventry University; Kayleigh Brown, Coventry University; Helen Liebling, Coventry University .................................................................................................................. 80
Katharina Schaur, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, Almut Bachinger, International Centre for Migration Policy Development.......................................................... 81
Refugees, migrants, and education.............................................................................................. 81
Rebecca Murray, University of Sheffield .................................................................................. 82
Dina Batshoun, University College London - Institute of Education ........................................ 82
Maha Shuayb, Lebanese American University ......................................................................... 83
Tanja Fendel, Institute for Employment Research Germany ................................................... 84
THEME TWO: Civil society, new humanitarianism and citizens’ mobilization .................... 85
Panel: The good citizen in refugee settings: displacement, hospitality and citizenship – Part 1. 85
Maria Jumbert Gabrielsen, PRIO  and Elisa Pascucci, University of Tampere ....................... 85
Dorothea Hilhorst, ISS and LSE ................................................................................................. 85
Maria Hernández Carretero, University of Oslo ....................................................................... 86
Panel: The good citizen in refugee settings: displacement, hospitality and citizenship – Part 2. 86
Zoe Jordan, Oxford Brookes University and Cathrine Brun, Oxford Brookes University ....... 86
Oliver Bakewell, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester ........................... 87
Olga Demetriou, PRIO Cyprus Centre ....................................................................................... 87
Cindy Horst, PRIO...................................................................................................................... 87
Panel: Citizenship, Belonging, and the Sanctuary City Movement across Canada. ................ 88
Graham Hudson, Ryerson University........................................................................................ 88
Idil Atak, Ryerson University..................................................................................................... 88
Sasha Kovalchuk, McMaster University .................................................................................... 88
Panel: ‘Helping hands’ in a rebordering Europe........................................................................ 89
Kolar Aparna, Olivier Thomas Kramsch, Joris Schapendonk/Nijmegen Centre for Border Research (NCBR)/Department of Human Geography/Radboud Universiteit ................................. 90
Abstracts

Line Steen Bygballe Jensen, University of Copenhagen and Lydia Maria Kirchner, University of Copenhagen

Katerina Rozakou, University of Amsterdam

Daniela DeBono, Malmö Institute for Studies of Migration, Diversity and Welfare, Malmö University and Cetta Mainwaring, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Glasgow

Antigone Lyberaki, SolidarityNow and Panteion University

Panel: Challenging new forms of activism and social accountability: different perspectives from Sudan, Germany, and Canada

Rai Barbosa de Oliveira, European Master in Migration & Intercultural Relations (EMMIR)

Linda Becht, Laura Boucsein, Katharina Mayr, European Master in Migration & Intercultural Relations, EMMIR

Erika Massoud, European Master in Migration & Intercultural Relations (EMMIR)

Regional Perspectives: Australia and Asia

Susan Banki, University of Sydney

Louise Olliff, University of Melbourne / Refugee Council of Australia

Panel: New Humanitarianism in Context: Protection and Refuge from the Past to the Present

Glen Peterson, University of British Columbia

Laura Madokoro, McGill University

Megan Bradley, McGill University

Geoffrey Cameron, University of Toronto

Shauna Labman, University of Manitoba, Faculty of Law

Roundtable: Taking stock of the 2015-2016 refugee migration towards Europe: what future for protection, belonging and citizenship?

Danièle Bélanger, Université Laval; Celine Cantat, Central European University; Danica Santic, University of Belgrade; Katherine Pendakis, King’s College; Gunnar Stange, University of Vienna

Panel: Citizen Mobilization and New Solidarities Opposing European and US Restrictionism

Scott Harding, Grace Felten, and Kathryn Libal, University of Connecticut

Elisabeth Kirtsoglou, Durham University

Marciana Popescu & Katharina Ehikioya-Lang

Panel: Syrian refugees and the labour market in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey

Katharina Lenner, University of Bath and Lewis Turner, Arnold Bergstraesser Institute

Lama Kabbanj, IRD/CEPED

Danièle Bélanger, Université Laval and Cenk Saraçoğlu, Ankara University

Ismail Doga Karatepe, Kasel University
Abstracts

Refugees and Turkey .................................................................................................................. 101
Dolunay Ugur, Yale University .................................................................................................. 101
Rana B. Khoury, Northwestern University ............................................................................... 102

Panel: Cities for whom? Exploring urban issues and forced migration with innovative and participatory methods ........................................................................................................... 102
Christian Sowa, SOAS, University of London ....................................................................... 103
Anna Marie Steigemann & Philipp Misselwitz, Chair of International Urbanism and Design/Habitat Unit at TU Berlin ........................................................................................................... 103

Informal panel: The Politics and Practice of Forced Migration Research Methods, A Conversation ................................................................................................................................. 104
Anita Fábos, Clark University; Cathrine Brun, Oxford Brookes University; Charles Simpson, Tufts University; Nassim Majidi, Samuel Hall. Facilitators: Adam Saltsman, Worcester State University and Karen Jacobsen, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University ........................................................................................................... 104

Panel: Feminist Researchers Against Borders: Reframing Debates on Mobility, "Refugees," and "Crisis" – Part 1 .......................................................................................................................... 105
Anna Carastathis, Independent Researcher, Athens ................................................................ 105
Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez, Justus-Liebig University, Giessen 2 .......................................................................................................................... 105
Seçil Dağtaş, University of Waterloo .................................................................................... 106
Aila Spathopoulou, King's College University ........................................................................ 106

Panel: Feminist Researchers Against Borders: Reframing Debates on Mobility, "Refugees," and "Crisis" – Part 2 .......................................................................................................................... 107
Bridget Anderson, University of Bristol; ................................................................................ 107
Nandita Sharma, University of Hawaii at Manoa .................................................................. 107
Myrto Tsilimpounidi, Marie Curie Fellow at the Institute for Sociology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences .......................................................................................................................... 107
Melissa Autumn White, Hobart and William Smith Colleges ................................................. 108

Panel: Exploring possibilities of solidarity and challenges to humanitarianism – In response to the Mediterranean refugee and migration crisis – Part 1 .......................................................................................................................... 108
Anitta Kynsilehto, University of Tampere / EMHRM .............................................................. 109
Céline Cantat, Central European University ........................................................................... 109
Marianna Karakoulaki, E-International Relations .................................................................. 110
Reiko Shindo, Coventry University ......................................................................................... 110

Panel: Exploring possibilities of solidarity and challenges to humanitarianism – In response to the Mediterranean refugee and migration crisis – Part 2 .......................................................................................................................... 111
Imran Adan, Free Movement Finland; Eeva Puumala, University of Tampere ................. 111
Jonathan Darling, University of Manchester ........................................................................... 111
Abstracts

Elisa Pascucci, University of Tampere ................................................................. 111

Roundtable: ‘Informality’ as mode of political response in North America: Examining potentials and limits .......................................................................................................................... 112

Cesar Suva, Calgary Immigrant Educational Society ........................................ 113

Odessa Gonzalez Benson, University of Michigan School of Social Work ....... 113

Rupaleem Bhuyan, University of Toronto School of Social Work and Migrant Mothers Project; Marie Esel Laxa Panlaqui, Thorncliffe Neighborhood Office and Migrant Mothers Project; Lorraine Valmadrid, Migrant Mothers Project; Novabella L. Lopez, Migrant Mothers Project; Pearlita Juan, Migrant Mothers Project ................................................................. 114

Panel: Civic engagement to improve children and youth refugees’ social integration ........ 114

Michael Ungar, Dalhousie University ................................................................ 114

Nicole Ives, McGill School of Social Work .......................................................... 114

Rev. Paula Kline, Montreal City Mission .............................................................. 115

Adan and Moad Alhjooj ...................................................................................... 115

Policy and Practice (1) ......................................................................................... 116

Lamis Abdelaaty, Syracuse University, Co-author: Liza G. Steele, State University of New York - Purchase College ................................................................. 116

Grant Mitchell, Swinburne University ................................................................. 116

David FitzGerald, University of California, San Diego ....................................... 116

Melissa Anderson, York University ................................................................... 116

Policy and Practice (2) ......................................................................................... 117

Irina Sille, Swiss Forum for Migration and Citizenship Studies, University of Neuchâtel ....... 117

Laura Schack, Royal Holloway, University of London ........................................ 117

Caterina Giacometti, Nasp (Network for the Advancement of Social and Political studies) Milan and Turin ................................................................. 118

Megumi Nishimura, Ritsumeikan University ..................................................... 118

Bridges to Integration ......................................................................................... 119

Maria Eleni Anastasopoulou, University of Oxford .......................................... 119

Christopher Records, Books Not Bombs- Karam Foundation ......................... 119

Wendy Pettifer, Anti Trafficking and Labour Exploitation Unit (ATLEU) London UK; Yasmine Bouagga, Centre national de la recherche scientifique ...................... 120

Roundtable: Engagement for Innovation: How Grassroots Actors are Reinventing Humanitarian Aid in Greece ................................................................. 120

Joel Hernàndez, Campfire Innovation ................................................................ 120

Panel: Regimes of care, spaces of resistance: Contesting the humanitarian anti-politics ‘from below’ ................................................................. 122
Giorgos Tsimouris, Panteion University Athens ................................................................. 123
George Tyrikos-Ergas Durham University, NGO Agalia .................................................. 123
Maria Kenti-Kranidioti, Durham University ................................................................. 123
Olga Lafzani, Harokopio University, Member of City Plaza ............................................ 124
Vassiliki Bathrelou, Durham University ................................................................. 124

Panel: Citizen Initiatives for Global Solidarity ....................................................................... 125
Sara Kingsbergen and Lau Schulpen, Radboud University, Netherlands ................. 125
Trond S. Mydland and Eugene Guribye, Agder Research, Norway ......................... 126
Hanne Haaland and Hege Wallevik, University of Agder, Norway ............................. 126
Dorian Brown Crosby, Spelman College, USA ............................................................. 127

THEME THREE: Changing Durable Solutions ....................................................................... 128

Panel: Cross-regional Dialogues on Refugee Integration – Part One ............................... 128
Tina Magazzin, UNESCO (Harare SHS Unit)/ Human Rights Institute (University of Deusto) .......... 128
Marcia Vera Espinoza, University of Sheffield ............................................................. 128

Panel: Cross-regional Dialogues on Refugee Integration – Part Two .................................. 129
Glenda Santana de Andrade, CRESPPA-GTM (Université Paris 8) and Institut Convergences MIGRATIONS............................ 129
Megan Denise Smith, International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Yara Chehwane, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) ............................................................ 129
Steffen Fischer, Graduate School of Architecture (GSA), University of Johannesburg ........ 130

Panel: Reimagining Refugee Response ................................................................................... 130
Christa de Kock and BJ van Vuuren, Stellenbosch University, South Africa ...................... 131
Hanne Haaland and Hege Wallevik, University of Agder ............................................. 131
Erika Frydenlund and Jose Padilla, Old Dominion University ............................................ 132
Janita Bah, Clark-Atlanta University ............................................................................. 132

Roundtable: “Climate Refugees”: Beyond the Legal Impasse? ............................................ 133
Thekli Anastasiou, University of Sheffield; Walter Kälin, Platform for Disaster Displacement; Michel Prieur, CRIDEAU/Université de Limoges; Mariam Traore Chazalnoel, IOM; Jolanda van der Vliet, Hague University of Applied Sciences/Leiden University; Camilla Schlos, Georgetown University, World Bank ................................................................. 133
Jolanda van der Vliet, Hague University of Applied Sciences/Leiden University .................. 134
Camilla Schloss, Georgetown University ....................................................................... 134
Simon Behrman, Royal Holloway University of London .................................................... 135

Panel: Normative and empirical insights into resettlement – Part One (Normative) ............ 135
Abstracts

Daniel Kersting, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena .......................................................................................................................... 135
Naoko Hashimoto, University of Sussex ................................................................................................................................. 136
Johanna Gördemann, University of Duisburg-Essen ...................................................................................................................... 136
Christoph Tometten, attorney-at-law (Berlin) ......................................................................................................................... 136

Panel: Normative and empirical insights into resettlement – Part Two (Empirical) ................................................................. 137
Tatjana Baraulina, Research Centre on Migration, Integration and Asylum at the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees ......................................................................................................................... 137
Irene Tuzi, Sapienza University of Rome ........................................................................................................................................ 137
Izabella Main, Centre for Migration Studies, Adam Mickiewicz University .................................................................................. 138
Mariana Nardone, Universidad Nacional de Lanús / Centre for Global Cooperation Research ................................................................................................................................................ 138

Regional Perspectives: Africa ............................................................................................................................................. 139
Naohiko Omata, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford, Noriko Takahashi ................................................................. 139
Pedro Figueiredo Neto, Instituto de Ciências Sociais - Universidade de Lisboa ................................................................................ 140
Adetola Elizabeth Oyewo, University of Kwazulu-Natal; Nokwanda Yoliswa Nzuza, University of Kwazulu-Natal ........................................................................................................................................... 140
Markus Rudolf, Bonn International Center for Conversion GmbH (BICC) .................................................................................. 141

Panel: Daring Steps? Durable Futures? Or Enduring Solutions? The commodification of migration and pathways to protection ......................................................................................................................... 141
Nora Bardelli, University of Oxford ........................................................................................................................................... 142
Agathe Menetrier, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology .................................................................................................. 142
Marthe Achtnich, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology (ISCA), School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, University of Oxford ......................................................................................................................... 143
Georgia Cole, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford .................................................................................................... 143

Roundtable: Shaping the struggles of their times: Refugees, peacebuilding and resolving displacement ........................................................................................................................................... 143
Megan Bradley, McGill University; Blair Peruniak, university of Oxford; Loren Landau, University of the Witwatersrand; Anna Purkey, University of Waterloo; Christina Clark-Kazak, University of Ottawa ........................................................................................................................................... 143

Regional Perspectives: South America ........................................................................................................................................ 144
Ileana Nicolau, European University Institute ........................................................................................................................... 144
Luciana Dias, Centro Universitario de Brasilia ........................................................................................................................................... 145

Roundtable: Refugee Economies | Models for Economic Development & Social Integration ........................................................................................................................................... 145
Abigail Blue, UC Hastings College of the Law; Carolyn Stevenson, Purdue University Global ........................................................................................................................................................................... 145

Hotspots, refoulement, assisted voluntary return: Individual Papers .............................................................................................. 147
Abstracts

Timokleia Psallidaki, School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens........147
Eleni Koutsouraki, European Centre of Research and Training on Human Rights and Humanitarian Action, Panteion University..............................................................147
Stefanos Spaneas, University of Nicosia; Agamemnon Zachariades, University of Nicosia...148
Stephen Phillips, Institute for Human Rights, Åbo Akademi University..........................148

Panel: Negotiating Mobility – What does protracted displacement in Afghanistan teach us? 149
Liza Schuster, University of London; Reza Hussaini, Kabul University..............................149
Susanne Schmeidl, University of New South Wales..............................................................150
Dan Tyler, Will Carter, Norwegian Refugee Council............................................................150
Elke Grawert, Katja Mielke, BICC Bonn (Peace and Conflict Research Institute)............151

Refugee Healthcare ..................................................................................................................151
Hannah Bradby, Uppsala University and Irini Anastassiou, Center for the Advancement of Research & Development in Educational Technology (CARDET)..........................151
Daniella Valentine, Coventry University...............................................................................151

Panel: Changing Durable Solutions in the Middle East ........................................................152
Katharine Donato and Elizabeth Ferris, Georgetown University........................................152
Dawn Chatty, Oxford University............................................................................................153
Alice Bosley and Patricia Letayf, Five One Labs (Iraq).......................................................153
Fatima Raza, Columbia University.......................................................................................154

Panel: Probing Private/Community Resettlement for Refugees........................................154
Michaela Hynie, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University .........................................155
Jenny Phillimore, Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS), University of Birmingham .................................................................155
Jennifer Hyndman, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University with Jona Zfyi, Ryerson University and Shauna Labman.................................................................155

Regional Perspectives: South/Southeast Asia......................................................................155
Carrie Perkins, Southern Methodist University.....................................................................156
Hugh Tuckfield, University of Sydney..................................................................................156

Afghanistan/Afghan refugees...............................................................................................156
Waseem Ahmad, American University Washington College of Law...............................156
Mitra Naseh, Florida International University.....................................................................157
Nithya Rajan, University of Minnesota................................................................................157

Panel: Design for Asylum: Architecture, Urban Space and Forced Migration – Part One......157
Anoma Pieris, University of Melbourne ...............................................................................158
Mirjana Ristic, TU Darmstadt............................................................................................159
IA SFM 17: Whither Refugees? Restrictionism, Crises and Precarity
Writ Large, Thessaloniki, Greece, 24-27 July 2018

Abstracts

Anna Marie Steigemann, TU Berlin and Philipp Misselwitz, TU Berlin

Panel: Design for Asylum: Architecture, Urban Space and Forced Migration – Part Two
Sara Willems, KU Leuven, Henk De Smet, KU Leuven and Ann Heylighen, KU Leuven
Simone Cecilie Grytter, Goldsmiths, University of London and Josefine Sarkez-Knudsen, University of Copenhagen
Marianna Nigra, Politecnico di Torino

Panel: Transit migration, state legitimacy and urban impact. Findings from Mexico, Greece and Turkey
Eileen Babbitt and Marina Travayiakis, Fletcher School, Tufts University
Katrina Burgess, Fletcher and Noelle Brigden, Marquette University
Elizabeth H. Prodromou and Vasileia Digidiki, Fletcher School, Tufts University
Zeynep Butilgil, Northeastern University and Charles Simpson, Feinstein Center, Tufts

Panel: The Global Compact on Refugees: Can it fix a broken international refugee regime?
Alex Aleinikoff, Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility, The New School; Leah Zamore, Center for International Cooperation, NYU; Shahrzad Tadjbakhsh, UNHCR Representative; Susan Martin, Professor Emerita, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University

Resettlement/Integration of Syrian refugees
Abdullah Yassen, Erbil Polytechnic University
Dimitris Skleparis, University of Glasgow; Georgios Karyotis, University of Glasgow
Fatima Raza, Global Programs and Partnerships at Rice University’s Center for Civic Leadership

Theme Four: Reflective Praxis
Roundtable: The Challenging and Evolving Nature of Methodological Approaches to Research on Forced Migration
Dacia Douhaibi, York University; Rumana Hashem, University of East London; Erika Frydenlund, Old Dominion University; Shailja Sharma, DePaul University; Amadu Wire Khan, Independent researcher and refugee scholar from Sierra Leone; Jaya Dantas, Curtin University; Christa de Kock, Stellenbosch University

Workshop: The Past in the Present: Orienting Forced Migration Scholarship and Practice around History
Rumana Hashem, University of East London, Chair; Amadu Wire Khan, Independent researcher and refugee scholar from Sierra Leone; Marie Godwin, University of Oxford; Shailja Sharma, DePaul University; Julie Young, Department of Geography, University of Lethbridge, Canada

Panel: Transitional Justice and Forced Migration: Critical Perspectives from the Global South
Nasreen Chowdhory and Shamna Hussein, University of Delhi
Abstracts

Marisa O. Ensor, Georgetown University ................................................................. 168
Nergis Canefe, York University ................................................................................... 168
Fabio Andres Diaz Pabon, Rhodes University and International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), Erasmus University Rotterdam ................................................................. 168
Galya Ben-Arieh, Northwestern University ............................................................... 169

Roundtable: Supporting Emerging Migration Scholars and Practitioners .................. 169
Claire Ellis, Emerging Scholars and Practitioners on Migration Issues (ESPMI) Network; Anthea Vogl, University of Technology Sydney; Julie Young, University of Lethbridge; Loren B. Landau, African Centre for Migration & Society, University of the Witwatersrand; Lisa Hartley, Centre for Human Rights Education, Curtin University; Linda Kirk, The Australian National University; Johanna Reynolds, Managing Editor, Refuge; Linda Oucho, Research and Data Hub, African Migration and Development Policy Centre ......................................................... 169

Panel: Between Camp and Campus: Mapping the Field of Higher Education in Refugee Protection .................................................................................................................. 170
Andrea Kölbl, Institute for Innovation and Technology, Co-organiser: Eveliina Lyytinen, Migration Institute of Finland (MIF); Ayla Bonfiglio, Maastricht Graduate School of Governance and UNU-MERIT; Conflict and Education Learning Laboratory (CELL); Nina Weaver, Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU); Moise Dushime, SNHU/Kepler; Eugenie Manirafasha, SNHU/Kepler; Kalenga Mbonyinshuti, SNHU/Kepler; Camila Ríos Armas, Universités & Réfugié (UniR); Misty Adoniou, University of Canberra .............................................. 170

Panel: Bridging the ‘evidence’ divide: Reflecting on arts and social sciences interventions in Refugee Studies ............................................................................................................. 172
Laura Hammond, SOAS University of London; Kavita Datta & Elaine Chase .......... 173

Panel: Exploring the complexities: the conceptual, methodological and ethical challenges of research with refugee women and refugee students in Australia .......................................................................................................................... 173
Anita Lumbus, Curtin University .................................................................................. 173
Shelley Gower, Curtin University .................................................................................. 174
Sally Baker, Newcastle University and University of New South Wales .................... 174
Jaya Dantas, Curtin University ..................................................................................... 175

Panel: Gender, Violence and Psychosocial Well-Being in Humanitarian Settings ......... 175
Khudejha Asghar, Family Violence Specialist; Kathryn Falb, Research Advisor, International Rescue Committee ................................................................. 176
Mendy Marsh, The Equality Institute; Beth Rubenstein, Columbia University .......... 176
M. Catherine Maternowska, Data, Evidence and Learning, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children; D. Fry, University of Edinburgh, Preventing Violence in Childhood Research work at Moray House School of Education, Co-Lead Safe Inclusive Schools Network ......... 177
Mark Canavera, CPC Learning Network, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health; Sabine Rakotomalala, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children .......... 177
Panel: Cooperation between scholars, practitioners and civil society actors for the coproduction of knowledge in forced migration. Five case studies in Colombia, Ecuador, Spain, Morocco and Lebanon

María Fernández, University of London; Claudia Viviana Díaz García, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales- EHESS; Felipe Aliaga, Universidad Santo Tomás; Hafsa Afailal, Institute of Social Sciences - University of Lisbon; Stéphanie López Villamil, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Bogotá, Colombia); Marco Romero, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Bogotá) and Consultoría para los Derechos Humanos y el Desplazamiento-CODHES (Bogotá, Colombia); Farah Salka, Anti-Racism Movement (Lebanon); Abderrahman Tlemsani, Migrants’ Human Rights (Morocco); Cristina Churruca, Institute of Human Rights of the University of Deusto (Bilbao, Spain)

Roundtable: Bridging Forced Migration Research to Policy and Practice

Krystyna Wojnarowicz (Chair), Emerging Scholars and Practitioners on Migration Issues (ESPMI) Network; Linda Ocho, Research and Data Hub, African Migration and Development Policy Centre; Kuda Vanyoro, African Centre for Migration & Society, University of the Witwatersrand; Jayantha Ramasubramanyam, Carleton University; Dacia Douhaibi, York University; Petra Molnar, Refugee Lawyer, University of Toronto Faculty of Law; Jay Shastri, Carleton University; Shreya Sen, University of Calcutta, ESPMI Network; Zean Dunbar, ESPMI, Petra Molnar, Refugee Advocate – Toronto; ESPMI Network

Research & its Dissemination

Edmund Hamann, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Loukia Sarroub, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Cory Rodgers, Keble College, University of Oxford
Mona Hossaini, Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University (ACKU), Razia Rezaie, ACKU

Panel: Changes in the Brazilian Refugee and Forced Migrants Law and Policy for the 21st Century

Andrea Pacheco Pacifico, Paraiba State University; Danielle Annoni, Federal University of Santa Catarina and Federal University of Parana
Melissa Martins Casagrande, Federal University of Parana and Positivo University

Roundtable: Lives in the Balance: Conversations on Reflective Research and Practice in Information Provision and Information Needs of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Natalia Bowdoin, University of South Carolina Aiken; Karen Fisher, University of Washington iSchool; Ashanti White Jackson, California Institute of Integral Studies; Julie Robinson, Kansas City Public Library

Roundtable: New Dissemination Practices & Public Engagement in Forced Migration Research

Clara Sandelind, Talking Migration, University of Sheffield; Bani Gill, University of Copenhagen, Asha Siad, Documentary filmmaker, Global Affairs Canada; Marie Godin, Oxford Department of International Development
Abstracts

Roundtable: Navigating Legal Aid in Asylum Procedures: Comparative Experiences and Practical Challenges in Four European Countries (Germany, Italy, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) ................................................................. 186

Nula Frei, Institute of European Law, University of Fribourg, Switzerland; Constantin (Tino) Hruschka, Max Planck Institute of Social Law and Social Policy, Munich, Germany; Bonny Ling, Centre for Human Rights Studies, University of Zurich, Switzerland ................................................................. 186

Law & Policy ............................................................................................................................................. 186

Leila Zhdanova, Civic Organisation "DESYATE KVITNYA" ................................................................. 186
Nicole Hoellerer, University of Exeter and Daniel Fisher, University of Exeter ........................................ 187
Margarita Fourer, Danube University Krems ...................................................................................... 187

Challenges of Adaptation & Integration .................................................................................................. 188

Francisco Martin Ruiz, Complutense University of Madrid ............................................................... 188
Vasiliki Mylona, National Technical University of Athens ................................................................. 188

THEME FIVE: Politics of representation and changing identities ........................................................... 190

Roundtable: Ethical considerations of research with people in forced migration ........................................ 190

Christina Clark-Kazak, University of Ottawa; Ulrike Krause, Ruhr University Bochum; Michaela Hynie, York University ...................................................................................................................... 190

Roundtable: Refugee Self-Representation in Practice: Through/Action/Reflection .................................... 190

Anita Fabos, Clark University; Leora Kahn PROOF: Media for Social Justice; Craig Mortley, LGBT Asylum Task Force; Omar Imam, Photographer/Artist ................................................................. 190

Panel: Displaced Narratives: Storytelling in Displacement and Forced Migration – Part One ...................... 191

Sebnem Koser Akcapar and Umut Kuruuzum, Koç University ............................................................. 191
Sébastien Bachelet, Laura Jeffery, University of Edinburgh .................................................................... 191
Regards en Mouvement: Sharing Visual Stories of Migration - Output .................................................. 192

Panel: Displaced Narratives: Storytelling in Displacement and Forced Migration – Part Two ................. 192

Giorgia Dona, Marie Godin and Crispin Hughes, University of East London, University of Oxford and Independent Researcher .................................................................................................................. 192
Susan Banki and Nicole Phillips, University of Sydney ........................................................................... 193
Rumana Hashem and Paul V Dudman, University of East London ......................................................... 193
Katarzyna Grabska, The Graduate Institute ............................................................................................ 194

Panel: Auto-ethnography, ethics and exile: the new film-makers .............................................................. 194

Stephanie Hemelryk Donald, University of Lincoln .............................................................................. 194
Jolyon Hoff, Independent film-maker; with Muzafar Ali, Independent film-maker ............................... 195

Panel: Images of the refugee in the age of populism: the role of the academia, NGOs and social media ........................................................................................................................................ 195
Abstracts

Anna-Leena Riitaoja, The Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki ..............196
D. Anagnostopoulou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; A. Baka, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, I. Bibou-Nakou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; E. Figgou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; M. Rapti & M. Sourvinou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki;196
Marianna Vivitsou, University of Helsinki............................................................................... 197
Alexandros Triantafyllidis & S.U.C.RE Consortium ................................................................ 197
Anna-Leena Riitaoja, The Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki, Marianna Vivitsou, University of Helsinki, Paul Isley, Northern Illinois University (emeritus) and University of Helsinki .............................................................. 198
Panel: Representing refugees and legitimating responses to the refugee ‘crisis’: Comparative perspectives on political discourse ......................................................................................................................... 198
Lena Karamanidou, Independent Researcher/Glasgow Caledonian University .................... 199
Alexandra Bousiou and Andrea Spehar, Center for Global Migration and University of Gothenburg ................................................................................................................................. 199
Panel: From physical barriers to social exclusion: “closing” of Europe to forced migrants: different dimensions and contexts – PART ONE ................................................................. 200
Simon Goodman, Coventry University ................................................................................... 201
Witold Klaus, Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences ...................................... 201
Christos Iliadis, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences; University of the Aegean ........................................................................................................................................ 201
Karolina Sobczak-Szelc, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw ..................... 201
Panel: From physical barriers to social exclusion: “closing” of Europe to forced migrants: different dimensions and contexts – PART TWO ................................................................. 201
Marta Pachocka, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw, Polish European Community Studies Association .................................................................................................................. 201
Dominik Wach, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw, Warsaw Family Support Center ...................................................................................................................................... 201
Karolina Podgórska, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw ........................... 202
Panel: Understanding Forced Migrants as Connected Migrants ............................................. 202
Mirjam Twigt, University of Leicester ................................................................................... 202
İlke Şanlıer Yüksel, Çukurova University ............................................................................. 203
Maria Nerina Boursinou, University of Leicester ................................................................... 203
Integration and Resilience ........................................................................................................ 204
Filyra Vlastou-Dimopoulou, School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens ...................................................................................................................................... 204
Maria Psinos, Canterbury Christ Church University; Eleni Hatzidimitriadou, Canterbury Christ Church University .................................................................................................................. 204
Shailja Sharma, DePaul University .......................................................................................... 205
Ayar Ata, London South Bank University ................................................................................ 205

Syrian Refugees (2) ................................................................................................................ 206
Dina Taha, York University .................................................................................................. 206
Tulay Yildirim Mat, Istanbul Medeniyet University ............................................................... 206
Alizee Zapparoli-Manzoni-Bodson, Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS) ........................................................................................................ 206
Wa'ed Alshoubaki, Tennessee State University; Michel Harris, Tennessee State University 207

Representation & Self-Representation .................................................................................. 207
Alice Bloch, University of Manchester ................................................................................... 207
Natalie Slade, Massey University .......................................................................................... 207
Belghes Jafari, Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University (ACKU) ............................................ 208
Carrie Dawson, Dalhousie University .................................................................................... 208

The Politics of Representation ............................................................................................... 209
Umoh Samuel Uwem, University of Kwazulu-Natal; Gbadebo Gbemisola, Independent Researcher, Brainstorm Consults ........................................................................................................ 209
Shakoor Wani, Jawaharlal Nehru University .......................................................................... 210
Jiaqi Liu, University of California, San Diego ......................................................................... 210
Raul Felix Barbosa, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul ................................................. 210

Fortress Europe ..................................................................................................................... 211
Hasan Saliu, AAB College ..................................................................................................... 211
Piro Rexhepi, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity .......... 211
Maya Ayoub, American University Cairo ............................................................................. 212
Salomi Boukala, Panteion University Athens ......................................................................... 212

Refugees/ IDPs in South/Southeast Asia ................................................................................ 212
Farhana Rahman, University of Cambridge .......................................................................... 212
Ashvina Patel, Southern Methodist University ...................................................................... 212
Bitopi Dutta, Dublin City University .................................................................................... 213
Mrutuyanjaya Sahu, Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani Dubai Campus, ......... 214

MULTI-MEDIA & ARTS-BASED PRESENTATIONS ............................................................ 215
Mariana Smith, (Germany/Greece) ....................................................................................... 215
Nergis Canefe, York University ............................................................................................. 215
Richard Lusakumunu, Momo Pembi, Zahra Vazifehshenas, SOLIDARITY NOW 215
Abstracts

Samia Lyamouri, Médecins du Monde Switzerland/Greece; Sarah Neusy, Médecins du Monde; Corina Kanistra, Médecins du Monde; Aliki Panagiotidou, Médecins du monde; Maritina Papamitrou, Co-ordinator of Médecins du Monde Greece .............................................. 215

Mariana Smith, Stockton University; Elizabeth Gerdeman, Academy of Fine Arts, Leipzig; Michael Hahn, exhibitor preparator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Leipzig ...................................... 215

MULTI-MEDIA PRESENTATION/ROUNDTABLE ....................................................................... 216

Sasa Rajscic, University of the Arts Helsinki ......................................................................... 216

Preethi Nallu, Founding Editor, Refugees Deeply, writer and visual storyteller; Nassim Majidi, Samuel Hall; Jeff Crisp, Chatham House Fellow and Research Associate at the Refugees Studies Centre ...................................................................................................................... 217

Snezana Ratkovic, Brock University; Dragana Kovačević, Brock University; Courtney Brewer, Nipissing University; Neelofar Ahmed, Brock University; Janelle Brady, University of Toronto ................................................................................................................................................ 218

Natalie Tines Villarraga, Independent Researcher .................................................................... 218

FILMS ........................................................................................................................................ 219

Geoge Tsitiridis-ANTIGONE, EUFORIA & 16ο Lyceum-Thessaloniki ..................................... 219

FILM SCHOOL -AUTH, UNHCR, ARSAKEIA-TOSITSEIA SCHOOLS ........................................ 219


Chris Dolan, Refugee Law Project .............................................................................................. 219

Georgios Katsagelos , School of Visual&Applied Arts-Auth ............................................... 219

Morteza Jafari, Director ............................................................................................................ 219

Tanya Müller, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester ............................. 219
THEME ONE: Crises, Precarity and Refugeeness

Panel: Challenges to the refugee integration process in a global context – Part 1

Barbara Franz, Riders University

American Immigration Policy under Trump

Building a wall along the Mexican border, banning Muslim immigrants from entering the USA, making the deportation of 11.3 million undocumented immigrants residing in the USA a priority were the promises that catapulted Donald Trump into the presidency. These promises catered straight to his right-wing base. This is why Donald Trump was elected. Once in office, he immediately began to fulfill his promises. Soon after his inauguration, Trump passed a travel ban for residents from six Muslim countries (Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen and Somalia and Sudan). This ban also suspended US admissions of refugees for 120 days and stopped admissions of Syrians indefinitely. The executive action was depicted as a critical step toward establishing an immigration system that protects Americans' safety and security. The bidding process for contractors to design and construct prototypes at the south-west border Wall in San Diego, California, the first step towards the multibillion-dollar project, is currently underway. On September 5, 2017 Donald Trump pulled the plug on DACA—the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program—and exposed 800,000 young people to potential deportation. This paper will first analyze the major immigration proposals put forth by the Trump administration or their zealots in Congress, such as the RAISE Act. Secondly, it will focus on Trump's base, asking what lies behind these policy demands. Specifically, I am interested in examining Trump voters' opinions on race and immigration.

Karolina Lukasiewicz, NYU

Local level responses to anti-refugee framing and shaping of federal policies.

The US Refugee Resettlement Program, since it was enacted in 1980, was criticized for insufficient funding, lack of planned and coordinated actions and conflicting interests of different agencies involved in it. In the same time it was valued for having better labor market outcomes (in terms of employment rate among refugees compared to native born population) than policies aimed to integrate refugees in Europe. Yet, the current anti-refugee rhetoric shaping public discourse in the U.S., followed by anti-refugee policy framing, jeopardized the program and created a hostile context of reception for the newcomers. Although studies show that the context is critical for immigrant integration, current conditions have not been analyzed yet.

Using the case of the New York City area, this presentation aims to fill the gap by exploring the dynamics between the federal anti-refugee shaping and framing of policies which divide individuals into those deserving and undeserving assistance, and local level implementation of and responses to these polices.

The presentation is based on interviews with caseworkers implementing federal policies for refugees, experts involved in developing them in the NYC area and refugee-clients. The interviews were analyzed using inductive approach and thematic analysis.
framework of interpretative policy analysis was used (Wagenaar, 2014), focused on three stages of the policy making cycle: policy shaping, framing and delivery (implementation). This presentation argues that despite the local efforts, the current shaping and framing of the policies at the federal level can decrease chances for upward mobility among refugees in the US and deepen income and social inequalities they experience.

Jamie Liew & Mara Sidney, Rutgers University

Urban Refugees: Making of Space, Place, Race

It is estimated that approximately 3 million refugees have settled in the U.S. since Congress passed the Refugee Act of 1980. During the fiscal year of 2016, over sixty percent of all refugees admitted to the United States came from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria, Burma (Myanmar) and Iraq (Pew Research Center, 2017). Studies show that refugees have often preferred to settle in cities as they are more likely to be diverse with less social stigma, provide work opportunities, connect with co-ethnic network. However, there is limited studies on how “urban” refugees may contribute to changing inter-group relations and how this process may be structured and evolve through different time and urban space in the U.S. In this study, we focus on two case studies in New Jersey—Elizabeth and Paterson. We investigate how particularities of these “urban spaces” with their own distinctive migration histories, local politics, and changing demographics serve as important sites of interaction and integration of refugee families and their children. As these host cities negotiate with humanitarian and local agencies to resettle refugees, it is impossible to avoid the geopolitics of refugees in relation to other residents in the city who may be long-time migrants and/or citizens co-ethnics. Rather than focusing on experiences of one specific ethnic or racial group, we investigate under what urban contexts do “origin-based” categories (ie, ethnicity and/or race) become salient. And how are these categories used for drawing both practical and symbolic boundaries in a given urban contexts?

Tanzilya Oren, Fordham University

Constructing a refugee: LGBTQI asylum-seekers in the US: intersection of immigration status, race, ethnicity, and age

The worsening climate in several countries regarding Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, and Intersex (LGBTQI) rights brings more individuals asylum-seekers to the Western countries. For instance, the “anti-gay propaganda” laws in Russia and subsequent crackdown in Chechnya, and reverberation of this trend in other post-Soviet countries caused an increase in asylum claims based on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) in the U.S. Though more attention has been paid to LGBTQI issues in academia recently, the specific living experiences and survival strategies of LGBTQI asylum-seekers and asylees at the intersection of SOGI, race, ethnicity, and age have not been adequately addressed. This presentation addresses the issue of constructing a refugee identity by the New York City-based Russian-speaking LGBTQI asylum-seekers of various ethnicities with a focus on the constructed narratives during and after the immigration and asylum hearings. In my presentation, I will use the data collected during participatory research, from individual interviews, focus-groups and online surveys to look for patterns of self-narration to construct new identities and outer-narration to construct identities for immigration officers and judges, for local communities, neighborhoods, and service-providers. My main argument is that there are specific coping and help-seeking strategies reflected in common and distinct self-narratives and outer-narrative to construct refugee identities among Russian-speaking LGBTQI asylum-seekers.
Panel: Challenges to the refugee integration process in a global context – Part 2

Halina Grzymala-Moszczynska, Jagiellonian University

Challenges for refugee integration, a case of refugees in Gdańsk, Poland

Integration became very catching word in the European social discourse about refugees. Usually the word appears in the context of fear about their limited (or lacking) capabilities to integrate with the host society. However structural analysis of the acculturation process based on RAEM model (Navas, et.al 2005) points to serious deficiencies in capabilities of receiving society (Poland) to integrate even the most willing and resourceful arrivals. Several aspects of integration will be analyzed: political context, job opportunities, educational opportunities offered by the host society, but also personal and group resources, migratory experiences and social network of refugees coming to Poland. As a specific case study strategies of Chechen family who has settled in the city of Gdańsk and actively engages in the pursuit of integration in the city will be scrutinized. Importance of Gdańsk as a selected location steams from the fact that this city is considered in Poland as the top city with the most developed pro-integration strategies, which include inter alia participation of migrants in decision making processes pertaining to the whole municipality. Both successes in integration and barriers in different aspects of social functioning of the family will be incorporated in the RAEM model and suggestions for developing strategies of both parties -refugees and city - will be suggested.

Tolu Lanrewaju, Rutgers University

“We Have No Power”: The Violence Faced by Refugees Living in Townships in Cape Town, South Africa

From 2006 to 2012, South Africa received more asylum-seeker applications than any other country in the world (Wellman and Landau, 2015; UNCHR, 2010). In March 2017, the Department of Home Affairs released a draft policy report on international migration, designed in part to address the issue of recurring xenophobic attacks. While many scholars have studied the root causes, manifestations and consequences of South Africa’s recurring xenophobic violence, few studies have applied and paralleled sociological theories of violence to the perceptions of foreigners when discussing different forms of violence. Drawing on interviews of Rwandan, Burundian, and Congolese refugees and asylum seekers (RASs) living in townships and informal settlements surrounding Cape Town, this paper explores how they recognize, conceptualize and link direct, cultural, and structural violence, in ways akin to Galtung’s (1990) “violence triangle” and the “continuum of violence” (Scheper-Hughes and Bourgois 2004). The findings show that RASs identify state neglect and cultural differences as being the key factors leading to their protracted state of refugehood, in which fear of persecution and multiple forms of violence are still daily realities. After identifying the role of the South African people and government in perpetuating xenophobia, RASs explain the resultant need to constantly negotiate for proper identification documents, housing, safety, education, and jobs. It is concluded that an understanding of the underpinnings and manifestation of different forms of xenophobic violence faced by RASs have become a part of their imagination and interpretation of their position in South Africa – this is particularly useful for future research that examines diverse trajectories of refugee integration and belonging (Strang and Anger 2008).
Panel: Migration, precarity and contradiction: contesting categorizations and exclusions

With the increased displacement and movement of people around the world, the reification and fortification of external, as well as internal, borders has contributed to the discourses of ‘crisis’ and precarity in different ways. This panel will explore the ways rights are restricted for refugees and precarious status migrants in contradictory ways in various international contexts; it will also engage with the growing resistance to these ideological exclusions. While the contradictions we highlight take different forms, they also offer possibilities to better understand intersecting systemic oppressions, collective mobilizations and individual actions. There is much to be learned by understanding different forms of exclusion and the ways they are contested.

Tanya Aberman, York University

Considering Self-Deportation in a Sanctuary City

As the crisis of migration has been increasingly solidified and included in public discourse, measures have been taken to repressively manage the categorization and criminalization of migrant bodies. In Canada, policies and practices have been outlined to deny social and economic rights, ranging from health care to education, to work and social assistance for those marked as precarious and undesired, with citizens enlisted to implement the necessary borders and boundaries. These exclusions were purposefully developed with the stated goal of deterring future arrivals, yet they also act to encourage migrants to self-deport, return “voluntarily” to avoid the seemingly insurmountable precarity and hardships involved in staying. This addition of forced voluntary return contributes to highlight the contradictions and challenge the binaries between voluntary departure and involuntary deportation. This paper looks at migrants’ and service providers’ experiences of forced voluntary return to consider the multi-layered, multi-sited criminalization of migrants and the associated, often overpowering, loss of hope. These broadly felt experiences of criminalization are necessarily gendered and impact migrants differently based on intersecting identities and social location. While the creation of ‘crisis’ enables recruitment of ever-more people in the exclusion and criminalization of migrants, it also acts to propel a secondary forced migration, one that is too often considered voluntary.

Genevieve Ritchie, OISE/University of Toronto

The Contradictions of Refugee Justice

With more than 65 million people displaced globally, the United Nations has repeatedly announced that we are witnessing unprecedented levels of forced migration. As the alarming nature of the refugee crisis subsides, the on-going struggle to protect and expand the rights of migrants and refugees appears as a paragon of social justice. Young people, in particular, are drawn into the struggle to expand the rights of migrants through nongovernment organizations and civil society actors. However, refugee/migrant rights movements express internal contradictions by simultaneously relying upon and rejecting the nation-state as the guarantor of legal rights. Likewise, campaigns to end the incarceration and deportation of refugees reify the discursive dichotomization of the persecuted refugee and the criminal migrant. My analysis, therefore, asks what are young people learning about the nature of the state and democratic practice through an engagement with refugee/migrant rights movements?
Drawing upon Paula Allman’s theorization of reproductive and critical praxis, my purpose is to flesh out the contradictions that inform contemporary struggles for the rights of refugees. The analysis is built by juxtaposing policy shifts in immigration and national security with social movement campaigns in Canada and Australia. Rather than enumerate or overemphasize the shortcomings of social movements, I aim to think through the types of learning and civic engagement that are engendered through the praxis of resistance.

Philip Ackerman, Seneca College

**Navigating the Divide: Contesting exclusion through access to education**

In the Canadian context, the settlement experiences of newcomer youth are often structured by marginalization and exclusion. Within this discussion, newcomers may include: convention refugees, refugee claimants, people in the process of obtaining permanent residence through Humanitarian and Compassionate ground applications or sponsorship applications, and non-status residents. This paper will take an intersectional approach to explore the ongoing and emerging barriers that newcomer youth encounter when navigating post-secondary education in Ontario, Canada, and how these barriers are perpetuated by exclusionary and contradictory ideologies and capitalist systems within the neo-liberal academy. As newcomer youth interact with various players at crucial moments while applying, registering and attending college and university, the fog of misinformation, contradiction and bureaucratic marginalization deleteriously impacts their mental health while causing irreparable rifts in their academic and professional trajectories. The goal of this research is to uncover these disparities and gain a better understanding of how they intersect with the immigration status and newcomer experience of students. Overall, I hope to add meaningful context to conversations of access and inclusion at the post-secondary level, and ensure that diverse newcomer identities are present and valued within these conversations. This analysis will be greatly informed by the author’s own experience working at both a grassroots, community-based refugee centre in Toronto, as well as at a post-secondary institution.

Panel: Behind Closed Doors – The Judicial Administration of Secret Evidence

Secret evidence (referred to as “closed material” in the UK) is increasingly used in Canadian and UK courts and tribunals. Proceedings occur in such fields as immigration and refugee law, civil proceedings, appeals to no-fly list designation as well as citizenship and passport revocations, and to a lesser degree, criminal trials. On the one hand, the use and/or non-disclosure of secret material is often necessary to protect the safety of human sources/intelligence officers and the integrity of intelligence operations. On the other, if this material is to stand as evidence, the intelligence community must adapt to the principles, practices, and rules of our courts. But judges, lawyers, and administrative staff must also adapt to the unique implications secrecy has upon autonomous legal values, including those related to a fair trial, the open court/justice principle, and the ordinary practices, procedures, and overall institution of the adversarial system.

John Campbell, School of Oriental & African Studies
Guilty by Association: Contrasting disciplinary views on the fairness of ‘secret trials’ of ‘terrorists’

This paper contrasts the very different outlook and assumptions of anthropologists and lawyers by examining the case of one individual detained under counter-terrorist legislation. This task requires a careful look at key characteristics of the legal proceedings which individuals who are detained under a control order/TPIM are subject to, namely a ‘secret trial’, dependence on the work of Special Advocates to disclose/reveal the Home Office case against them and judges who exercise very broad discretion in deciding appeals. By examining the special procedural measures adopted in such cases several issues become clear: the very different way in which anthropologists and lawyers/judges see the world but also why it is that once an individual is accused of a terrorist offence s/he will be found guilty, not by reason of a criminal act but as a result of their ‘association’ with ‘terrorists’. In short the legal procedures involved in secret trials operate very differently from public criminal trials.

Graham Hudson, Ryerson University

Behind closed doors: The judicial administration of ‘Secret Trials’ in Canada

Secret trials are thought to be an exceptional form of proceeding, where determinations of rights rest on evidence not seen by affected parties or the public. Used in such fields as criminal, civil, and diverse regulatory law, the basic model for ensuring fairness in secret trials can be traced to immigration law – at least in the UK and Canada. Special Advocates are a case in point: being security-cleared, SAs challenge government allegations as well as the confidentiality of protected information. The use of SAs in diverse legal fields suggests a rare counterpoint to the exceptionalism of immigration law, even while underlining the normalization of proceedings that are hard to square with rights and the rule of law. This paper shares the result of a socio-legal study into effectiveness of the SA system in immigration proceedings, with some thoughts about its future within and beyond immigration law. Based on interviews with judges, security-cleared lawyers, administrative staff, and other professionals, this research identifies the mostly informal factors that shape discretionary decisions about rules of practice and procedure. I draw conclusions about the conditionality of fairness on ephemeral relationships of trust and customary law i.e. interactional expectancies.

John Jackson, University of Nottingham

In a World of their Own: Security-Cleared Counsel, Best Practice and Procedural Tradition

This paper examines issues emerging from the rise of security-cleared counsel as a mechanism that has been used for managing the tension between security and fairness in secret trials across different common law systems. The paper begins by briefly considering how concerns about crime and security have led to a rise of secrecy in the courts with increasing inroads being made to the adversarial principles of open and natural justice. The paper then considers how special advocates have emerged to act in the interests of parties excluded from the trial because of the damage to national security and other interests that would be caused if they were able to see the evidence against them. It is illustrated how the role of the European Court of Human Rights has been central in projecting this mechanism as a supposedly effective counter-balancing measure across a range of different procedural contexts and how poor comparative methodology has been used to promote special advocates as an example of ‘best practice’. The paper then examines how recent research studies have employed a better methodology to both identify and problematise ‘best practice’ within the closed world of security-cleared counsel and argues that apart from managing the tension between justice and security, there is also a need to manage the tension between ‘best practice’ and procedural tradition. The paper concludes by considering whether security-cleared lawyers pose such a
fundamental challenge to the adversarial tradition that they ought to be abandoned. While it will be argued that there is a place for security-cleared lawyers, there needs to be much greater attention placed on the procedural setting in which they are used and the extent to which their practices ‘fit’ within the procedural cultures of different adversarial traditions.

Panel: Sexual and Gender-based Violence in the Refugee Crisis: Vulnerabilities, Inequalities and Responses

Forced displacement has reached an all-time high (UNHCR 2016). The Women’s Refugee Commission (WRC) have highlighted extraordinary levels of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) experienced by refugees during recent conflicts, throughout flight, in temporary camps and in detention centres (WRC 2016). The full extent of SGBV is unknown with incidence under-reported (UN Women 2013). Most research undertaken to date has been small scale and geographically local with calls made for the development of appropriate data collection methods which can be implemented at different stages in the refugee journey (Amnesty International 2016). Limited specialist treatment is available until individuals reach countries of refuge, by which point health consequences may have worsened. The experience of SGBV is mentally and physically debilitating and can prevent refugees from rebuilding their lives. Despite NGOs’ concerns, little scientific attention has been paid to SGBV, its treatment and consequences.

Presenting the findings of a series of international, interdisciplinary, hermeneutic reviews of evidence collected from Governments, NGOs and academia this panel examines experiences of, and responses to, SGBV across the refugee journey. We attend to the experiences of women, men and children, recording mechanisms, the role of policy and practice in preventing or reducing incidences and providing treatment, refugees’ healthcare needs, interventions and consequences of SGBV for refugees’ integration. Through our reviews we outline the global state of knowledge and set out a research agenda that highlights gaps in knowledge and the ways these might be addressed to ensure a globally co-ordinated approach to addressing refugee precarity.

Lisa Goodson, Institute for Research into Superdiversity, University of Birmingham; Dale Buscher, Women’s Refugee Commission

Between the devil and the deep blue sea: reporting and monitoring incidence of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) across the refugee journey

Sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) encompasses a range of human rights violations often linked to unequal gender power relations that can exist at a community level through prevailing social norms; as well as institutional and legislative levels. SGBV can be both the driver of forced migration as well as being part of the reality refugee’s face during flight and displacement. The threat of SGBV is a global phenomenon affecting displaced women and girls, as well as men and boys. Protection against SGBV can only occur through prevention, which is a complex challenge requiring robust reporting systems capable of identifying both prevailing risks and potential risk mitigation strategies. Data collection and analysis of SGBV is essential to the effectiveness of targeted service delivery, advocacy and policy development. This paper considers the way in which incidents of SGBV have been recorded across the refugee journey to date. It takes a detailed look at current mechanisms used to record and monitor instances of
SGBV and assesses the strengths and weaknesses of current systems according to four key criteria: reliability, validity, robustness and effectiveness. The barriers hindering the accurate recording of SGBV cases are discussed in relation to gender-cultural norms, political, and practical dilemmas associated with self-reporting SGBV incidences. The importance and utility of developing more robust and systematic monitoring systems are finally considered alongside a series of practical and actionable recommendations on how to improve the monitoring of SGBV across the refugee journey.

Hannah Bradby, Uppsala University; Saime Ozcurumez, Bilkent University

What is the nature of that SGBV and where/when are refugees most vulnerable to SGBV?

SGBV takes place in a temporal and spatial continuum before, during and after flight from conflict or disaster, as well as during the settlement period and after repatriation. SGBV has cultural, social, economic and political dimensions, which can be studied to map the points in refugees’ complex journeys when refugees are most vulnerable to SGBV. These multifarious dimensions of SGBV shape the preventive measures and interventions that can be formulated to mitigate harm. Identifying the nature, location and timing of the SGBV also helps determine the content and the conduct of sectoral (human rights, economics, health, education) interventions as well as the actors that should be involved.

This paper uses a gender perspective to explore definitions of SGBV experienced across the refugee journey from multiple perspectives (NGOs, policymakers, practitioners, academics) and using an interdisciplinary framework. Since gender is a culturally defined characteristic, migration through different cultures and therefore variation in the definition of gender, offers another challenge to assessing the scale of SGBV. After setting out the state of knowledge the paper identifies commonalities and differences and examines why different actors define SGBV in different ways and what this means for survivors and those attempting to support them.

Cathy Vaughan, University of Melbourne; Karen Block, University of Melbourne

What supports do refugees who have experienced SGBV need, and what responses are most effective in meeting their needs?

Sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) against refugees has a range of negative impacts on their physical and mental health. Harms to health are felt immediately upon the experience of SGBV, and over the long-term. Refugees who have experienced SGBV need health services, psychosocial, legal and other supports at different stages of their journey. However refugees face barriers in accessing services, including service providers’ inability to respond to the complexities of refugees’ SGBV experiences. The scale of the current crisis has severely over-stretched agencies providing services to refugees, and has not allowed for the development of specific and appropriate responses. This paper will review evidence about the types of responses to SGBV against refugees that have been found to be most effective, with a focus on responses through health services. The paper will literature that outlines health professionals’ experiences in the provision of services to refugees that have experienced SGBV. It will also analyse, in particular, literature that foregrounds the perspectives and priorities of refugees who have experienced SGBV, illuminating refugees’ views on what responses and support they consider most effective. It will outline how supports needs may vary for refugees of different ages, genders, at different points along the refugee journey, and depending on the nature of the SGBV experienced. In synthesising the current state of knowledge, this paper will identify areas of consensus about effective responses to SGBV against refugees as well as gaps in the available evidence.
Jenny Phillimore, Institute for Research into Superdiversity, University of Birmingham

SGBV and refugee integration in countries of refuge

In considering the state of knowledge around sexual violence and war Skjelsbaek notes the reluctance of researchers to “look into how this crime affects the victims” (2001:212). This paper responds to the question how does the experience of SGBV influence refugees’ mental and physical health and ability to integrate and achieve equality of social and economic outcomes in countries of refuge? Given the prevalence of SGBV across the refugee journey, experiences need to be conceptualised as an ongoing and multi-faceted experience of trauma, with both immediate and long-term consequences. Understanding such experiences must focus on the perspectives of survivors and the events and actions which they classify as harmful. This approach moves us beyond exclusive focus on SGBV in war zones, to consider the entire refugee journey (before, during and after exile). Thus, attention is paid to details of context: location(s), interaction with perpetrator(s), health professionals, immigration officials and others, and how they shape experience and recovery. Such an approach is pertinent given Wasco’s (2003) argument that the harm done by sexual assault cannot be understood as a single trauma. In this paper we examine literature informing us around subjective experiences of violence and the contexts of social and cultural norms that shape the allocation of blame and guilt. We examine evidence about refugees’ own constructions of SGBV including moments of resilience and fortitude, to explore the impact of SGBV on refugee integration and the resources they employ for survival and resettlement.

Comparative Responses to Refugee Protection: EU/Canada/Australia

Jona Zyfi, University of Toronto; Idil Atak, Ryerson University

Playing with lives under the guise of fair play: The safe country of origin policy in the EU and Canada

The safe country of origin policy has been adopted and implemented by the European Union (EU) and Canada as a way to deal with a backlog of asylum applications, increase efficiency, reduce administrative costs and exclude fraudulent refugee claims. The concept is founded on the assumption that a democratic country with adequate human rights records is safe for individuals because there is generally no risk of persecution. While this attempt at creating more efficient asylum procedures is sensible in theory, an in depth analysis will reveal that the practice is prejudicial, exclusionary, and a dangerous development that could potentially deny asylum to those who are in genuine need of international protection. Contributing to the existing body of literature, our paper provides a comparative analysis of how SCO policies are rationalized by States and their effect on refugee rights. We argue that these policies are a political response to unwanted migration and a migration management tool used to deter what States deem as ‘bogus’ refugees. Whether these goals have been attained remains questionable, however, as currently maintained SCO policies are detrimental to the human rights of refugee claimants.

Anthea Vogl, University of Technology Sydney

At what cost? Private Sponsorship of Humanitarian Entrants in Australia

This paper analyses two refugee policy initiatives in Australia: the Community Proposal Pilot
(CPP) and the Community Support Program (CSP). Together, these programs create Australia’s first ever program for the full private sponsorship of humanitarian entrants by individuals, businesses and organisations. The CPP was a pilot program that ran from 2013-2017. The CSP is currently being implemented on a national, permanent basis.

The CPP and CSP are new and controversial programs. Only Government-approved organisations can facilitate sponsorship. Although the annual quota of 1000 privately sponsored entrants under the CSP represents double the number allowed under the pilot, contentiously this quota will be part of, rather than in addition to, Australia’s proposed intake of 18,750 places in 2018/19. As well, the costs of sponsorship are staggeringly high. This paper assess the CSP and CPP in the context of new and influential literature on ‘alternative pathways’ for humanitarian entrants, whereby the ‘alternative’ pathways are often existing migration programs and entry is determined according to national priorities and work readiness rather than primarily by humanitarian need or concern. The paper will also critically consider both the role of privatisation and the public/private dichotomy in framing the programs, as well as the possibilities raised by community involvement and hospitality in a realm where the State has historically insisted that it exclusively determines which humanitarian entrants come to Australia and the circumstances of their arrival.

Panel: Endangered rights and precarious lives

Nassim Majidi, Samuel Hall

The discussion that started in August 2014 – refugees or migrants? (Al Jazeera, UNHCR, Carling) – was not about semantics but about politics and about the interpretation of international humanitarian and human rights law. From a European perspective, the political binary distinguishes between the (good) refugees and the (non-deserving economic) migrants. This distinction protects the rights of some, while diminishing the rights, and increasing the precarious of “others”. This creates the perception and the realization of competing rights between groups who share more similarities than differences. Alternative approaches are needed to understand how conditions of precariousness across time and space – impact the rights of migrants. What are the risks to which migrants are exposed to? What situations of precariousness are created not by migration itself, but by the absence of a protective framework?

This panel presents papers that focus on the precarious lives and endangered rights of migrants and their communities.

Heaven Crawley, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University

In search of the ‘human’: re-centering rights in the delivery of refugee protection and assistance

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants includes a commitment to protect the human rights of all refugees and migrants, regardless of their status and to promote their full, equal and meaningful participation in finding solutions. Despite this commitment, the concept of ‘rights’ has, in many ways, been absent from discussions around the Global Compacts. The rights of those seeking international protection are rarely framed or discussed in ways that acknowledge their rights as humans regardless of their migratory experiences. Instead the debate had focused on the application or strict technical or legal definitions of ‘refugeeness’ and whether individuals’ quality for protection on the basis of the (increasingly narrow) criteria.
This paper argues that we need to re-centre the ‘human’ in our discussion of rights. It will be suggested that framing an individual’s protection or assistance needs solely or primarily in terms of their identity as a refugee does a great disservice not only to those whose experiences are deemed not to ‘fit’ but to migrants more generally and to our aspirations for the kinds of societies in which we want to live. Rights are not a zero-sum game – treating refugees as human and providing access to rights does not reduce the rights available to others in society but may in fact enhance access to meaningful human rights protection for all. This is because rights and equality are intricately connected. Re-centring the human in our discussion of the refugee rights creates new opportunities for solidarity-building.

Shahram Khosravi, Stockholm University

The time of borders

Migration and borders are generally perceived and studied as a spatial process and the temporal aspect of migration has received much less attention. In this presentation I will develop an anthropological account of the lived experiences of waiting among asylum seekers and undocumented migrants. Despite its common presence in many migrants’ lives, the act of waiting has been less studied in migration studies. Lack of information on how long they have to wait or what exactly they have to do to get their residence permits makes the migrants’ lives unpredictable and results in uncertainty, that generates a feeling of precarity. I will focus on migrants’ ‘social navigation’ of “waithood”, when claiming their rights in encounters with the state, NGOs, or other organizations; to explain the impact of prolonged waiting on individuals. What does it mean to wait for a long period of time? ; How do migrants organize their time waiting? How does waiting affect their access to their rights?

Karen Jacobsen, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy and Feinstein International Center, Tufts University

Urban Displacement – an Analytical Typology

Most urban humanitarian programming focuses on supporting individuals through cash grants, rent support or livelihood training. My paper argues that within urban displaced populations, certain groups are more at risk for violence, lack of protection, discrimination and impoverisation. These groups include single women (at risk for GBV), children of single mothers and the elderly (both groups at risk for being left home alone, and inadequate nutrition, play/entertainment and education), unaccompanied youths (at risk for recruitment into gangs or armed groups), and LGBTQ people (at risk for violence and discrimination). These high-risk groups would benefit from community-based approaches that are carefully designed to address their vulnerabilities, rather than simply trying to include them in (or even target them for) regular programming. The paper outlines some reasons why these groups are not protected/helped by current urban humanitarian programs. One reason is because current programs simply provide individuals with cash or other assistance and send them out to do battle with discriminatory landlords and employers. I propose a shelter-based (housing) program using a community-based, integrated programming approach that builds on displaced communities’ strengths and promotes their engagement with the host population. The paper draws on recent research in Cairo and other cities where shelters are used, and argues that secure safe housing is literally the foundation that can support and enable related programming needs.
Panel: The Challenge of Welcome for Resettled Refugees in New Zealand, Japan, the UK, and the US

Growing numbers of refugees and asylum seekers have coincided with increased terror attacks in countries to which they flee, with the result that many politicians and the general public perceive refugees themselves to be terrorists. As a result, those fleeing in search of safety find it ever harder to find spaces of welcome. This panel will explore ways in which four resettlement countries either expedite or challenge (or both) a sense of welcome and belonging for refugees and asylum seekers. The first two examine refugee populations at large; the second two focus on the needs of refugee students.

Maria Hayward, Auckland University of Technology
The Use of the Powhiri to Welcome Refugees at the Mangere Resettlement Centre.
In recent decades, New Zealanders have gradually recognized the value of traditions and beliefs handed down by the original inhabitants of the land, the Maori. One of great importance is the powhiri, or welcome ceremony, given only to people who possess what Maori call mana – honor, humility, good traits. This moving ceremony is conducted at the culmination of six weeks of welcome provided at the Mangere Resettlement Centre outside Auckland.

All Convention refugees receive the same opportunity at Mangere to begin their lives in New Zealand with a multiplicity of services, education, and information prior to moving to their new community. Using action research, I will critique forms of welcome as well as problematic issues at Mangere along with describing the significance of the powhiri and the provisions in place for the newcomers to begin life in their new communities in NZ. Although the information and services are important to the newcomers as they settle into New Zealand, the sheer amount can feel overwhelming to newly arrived refugees. In addition, tensions arise between government goals and the Mangere staff knowledge of the newcomers’ needs.

Jody McBrien, University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
Japan’s Multi-faceted Response to Refugees
Japan has been criticised for the small numbers of refugees that it resettles since it began a pilot program of resettlement in 2009. As an example, Japan accepted only 28 of the 10,901 people who applied for refugee status in 2016, much less than one percent of the total.

However, these numbers tell only part of the story. Japan began assisting refugees to resettle in 1979, allowing resettlement for those escaping the tragedy of war in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. This program ended in 2006, resettling over 11,000. Japan has three other categories: refugees (people called asylum seekers in most countries) – those who arrive and request refugee status; humanitarian (those who apply as refugees and are denied the status but allowed to stay for humanitarian reasons), and resettlement refugees (primarily Burmese coming from camps in Thailand and Malaysia).

These categories create confusion, and they determine the kinds of services for which refugees are eligible in Japan, as well as the extent of their official welcome. Presenter Dr. McBrien
spent four months in 2017 conducting qualitative research with agency staff and refugees to understand how their status is determined, how it affects their lives in Japan, and how the support they receive affects their ability to integrate into Japanese society.

Linda Morrice, University of Sussex

Refugee education and the false promises of resettlement in the UK

The UNHCR emphasises that access to education is not only a ‘basic right’ but an enabling right, a right through which other rights are realised. Refugee education in countries of resettlement is therefore absolutely key to their integration and to concerns of equity and inclusion. The UK has two main resettlement programmes: the Gateway Protection Programme (GPP) which resettles up to 750 refugee a year, and more recently, the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (SVRS) which aims to resettle approximately 4000 refugees from camps in the Middle East. Refugees arriving in the UK under these programmes are provided with one year of dedicated material and social support to facilitate the smooth transition and integration to UK society.

This presentation draws on quantitative and qualitative data gathered as part of a UK Research Council funded project Optimising Refugee Resettlement in the UK to explore the educational experiences and outcomes for refugee young people and adults five years after their arrival in the UK. The paper will highlight the conflicting policy goals of resettlement and how the lack of tailored educational opportunity structures is creating a ‘lost generation’ of refugees. As a consequence, for many refugees resettlement is translating into integration into precarious, low skill and low status employment or unemployment.

Panel: Refugeeness and Precarity: A view from the Global South

The panel will explore refugeeness and precarity among mobile population especially among that refugees/ citizens/ migrant experience during conflict and its subsequent transition into the period of internal displacement. Population on the move from their place of origin often faces severe challenges while they locate to new areas. Some of these challenges that they face appears in the form of hierarchy of belonging that prevents access of opportunity to refugee/ migrant communities. Typically when communities face such challenges the political engagement creates zones of distinction which brings into question the whole apparatus of marking and engagement itself.

The panel will examine the challenges of communities displaced through violent conflict, and interrogate how groups have adopted mechanisms which affects the sense and practice of citizenship of groups.

Ranabir Samaddar, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group

Precarious Labour of the Migrants: Issues of Ecology, Politics, and Survival

Various historical writings available with us today show the intimate links between environmental changes, a catastrophic political economy, hunger, and migration during the colonial time. The colonial state introduced policies of thrift, herding victims of hunger in camps, villages, and small towns, restricting their movements to rationalise the work of relief as well as stop the spread of anarchy, modes of inspection and reporting, gearing part of the
governmental machinery towards conducting relief work, and regulating migration. Colonial history is crucial, because an understanding of the colonial time can help us to see how post-colonial India continues with many of the previous policies at a time when environmental disasters have an accompanying phenomenon - that of increasing food insecurity and labour migration. This paper will discuss the emergence of the precarious migrant as the key figure of our time in the background of above mentioned interrelation between ecology, politics, and survival in the Brahmaputra and Barak Basins in North East India and Deltaic West Bengal and Bihar.

Paula Banerjee, Sanskrit University

Internal Displacement and question of citizenship

The purport of this paper is to explain that citizenship and statelessness are part of the same spectrum. There are many people in South Asia who fall within that spectrum who will not be accepted as a citizen by “competent authorities” within a state and neither will they be called “stateless” by the international legal interpreters. Legal experts who work for agencies such as UNHCR and are placed in Geneva might say that these people should be called citizens by a particular state, and can be called a citizen if the citizenship laws of that state are improved, but the reality remains, the people in question are completely unable to access even the most elementary of the rights attributed to a citizen. As for the state, unless compelled to do so by the courts of law will never give a definitive description of who might not be a citizen. Very seldom and hardly ever in a democracy will a state come out and definitively mark a group of people as non-citizens as in the cases of Rohingyas or Lhotsampas. Thus, more often than not both the state and the bastions of international law will refrain from defining these people and let them remain as “in between” people or people with indeterminate nationality/indeterminate status of political being, thereby adding to their vulnerability, rightlessness and discrimination.

Nasreen Chowdhory, University of Delhi

Why do people move? Narratives of enclave or ‘new’ citizens, in north Bengal in India

My paper shall interrogate narratives of refugees/ citizens/ migrants who have been left behind in the formation of new citizens in the northern part of Bengal in India. The story of chit or enclave people will be explored to break the binary of sedentary vs. immobility of people. The discourse on ‘mobility turn’ within social sciences tends to focus on ‘objects and subjects on the move’ that privilege the primordial linkages between people and place and their societal context (Urry and Sheller 2006; Malkki 1992). Instead the focus will be on the population that decides to stay behind, i.e., absence of migration and experiences of immobility. The paper will focus on narratives of members of family that refused to be part of new citizens in Land Border Agreement between India and Bangladesh and decided to stay back in Bangladesh. The paper engages in two levels analysis to explore the narratives of those who stayed and those who joined India.

Panel: Silenced and Undocumented: Gender effects in Forced Migration in Turkey

Emel Coskun and Lucy Williams, University of Kent
Criminalisation of undocumented migrant women in Turkey: A case study of Ugandan women

Sub-Saharan African women are at the bottom of migrant hierarchies in Turkey’s migration regime because of their gender, race and undocumented status. This paper focuses on the experiences of undocumented Ugandan migrant women in Turkey and describes the interaction between their gendered poverty in Uganda and Turkey’s migration regime. It considers the ways in which gender and being undocumented determine the experiences of migrant women as waged workers or as prostitutes in Turkey. In addition it shows how Turkey’s migration and prostitution regimes criminalise migrant women and play an important role in creating insecurity and structural vulnerabilities.

Based on the interviews with women in Istanbul and Kampala, Uganda, this paper argues that Ugandan women’s precarious position in the labour market and criminalisation through migration policy and labour restrictions obliges some women to be involved in prostitution as a survival strategy. Economic pressure from home and debts incurred by migration make their situation even worse. Work options open to Ugandan women in Turkey are limited to either ‘low-skilled’ gendered and informal work such as in sweatshops or selling sex. Ugandan women often face severe forms of labour exploitation, discrimination and sexual harassment within their workplaces. Being undocumented keeps migrant women silent against gender based harassment and violence or they often face with police’s ignorance when seek for justice. This paper argues that most migrant women are criminalised through gender inequalities, migration and labour restrictions or prostitution regime of Turkey and this criminalisation makes women silent against any gender based violence.

Kamile Dinçsoy and Beril Eski, Bilgi University (Co-researcher Emel Coskun, Duzce University)

Negative Gendered Effects of Turkey’s Asylum Regime

Gendered effects in refugee studies often refer to two problems: the non-recognition of gender related persecution as ‘persecution’ within the sense of the Geneva Convention and the lack of gender-sensitive asylum reception and protection processes. In addition, sexual and gender based violence is often neglected due to the invisibility of refugee women in the daily life. This paper puts issues of gender discrimination at the forefront and explores Turkey’s asylum regime and different forms of sexual and gender based violence that asylum seeker and refugee women face during their journey and on their arrival to Turkey.

This paper is based on in-depth interviews with 18 women and LGBTQ individuals from different nationalities including Uganda, Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran as well as interviews with eleven professionals from NGOs such as managers, translators and social workers. Neither UNHCR nor Turkey’s official asylum application processes provide support to women and LGBTQ people, on the contrary it exposes them to sexual and gender based violence during application and journey to satellite cities in Turkey. Sexual and gender based violence against women and LGBTQ individuals may come from different parties and even from state officials in the satellite cities. The application process itself is difficult to access and not gender sensitive. Satellite cities do not meet women and LGBTQ asylum seekers’ needs and further expose them gender based violence as they cannot access work permits or any other socio-economic support. Most of our respondents dropped out of the asylum process because of the requirements in-built in the process, such as living in satellite cities. Finally, this paper highlights some recommendations towards a gender sensitive reception process in Turkey.
Directors: Gülşah Keleş, Lyon University; Sara Durmuş, Independent Filmmaker

Documentary Screening: “Kaç Para” (How much?) 25min.

This documentary covers the difficulties that black immigrant women face in Turkey due to their gender, race, and immigration status. Their condition of living without documents causes them problems in many aspects of their daily lives including renting a home, getting paid for work they have done, etc. They also experience near-constant sexual harassment in the streets and in workplaces. Most of these women consider Turkey as a stepping stone to achieving other life goals and projects, it is difficult for them to manage with all the challenges that they encounter.

Trailer can be accessed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_E5fWbaAls

Panel: Statelessness, Precarity and Representation of Rohingya Refugees: South Asian Perspectives

The refugees are product of the internal politics of the sovereign states and their statelessness is part of the dynamics border politics. The Sovereign states generally normalise subjects or impose normality by standardising and regulating their movements within the territory and exclude the out-groups by spatially organising and/or de-organising them. The processes of organisation of population takes either the path of "bio-politics of the human body" that stresses on calibrated management of human life and population though various measures, what is called "governmentality or the method of organising or deorganising through "anatomo-politics of the human body which imposes compulsory visibility" and surveillance that confine human movement without any rights over subject's own life and body. Violence is perpetrated on the cultural body of the other as the discourse on security takes the narrative of nationalism and identity. It is narrated in the form of impending threats both from inside and outside to a secured community. The subjects by adopting the "nomadic tactics" transgress violence and suspension of the rule. It uses the border as a gateway point to get away. The subjects become stateless who are situated in qualitatively different situations. There lies "perspectival line" or "vanishing point" where "techniques, identities, practices, and power relations" are used to regulate as well as confine the flow. In majority of instances, national security is given priority over human security on the question of providing asylum to the refugees. Protection of human rights of refugees vanishes. They are de-humanised, their lives are de-valued and their representation demeaning. They become "undocumented people", who are constantly exposed to various kinds of harassments making their life at border very precarious. Precarity, "as the generalised state of insecurity", is manifested in both subjective and material forms: uncertain present, fragile future, everyday hardship through waiting and fatigue to escape, the hope of gaining access to acceptability and subsequently of citizenship rights, socio-economic vulnerabilities and political stamping out.

Refugees and/or stateless people thus become analytical as well as legal categories converging on the notion of citizenship. The rubric of understanding of refugee and/or stateless population include socio-economic statuses of the community or individuals, group and community histories and constellation of political dynamics within a country. There are hosts of generative contexts -- nationalism, xenophobia, violence and war against a community, the issue of human rights and challenges to state sovereignty, citizenship and cultural identities, immigration policies, to name a few -- within understanding about refugee crises and statelessness occur.
This panel drawing on the experiences of the politically persecuted ethnic minority Rohingyas of Myanmar, who are escaping persecution or ethnic cleansing in the country and moving to Bangladesh and India for shelter, would present papers on the issue of statelessness and citizenship with respect to the legal question of refoulement and shelter, the precarious conditions during the process of escaping and vulnerable socio-economic situation at and within the border, the vulnerability of women during the journey and after arrival in the destination country and political meaning of the refugees in the host country in relation to: a) the notion of nationalism and identity politics; b) on their representation in the international, national and local media; and c) impact on the country's political situation on the issue of resource management vis-a-vis refugee asylum.

Meghna Kalja, University of Delhi; Nasreen Chowdhory, University of Delhi

Precarity and Legal Conceptualisation of Rohingyas: A Dilemma of Citizenship

The intervention in this paper is to look at the procedure of making citizens and unmaking citizens in a modern state. The whole idea of becoming a citizen comes through the notion of social contract in which individuals come together to form a sovereign state. In return state ensures security, dignity, social, political and economic needs for that it makes laws. The authority lies with state on deciding citizens and non-citizens or as Agamben puts it bare lives. How does state categorises citizens? The paradox of citizenship lies here with marking out the identity, on which certain rights are given. This identity can be based on any category like caste, language, religion and sex etc. on the other hand, the universal notion of citizenship is contested. It is this contestation within citizenship that will be addressed theoretically by taking present crisis of Rohingyas as the recent case to mark out the particularities. The central idea is to unravel the religious identity vis-à-vis citizenship. Where a state tries to marginalise citizens on the basis of religion first violence against minorities through majorities. The minorities in a state are slowly carved as marginal citizens, who lie somewhere between citizens and non-citizens. It is these margin citizens who tomorrow can be declared as non-citizens. Then finally state declares them as non-citizens by changing the laws as done to Rohingyas through the Myanmar citizenship act of 1982.

Meherun Ahmed, Asian University for Women (AUW)

Socio-Economic Assimilation of the Stateless Rohingya Communities in Bangladesh

In the current globalised world, a rising number of people are leaving their native lands for better jobs opportunities, higher education, improved living standard, and last but not least, safety and security. Economic theory labels this as informed decision. In reality, for some unfortunate segment of the population it occurs due to various types of persecution and other forms of political violence. The issues of assimilation of migrants in the asylum country have critical economic implications. The assimilation process in the host country is not only complex in nature, but the process requires considerable time. The process becomes harder for refugees when migration occurs due to coercion and sometimes even a decade is not enough to settle down in a foreign place. There is a dearth of rigorous quantitative analysis in relation to the coping mechanism and the socio-economic assimilation of refugees in South Asia. The process becomes more stringent with inefficient institutions and prevalence of imperfect market conditions. Therefore, it is essential to examine the dynamics of refugee assimilation in developing countries. This paper by taking Rohgyas of Myanmar as case study intends to explore the dynamics and the hardship of the process of refugee integration in Bangladesh from a neighbouring country. It examines condition of these refugees and their assimilation
and integration processes in terms employment opportunities, access to basic services such as shelter, education and health. It also assesses the gender-disaggregated difficulty levels in the process of integration.

Biswajit Mohanty, Deshbandhu College; Babita Verma

Political Representation of Rohingyas in the Indian Media

Media in the modern democratic societies has been playing an important role in building consensus and shaping public mood. It is through the consensus making practices that the mass media has acquired the power of and control over the symbolic resources to manufacture consent and consensus especially in the realm of ethnic relations. It through discriminatory portrayal and prejudiced reproduction of public image of an ethnic group influences the public perception of a nation. It helps to form an ideology of nationalism. Thus, interplay of discourse and ideology dialectics help build images of refugees and migrants. Sometimes some refugee issues are underplayed and others are disproportionately highlighted to build public perception on an ethnic community. The dynamics of construction of images of out-groups, as "us' vs "them", are not only by the public mood in the domestic sphere but also the geopolitical processes currently in practice. This paper taking the case study of the Rohingyas, an ethnic minority group of Myanmar facing execution by a democratically elected government, seeks to explain the interplay of domestic politics, international relations and public representation of Rohingyas in the visual and print media when they are trying to seek asylum in Indian territory. The paper also argues that the ruling dispensation with the help of media has been constructing images of Rohingyas as "terrorists" and couching the discourse around the conception of nationalism and scarce resources to deny them asylum in the country.

Panel: Crossing boundaries, crossing borders: Forced migration and resettlement for queer refugees – Part 1

Over the past 20 years, growing awareness of the global situation of LGBTI individuals has led some nations to extend asylum and refugee protections to individuals fleeing persecution on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity (United Nations High Commission for Refugees 2008). Emerging research on sexual and gender minority (SGM) forced migrants has demonstrated that they have experienced severe and pervasive abuse that begins in childhood and continues into adulthood (Alessi, Kahn, & Chatterji, 2016; Alessi, Kahn, & Van Der Horn, 2016). These abuse experiences have contributed to traumatic stress and other mental health problems, making it difficult for them to meet the demands of the asylum and resettlement process (Shidlo & Ahola, 2013). Furthermore, tensions arising from their multiple social locations (age, race/ethnicity, gender, gender identity, ability status, growing up in countries with fundamentalist religious doctrine) can impact their sense of belonging in the host country (Kahn, 2015; Lee & Brotman, 2011).

Despite the growing interest in this particularly vulnerable group, there has been little opportunity among scholars, activists, practitioners, and directly impacted persons to discuss strategies to address issues pertinent to queer forced migrants, including protracted timelines for filing refugee claims in Canada; the Dublin Regulation in the European Union; the “travel ban” in the United States; and rising homophobia/transphobia, Islamophobia, and xenophobia throughout Europe and North America.
This panel seeks to create a space for interdisciplinary and transnational dialogue to illuminate challenges and potential solutions for ensuring specialized protection and support for queer forced migrants throughout the migration and resettlement process.

Panel ONE -- Locating Queer Refugees in Policy and Practice: Considering Gaps in Determination and Protection Processes Across Three Continents: Europe, North America, and Africa

Edward J. Alessi, Rutgers University School of Social Work; Raoul Wieland, McGill University School of Social Work / McGill Faculty of Law

Understanding the Dublin Regulation: Tracking the Lived Experiences of ‘Dublin’ for Queer Asylum Seekers

The Dublin Regulation was enacted in 2003 to make it easier for E.U. member states to determine which country is responsible for handling an individual’s asylum claim (European Commission 2018). More specifically, if an individual seeks asylum in one E.U. country, they must be returned to the E.U. country where they (i) initially obtained a visa or (ii) were first fingerprinted. This paper – in two parts – describes the preliminary findings of a qualitative study conducted in 2017 with 38 LGBTQ forced migrants resettling in Austria or the Netherlands. The study sought to examine (a) the needs of LGBTQ forced migrants from Middle Eastern countries (e.g., Syria, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan) throughout their journeys, and (b) whether these needs were addressed in ways that allowed for the safety and protection of people with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Grounded theory methods used to analyze the data revealed that LGBTQ forced migrants from countries in the Middle East who flee their homelands because of war-related violence and violence and exploitation due to their sexual and/or gender minority status may be particularly vulnerable to the Dublin Regulation. Under this policy, they must return to the country of first arrival in the European Union, even if this country is hostile toward sexual and gender minorities. Specifically, participants in the study reported that the E.U. country to which they held a visa or were first fingerprinted while in transit to Austria or the Netherlands could be blatantly inhospitable to Muslim asylum seekers and also hostile towards LGBTQ individuals. Further, transgender participants feared a lack of access to gender-affirmative health care should, under Dublin, they be required to leave cities like Amsterdam or Vienna for less trans-affirmative destinations within the E.U. Further, participants could fear harm – up to and including honor killings – by family members, some of whom were, themselves, refugees living in other E.U. countries. Analysis suggests that losing their Dublin petitions, and, facing deportation, drove some participants underground, to engage in survival sex work, until the statute of limitations runs out. This paper argues for reconsideration of the Dublin Regulation as it is applied to sexual and gender minority asylum seekers.

Azar Masoumi, York University

‘Barely gay’: An intersectional critique of SOGI refugee framework in the Canadian Context

This paper offers a critique of the dominant SOGI refugee protection framework through the theory of intersectionality. It will argue that absence of an intersectional analysis in dominant conceptualizations of SOGI refugees has produced protection systems that treat and understand SOGI claimants as “barely gay”: without any other forms of identity and insulated from a variety of other processes that shape the complex contexts of their lives. This shortcoming not only marginalizes SOGI claimants by limiting the entirety of their life histories to the lexicon of non-normative gender and sexuality, but also obscures the increasingly
restrictive and punishing trends in states’ refugee, travel, and border control regimes and their racialized, racializing, and class-based operations of exclusion. Through a study of in-land refugee protection system in Canada, this paper argues that the lack of intersectional analysis in SOGI and gender-based refugee protection frameworks produces illusions of expansion in refugee rights; this illusion conceals what is actually a general decline in access to refugee protection in Canada. Examination of organizational-level and interdepartmental practices within Canada’s multi-staged refugee protection regime will further demonstrate that complex racial, classed, gendered, and sexual processes underlie the general restriction and targeted forms of exclusion within Canada’s refugee protection regime. Further, this paper traces racial, classed, gendered, and sexual processes in the operations of “Lead” cases and the Designated Countries of Origins (DCOs) policy, particularly as they have affected Mexican and Hungarian Roma claimants. Analysis will demonstrate that these policies and practices have drawn on racialized, racializing and class-based discourses and imaginaries to reinforce the false dichotomy between “real” refugees and economic migrants. This dichotomy has in turn justified harsh treatment and exclusion of those who are labeled economic migrants. The absence of an intersectional analysis in conceptualizations of SOGI claimants as “barely gay” sustains this dichotomy by imagining SOGI refugees and economic migrants as mutually exclusive groups: this process trades SOGI refugee protection with racial and class-based exclusion, and undermines the SOGI claims of those who are labeled economic migrants.

B Camminga, Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA), University of Cape Town

Intersectional Silences: Transgender Asylum seekers in South Africa

On 26 November 2012 the South African trans rights organisation, Gender DynamiX, along with Lawyers for Human Rights and the Consortium for Refugees and Migrants met with the Committee for Home Affairs to discuss issues regarding access to ID documents, statelessness, and the closure of refugee reception offices. Although these organisations played a critical role in helping to improve understanding of ‘transgender’ and ‘migrants’ in South Africa, not one organisation mentioned transgender refugees. Given that the policies and discussions of this meeting continue to have long lasting impact on the lives of transgender refugees in South Africa, this silence and lack of intersectional analysis on the part of these organisations in attendance was curious. Drawing on this issue as an entry point, this paper seeks to understand the machinery that reinforces the silence or absence of transgender refugees in these kinds of conversations and spaces more broadly. This paper argues that it is not that transgender refugees are simply trans, but that they are also trans and migrants. It is this alignment with the migrant body that trans organisations perceive as threatening to the already precarious nature of trans rights, while the inverse is also true for refugee organisations. Ultimately, the transgender refugee represents a zone of precarious politics for organisations dealing with competing marginalities. This paper will explore the peculiar outcome of this, which is not only the failure to build a politics of solidarity, but also the failure of organisations to recognise this silence in the first place. This silence - and indeed South Africa’s anxiety regarding migrants - is not unique to South Africa. This paper will therefore consider the larger implications of silence around the distinct needs of trans refugees across contexts, particularly as migrant flows continue to increase.

Panel: Crossing boundaries, crossing borders: Forced migration and resettlement for queer refugees – Part 2

Part Two: Understanding Facilitators of and Barriers to Protection and Resettlement of SOGI Refugees and Asylum Seekers on Three Continents: Findings from Brazil, Canada, and South
Africa

Sarilee Kahn, McGill University School of Social Work

Refugees (Un)Like Others: An Examination of Systemic Barriers in Protection and Resettlement for Queer Asylum Seekers and Refugees

The European Union may offer queer refugees the promise of safe haven, however the policies and practices designed to assist them may place them at further risk of stress and trauma (Rumbach & Knight, 2014; UNHCR, 2015b). For example, queer refugees in migration camps in the E.U. have reported harassment and violence by other refugees (Associated Press, 2016). Queer refugees may also encounter bias and discrimination from immigration officials, refugee service providers, and translators (FRA, 2017; UNHCR, 2015). In detention centers, they may experience physical and sexual assault as well as harassment by staff and other detainees (Tabak & Levitan, 2013). In resettlement, queer refugees may feel estranged from members of the LGBT community in the host country due to race/ethnicity, religion, and/or immigration status (Portman & Weyl, 2013). This paper, part of a larger study conducted in 2017 with 38 LGBTQ forced migrants from the Middle East (e.g., Syria, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan) resettling in Austria or the Netherlands, examines the pre- and post-migration experiences of LGBTQ refugees and asylum seekers. Analysis of in-depth qualitative interviews revealed that queer refugees may experience discrimination from members of the host society, racism and xenophobia from the mainstream queer community, and homophobic and transphobic threats from members of the their diaspora communities. Further, these challenges may interfere with access to essential services. Harassment from co-ethnic others during language classes, for example, may go unchecked and dissuade queer refugees from attending. Those requiring temporary shelter may face multiple stigmatizations -- as a Muslim and as a sexual or gender minority and a refugee. Potential romantic partners from the host community may shun them for perceived differences in terms of race, class, religion, and citizenship status. As a result, these multiple and intersecting alienations can leave queer refugees in resettlement contexts with limited social capital from which to re-establish their lives. Although these challenges present barriers to integration, some participants, nonetheless, thrived in resettlement. Recommendations are presented for specialized policies and practices to address barriers and promote integration for sexual and gender minority newcomers.

Edward J. Alessi, Rutgers University School of Social Work

‘If you are not mentally good, everything will seem not livable’: An Examination of the Mental Health of LGBTQ Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Austria and the Netherlands

Emerging research has begun to highlight the mental health needs of LGBTQ forced migrants. However, few studies have explored what LGBTQ forced migrants identify as their most traumatic events, what symptoms persist and continue to influence their functioning in the host country, and the degree to which their perceived levels of distress change once they have reached the host country. This paper, part of a larger study conducted in 2017 with 38 LGBTQ forced migrants from the Middle East (e.g., Syria, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan) resettling in Austria or the Netherlands, examines the pre- and post-migration mental health of LGBTQ forced migrants. In-depth qualitative interviews were implemented to elicit information about traumatic events and their psychological sequelae. Data were also triangulated with two widely used standardized measures—one that that assessed for PTSD (PCL-5; Weathers et al., 2013) and the other for psychological distress (K-10). Findings showed that more than half (63%) of participants reported a traumatic event involving violence or abuse related to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity and that 71% met diagnostic criteria for PTSD. Additionally, 26% of participants were likely to have a mild, moderate, or severe mental health
problem (i.e., anxiety and/or depression). Using grounded theory analysis, findings also revealed that for some participants, being shunned or rejected by close family members outweighed the traumatic impact of abuse and violence perpetrated by strangers or state actors. Mental health symptoms also tended to be exacerbated by systemic discrimination based on participants’ multiple marginalized identities (sexual or gender identity, race/ethnicity, religion, social class, and migration status). While some LGBTQ forced migrants reported few or no symptoms of PTSD or psychological distress, they still struggled, at times, with fitting in and making a life for themselves in the host country. This paper emphasizes the importance of using trauma-informed approaches (psychotherapy and lawyering) with LGBTQ forced migrants and also discusses the need to develop program and policies that help address the mental health symptoms of LGBTQ forced migrants.

Panel: Queering asylum across Europe: The legal and social experiences of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) asylum seekers

Academics, policy makers, decision makers and activists are becoming more aware than ever of the particular experiences of asylum seekers in Europe who present a claim based on their sexual orientation and/or gender identity (SOGI). These ‘queer’ asylum experiences require focused legal and sociological analysis, which the European research project SOGICA – Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Claims of Asylum (www.sogica.org) aims to deliver in a theoretically-informed and empirically-based manner. Based on documentary analysis and early field work findings, as well as the researchers’ own experience as activists in refugee support and human rights organisations, the speakers in this panel will explore the legal and social experiences of SOGI asylum seekers. The panel includes four papers, which offer comparative observations and policy recommendations in the context of the European Union, Italy, the UK and Germany.

Nuno Ferreira, University of Sussex

*Rainbow Europe: Enough rainbow for queer asylum seekers?*

Since the 1990s, the European Union (EU) has slowly developed an increasingly sophisticated body of asylum law and policy, known as the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). This framework – both in the shape of legislative instruments and case law – has inevitably also affected those asylum-seekers who claim asylum on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity (SOGI). This has been vividly demonstrated by particular norms in EU asylum directives (for example, Article 10 of the Qualification Directive 2011/95/EU) and judgments of the Court of Justice of EU (for example, C-199-201/12, X, Y and Z and C-148-150/13, A, B, and C). The current CEAS can be said to have several shortcomings in relation to SOGI claims, including in relation to: its rules on accelerated procedures; country of origin information; the notion of ‘safe country of origin’; the burden of proof and the principle of benefit of the doubt; the concept of a ‘particular social group’; and the definition of persecution.

A new set of proposals for reform of the CEAS is on the table, and these also pertain to SOGI asylum claims in precise and acute ways. This paper will scrutinise the current proposals of reform, including the different positions of the Commission, Parliament and Council. In particular, the paper will assess the extent to which these proposals and different institutional positions address, ignore or aggravate the issues that currently affect SOGI asylum seekers.
Carmelo Danisi, University of Sussex

Good Intentions, Bad Reforms? Measuring the Impact of General Measures against Irregular Migration on the Experience of SOGI Asylum Seekers in Italy

The difficulties some European countries have experienced during the last few years in facing irregular immigration has led to a process of reform at supranational and internal level. Italy, in particular, is facing a phase of double transition: the adoption of internal reforms moving towards a more restrictive system for asylum seekers, and the attempt to review a supranational discipline that has greatly influenced how the Italian asylum system appears today. Although both processes seem to be based on good intentions insofar as groups identified as ‘vulnerable’ are at stake, the impact of the new set of general measures against irregular migration on specific groups of asylum seekers remains obscure.

Focussing on the Italian peculiar legal and jurisprudential framework on SOGI asylum seekers, this paper will try to ‘measure’ as far as possible the impact of this supranational and internal process of reform on SOGI asylum seekers. First, it will verify whether or not the EU proposed reform of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) risks lowering the higher standards of protection slowly reached in Italy in relation to this specific group, thanks to a proactive internal judicial system. Second, it will investigate the consequences of the most recent domestic reforms on the experience of SOGI people involved in the asylum system. Third, it will compare the results of this comprehensive evaluation with the outcomes of empirical research carried out in Italy with SOGI asylum seekers. The paper concludes by elaborating recommendations for a new wave of ‘good’ reforms.

Moira Dustin, University of Sussex

Running up that hill: Sexual orientation, gender identity and asylum in the UK

The need to protect sexual minorities fleeing persecution is now universally recognised, but that does not mean that individuals fleeing homo and transphobia are treated fairly. The UK approach to SOGI asylum has developed on an incremental basis over the past 20 years, responding to UNHCR and European guidance, and incorporating European Court of Justice, European Court of Human Rights and domestic case law. As a result, while many advocates would agree that the asylum system has seen improvements compared to a decade ago (when there were reports of asylum seekers presenting sexually explicit videos in a desperate bid to prove their sexual identity), there are still significant flaws and anomalies. Firstly, what is known as ‘discretion’ thinking puts the UK at odds with EU law in the eyes of many observers. Secondly, inadequate country of origin information and assumptions about particular nationalities mean that there is little consistency in the treatment of asylum seekers with similar experiences of persecution coming from different states. Finally, the burden of proof is often insurmountable, as SOGI applicants are generally assessed on the basis of whether they constitute a particular social group (PSG) with the issue then being whether they are indeed a member of a SOGI minority and how to prove that through either identity or behaviour. This paper suggests a shift of focus away from the sexual or gender identity of the individual towards verification of persecution or the risk of persecution by or in the state of origin.

Panel: Moving camps and carceral junctions – Part 1

The recent ‘refugee crisis’ in Europe has demonstrated both the widespread use of
encampment, when dealing with influxes of migrants and asylum seekers, and the ways in which migrants and asylum seekers navigate this encampment terrain. These holding sites, temporary shelters, registration and accommodation centres are easily seen as isolated and isolating spaces, distinct and disconnected from ordinary space. However, camps are also connected to spaces beyond them through flows of bodies, through social media and through the knowledge and practices of those who create and manage them. The key point is that camps are at once sites of incarceration and junctions that connect and enable mobility. In order to understand asylum encampment as it is developing in Europe, this paradox of connectedness and incarceration – of carceral junctions – needs to be examined empirically and analytically.

Empirically, this means examining the double sense of “moving camps”: On the one hand, camps shape, detain, and enable particular forms of movement for asylum seekers, as they move between camps and cultivate networks in hopes of viable futures. On the other hand, camps themselves are also mobile in the sense that models of encampment travel and shift within and between states, just as individual camp staff careers may span multiple and multiple kinds of camps. Bringing these senses together, the panel will develop the analytic concept of the “carceral junction” as a way of grasping the paradoxical work and consequences of asylum camps. We encourage contributions from various disciplines such as anthropology, architecture, urban planning, media studies, geography, philosophy, and sociology.

Cecilie Odgaard Jakobsen, AMIS, University of Copenhagen

Taking me back: Ethnographic and methodological approaches to refugee journeys (in reverse) and experiences of temporalities.

This paper will take its starting point from an ongoing PhD-project focused on the refugee journey along the route of which carceral junctions are passed, created and experienced, and the way in which this journey shapes how refugees think of and negotiate their past and present and especially how it shapes hopes and dreams (and fears) for the future. With a preliminary empirical foundation, this paper will focus on a discussion of the methodological implications and possibilities of back-tracing these routes through places and networks, where the aim is to discover, not just retrospectively but also in different ethnographic temporalities, how journeys might be pivotal in the refugee experience. The methodological approach is inspired by a narrative process (Steinberg 2015) and the aim is to work very collaboratively with key interlocutors based in Denmark while carrying out fieldwork across specific places in Europe, addressing how refugees navigate the terrains of encampment they face on their way to, through and in Denmark, and specifically focusing on connecting the temporal aspects of this journey with the spatial conditions encountered.

Katrine Syppli Kohl, University of Copenhagen & VIVE

The departure centres as technologies of mobility and sites of permanent exclusion

In Denmark, a new kind of camp for the management of unwanted migrants was introduced in 2015. The ‘departure centres’ in Sjælsmark and Kærshovedgård were created with the aim to incite movement by getting rejected asylum seekers and other aliens in expulsion position to leave Denmark for their country of origin. However, the movements generated by these departure centres seem to differ from the inherent ideal of government, as very few persons have left the centres voluntarily. Rather, the centres have become sites of a permanent exclusion as about half of their residents are stuck due to expulsion hindrances (Holst, 2017). The movements that departure centres do create tend to be into the unknown, as a substantial
amount of the persons who are referred to the centres disappear from the system instead of checking in (Rosendahl, 2016).

The project will explore the interface (Long 1989, 2001) between employees and residents in departure centres, to see how confinement and expectations of mobility are played out in practice between different actors within the camp. The project asks what forms of everyday life is possible inside the centres and with what counter tactics rejected asylum seekers navigate their circumstances. The project will also include congregations, activists and volunteers, whose presence shape and connect the camps to the outside. Finally it will attempt to track the forms of connectedness and confinement that continue for those asylum seekers who go underground. The study will be based on a mixture of document analysis, qualitative interviews with staff, asylum seekers, authorities, advocates and activists in and around the centres.

**Kirsten McConnachie, School of Law, Warwick University**

*Political Movements: Stasis and Mobility in a Refugee Camp*

This paper will develop the panel theme on “moving camps” through a case study of Mae La Oon refugee camp on the Thai-Burma border. Most analyses of refugee camps appear to conceive of camps as a distinct and discrete site. In reality, mobility of people, goods, information and ideas is constantly apparent in any camp setting. Mae La Oon is a ‘closed’ camp, i.e. one where the official policy prohibits refugees’ travel outside the camp bounds. In this sense, it is indeed a site of stasis. Nevertheless, it also a site of mobility. This paper will examine mobility in Mae La Oon as it is manifested in three spheres: within Thailand; in refugees’ country of origin (Myanmar, and particularly in Karen State) and in terms of international and transnational relationships. Within Thailand, camp residents travel ‘out’ for work, education and family, while Thai citizens travel into the camps for similar reasons. In Myanmar, refugee camp residents maintain relationships with family and friends, civil society, church, and political organisations, and these relationships are supported through flows of money and information as well as individual movement. Mae La Oon is also embedded in transnational networks, manifested most clearly in relationships with international agency staff and donors and with a diaspora, many of whom were resettled from Mae La Oon to Western countries. By revealing the embedded social and political structures within a refugee camp and the mobility underlying these political relationships, this paper will explore the inherent contradiction between camps as a space of stasis and as a space of mobility.

**Panel: Moving camps and carceral junctions – Part 2**

**Ditte Krogh Shapiro, University College Absalon**

*Navigating moving camps – flexible participation in connected and restricted communities of asylum*

This paper explores the flexible navigation of Syrian family members in the unstable and temporary camp terrain constituted by involuntary and conflictual communities in Danish asylum centers. Based on an ethnographic study among Syrian families seeking asylum in Denmark, this paper examines the ruptured and continued everyday life practices of families from the perspectives of different family members. The study represents a subject-theoretical perspective on collective agency and moving structures in politically contested asylum practices. The paper address how experiences of encampment are shaped by varied social and material conditions of camps that are shaping and being shaped by the flexible participation of family members as they conduct their everyday life in and beyond moving camps.
Simon Turner, AMIS, University of Copenhagen

*Camps as Blueprints – The emergence of the camp model across Europe.*

While UNHCR has officially initiated a policy of ‘Alternative to Camps’, we see a proliferation of camp-like sites across Europe. Irregular migrants, deportees and asylum seekers find themselves in situations where they are at once stuck en route and seeking this liminal position to achieve other kinds of mobility. These camps are ambivalent in nature. On the one hand, they incarcerate and immobilize mobile populations. On the other hand, as long as they remain liminal, future possibilities remain open for those who end up in them. This paper explores the nature of these camps and compares camps that are created by states and other public authorities in order to control and contain certain populations, with camps that are put in place in order to provide care and compassion. The latter may be official camps of states or international NGOs or they may be unofficial camps, put in place by volunteers; such as squats in Paris, Athens or Berlin. Finally, camps emerge ‘from below’ when migrants (irregular, asylum seekers) seek refugee in the Jungle outside Calais or in various sites across Greece. This paper asks why the camp as a form is so dominant, and what are its effects.

Zachary Whyte AMIS, University of Copenhagen and Michael Ulfstjerne; University of Aalborg

*A moving camp: The logistics and mobility of humanitarian infrastructure between Denmark and Bosnia*

This paper takes literally the panel’s focus on “moving camps” by focusing on a specific cluster of asylum housing units that were shipped from Denmark to Bosnia in 1996, ostensibly to house repatriated Bosnians, and remain in place today. That is to say, camps that were literally moved. These buildings and the logistics surrounding their movement served to structure a range of humanitarian and administrative connections both in and between Denmark and Bosnia. Instead of tracing movements, networks, or careers of migrants, we present an archival and ethnographic account of the trajectories of these prefabricated housing modules designed as temporary shelter solutions for Bosnians seeking refuge in Denmark in the late 90s. This case materializes a number of key paradoxes of carceral junctions: Designed as temporary, the camps endured, and the mobility of the camps at once reached in to the past and the future. Conceived of as isolating, the camps and not least the logistics involved in their movement engendered extensive connections, which reached well beyond the use of the housing modules themselves.

Legal and Policy Issues

Stephanie Nawyn, Michigan State University, Kelly Birch Maginot, Michigan State University,

*Precarity and Displacement: How Legal Recognition Matters (or Doesn't) for Protecting Migrants Fleeing Violence*

Within scholarly and humanitarian circles it is largely accepted that migrants who have recognition as refugees benefit from that legal distinction compared to migrants whose need to flee violence is similar but who lack legal recognition as refugees. However, as protection regimes have deteriorated and states fail to provide sufficient protection to refugees and people in refugee-like situations, the distinction that refugees status is suppose to confer does
not carry the benefits it once did. Using the framework of precarity (Goldring and Landolt 2011) to compare the situation of Syrian refugees in Turkey with Salvadoran migrants in the United States, we demonstrate that while their legal statuses are very different, there are disturbing similarities in access to rights and the ability to achieve security. Our analysis demonstrates how refugees who are not resettled in a third country are increasingly exposed to the same types of precarity experienced by migrants not granted refugee status, pointing to an overall degrading of the international refugee protection regime.

Bram Jansen, Wageningen University; Marit de Looijer, Wageningen University

Life and expectation: humanitarian urbanism and the refugee tarry in contemporary exile

All over the world, refugees and migrants meet in a growing routine of living in make-shift, temporary or ad-hoc architecture, sustaining lives in the proverbial borderlands of transit, confinement and refuge. Still, there is a persistent tendency to exceptionalize refugees’ lives and to regard their situations as either temporary or permanent, and the architecture of their living spaces as separated from main stream society. However, refugees around the world, in cities and in camps from Beirut and Amman to Nairobi, and from Zaataari and Dadaab to Moria and Calais – congregate in ad hoc situations that develop into new forms of permanently temporary configurations of space. The spatial and the temporal then become entwined in a curious embrace that is negotiated by refugees, local people and authorities and UN and aid actors.

We argue that a situation of permanent temporariness, or temporary permanence, is becoming the ‘new normal’ for a significant part of the world’s population as well as for those host communities receiving them. However, in order to capture the diversity and hybridity of these lives in transit, we are in need of an alternative vocabulary that contrasts the binary thinking reflected in the programmatic language of policies and interventions. While several scholars have attempted to conceptualize the spatial and political ambiguities of so-called ‘campscapes’, there is a need to embed this more clearly in social process. In this paper, we explore two distinct but related cases of life in transit as forms of humanitarian urbanism and its emerging architecture as refugee tarries, stressing diversity, negotiation and hybridity in situations of refuge and mobility in countries such as Kenya, Lebanon and Jordan.

Michael Gordon, McMaster University

(De)Constructing the European ‘Refugee Crisis’: Producing the Humanitarian-Security Nexus

The paper looks at the construction of so-called European ‘Refugee Crisis’. The paper is concerned with examining the development of a humanitarian-security nexus in relation to the production of crisis in the European context. The contradictory nature of the humanitarian-security nexus sees a duality in irregular migrants as victims deserving of assistance and needing to be saved, while conversely being perceived as a threat to the safety and security of the state necessitating both the securitization of the individual and in turn, the enhancement of violent bordering practices. This process operates to produce irregular migrants as both helpless victims, devoid of agency and in need of rescue while simultaneously representing a dangerous and criminalized existential security threat to the state. The production of this phenomenon is both a discursive and material process as the discursive performance enables the material production of the border and exclusionary practices leading to the development and performance of ‘Fortress Europe’. The humanitarian-security nexus reaffirms the state as a paternalistic protector of vulnerable individuals while being positioned a guardian of the proverbial gates of the state. Outlining the production of the humanitarian-security nexus
illuminates the contradictory nature of exclusion in a supposedly globalized system while providing a glimpse into the implications of this exclusionary practice and the associated border violence. The construction of crisis and the enactment of the humanitarian-security nexus serves to increase the precarity associated with irregular migration through promoting a state of exception surrounding the current border discourse in Europe.


This interdisciplinary panel examines the complexities of living with precarious status in Canada. The impacts of living without status intersect legal frameworks, psychosocial well-being, the ability to access services and means of redress when necessary. Precarious immigration status is also a highly gendered phenomenon, compounded by race, ethnicity and social status, among others.

Deepa Mattoo, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic and the Rights of Non-Status Women’s Network, Julia Romano, University of Toronto Faculty of Law
"Race, Gendered Violence, and the Rights of Women with Precarious Immigration Status"

This presentation will discuss the key findings and recommendations from Deepa Mattoo’s Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship, funded by the Law Foundation of Ontario, entitled, “Race, Gendered Violence, and the Rights of Women with Precarious Immigration Status”. There is a gap in the existing literature regarding the connection between race, gendered violence, and women with precarious immigration status. We found that race is not explicitly considered in the analysis of gendered violence and women living with precarious immigration status both domestically and internationally around the globe. Instead, women living with precarious immigration status who have experienced gendered violence are analyzed as a unitary and homogenous group. Through exploring this complex relationship between race, gendered violence, and immigration status, the aim of this fellowship project has been twofold: First, to bridge the aforementioned scholarly gap. Second, to build the capacity of settlement workers and lawyers to better provide services to racialized women with precarious immigration status who have experienced gendered violence. This presentation will provide key findings and recommendations for the following three research focus areas: 1) The eligibility requirements for benefits and social services for different immigration applications as most commonly seen in the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic’s practice; 2) A catalogue of the gender-based Immigration and Refugee Protection Act framework and guidelines; 3) Privacy legislation in the context of the City of Toronto as a “Sanctuary City”, and the requirements of service providers to disclose information about a woman’s immigration status to the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA).

Seema Nadarajah, SALCO
"The discretionary nature of Humanitarian and Compassionate (“H&C”) decisions – An examination of the degree of psychological and social impacts on non-status persons"

This is a ‘work in progress’ study. The aim of the study is to understand the psychological and social impacts of non-status persons (“NSP”) in Canada who are pending a decision on their H&C application. An H&C application is an application for permanent residence in Canada. The
general rule is to apply from outside of Canada; however, individuals can request Immigration, Refugees, Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to make an exception to this rule. NSP are faced with a unique set of problems as they do not have access to the same resources and supports as people with status. NSP live in a state of limbo; they cannot move forward without a decision and cannot go back due to issues of safety and persecution. A secondary component to be explored in the study is the discretionary powers of the immigration officers in making a determination.

The proposed study will employ both quantitative and qualitative research components with triangulation methodology to gain a better understanding of the lived experiences of NSP. A sample of 15 participants who have a pending H&C will be interviewed individually and their application analyzed. The participants will be administered the Beck Depression Inventory – II (BDI-II) and Trauma Symptom Checklist – 40 (TSC-40) at the various application stages. The results will be analyzed for potential themes/factors that reference psychological and social impacts. A challenge to the discretionary nature in which H&C applications are processed requires an understanding of the impact on NSP to create better support structures.

Petra Molnar, International Human Rights Program, University of Toronto Faculty of Law

Shadowing the Community: The Sociolegal Ripple Effects of Immigration Detention on Women in Canada

Gender lenses are inadequately applied to immigration detention resulting from trafficking, and the unique experiences of women interacting with the detention apparatus are not being heard. Detention affects thousands, if not tens-of-thousands, of women in Canada. Families are separated for prolonged periods, resulting in loss of income, support, and housing. The stigma of incarceration and harsh visitation conditions harm families waiting for release of detained loved ones. Traffickers and smugglers take advantage of intersecting vulnerabilities, further increasing the precarity of women. Children are harmed across axes of dependency, insecurity, poverty, racialization, discrimination, stigma, and physical and emotional violence. Even short periods of detention have long-lasting psychosocial impacts.

This paper foregrounds the lived experiences of women interacting with the Canadian detention system. In collaboration with survivors, frontline workers, lawyers, and anti-violence against women (VAW) activists, our research reveals a novel geopolitical understanding of detention where VAW occurs before, during, and after incarceration. We find that practices like reporting and the ‘snitch line’ re-traumatize women and empower traffickers to threaten further detention and/or deportation. Pervasive fear of detention and deportation may increase women’s vulnerability to violence from traffickers, partners, employers, or other perpetrators. We find that the depth of the psychosocial traumas of immigration detention’s harms on women in Canada is underestimated, that traffickers prey in these depths, and that this implicates the state as a VAW facilitator, if not perpetrator.

Panel: Entangled Trajectories of Violence, Precarity, and Exploitation

Benjamin Etzold, Bonn Internation Center for Conversion Studies and Suzan Ilcan, Department of Sociology and Legal Studies, University of Waterloo and Balsillie School of International Affairs; co-organizers.
Labour migrants, refugees, and internally displaced persons alike face insecurity, socioeconomic marginalization, exploitation, violence, or even death on their journeys and at the places where they live – in urban centers and camps in Africa and the Middle East, in borderlands, where pathways of mixed migration movements cross, or the centers of Europe and North America.

Our panel seeks to shed light on the highly precarious situations of migrants and refugees in countries of transit and reception. We raise some fundamental questions that our panelists address from very different perspectives as part of their presentations:

a) To what extent do migrants or refugees experience different forms of violence, precarious livelihood conditions, or exploitative labour relations on their journeys or at their current places of living? How are they responding?

b) How and to what extent are displacement, violence, precarity and exploitation entangled? How do specific figurations of violence, precarity and exploitation shape migrants’ or refugees' prospects for future mobility?

c) What is the role of state agents and humanitarian organizations in fostering, shaping, or preventing conditions of violence, precarity, or exploitation for migrants or refugees?

Maegan Hendow and Albert Kraler, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

Whose Crisis? Alternative and alternating perceptions of crisis (Maegan Hendow and Albert Kraler)

In the context of acute crises, migrants and refugees are confronted with extreme situations of precarity. Yet at the same time, based on accounts of migrants who were displaced by crises, questions emerge as to the meaning and conceptualization of a “crisis”, particularly as related to opportunities, individual vulnerabilities and structural impacts. Based on research for the EU-funded Migrants in Countries in Crisis project, which examined six crisis situations across 12 fieldwork countries, this paper examines how perceptions and experiences of “crisis” have varied based on the actual experiences of migrants caught in large-scale acute “crises”. First, migrants’ perceptions of a crisis were multifaceted and varied – they perceived positive outcomes of the crisis situation, or challenged our selection of a particular crisis as it did not fit with their experiences. Second, our analysis demonstrated that acute violence against migrants often emerged and re-emerged as ‘tipping points’ (McAdam 2014), following long periods of growing hostilities, including smaller scale attacks, thus highlighting the variable dynamics of crises. Third, in several cases, crises are not exceptional periods of relative short duration but are protracted, reflecting broader and chronic state instability, as for example in Libya. Finally, our research suggests that a crisis should not be viewed as a stand-alone event – rather, it often overlaps with other crises that migrants, states or other institutional actors are dealing with in parallel or in succession and that may compound already difficult situations.

Suzanne Menhem, Lebanese University
**Forced migration and its impact on the work of Syrian young women in Lebanon**

After the breakout of the Syrian war in 2011 and the ensuing crisis, thousands of Syrian refugees and their families came to Lebanon. According to UNHCR statistics for 2015, the number of Syrian refugees registered was 1,200,000. It should be noted that these refugees are not residing in camps of their own, but are distributed in towns and cities and therefore engage with Lebanese society. The result of this asylum is their relentless search for work and a salary that is less to what the Lebanese worker receives.

The integration of Syrians in the Lebanese labor market is not new. The Syrian workers were previously employed in the construction and agriculture sectors. After the end of the Lebanese civil war in 1990, the Syrian labor force expanded from their former sectors into the industrial sector as well as the tourism services sector of hotels and restaurants. Previously, many Lebanese employed Syrian girls in domestic service and in agriculture, but this reality changed with the Lebanese civil war due, on one hand, to the instability of the security situation and (on the other hand) to the change in the Syrian mentality.

This paper studies the employment of young Syrian women in Lebanon through the hypothesis of social and economic changes. It will raise the problematic of the employment of young Syrian women and their emergence in the Lebanese labor market.

**Roberto Forin, Mixed Migration Centre**

**Trapped in “transit”: involuntary immobilization and the capability to stay**

Most research in refugee studies focuses on populations compelled to move. Although understandable, this focus on forced mobility has arguably led scholarship to overlook those migrant populations whose vulnerability pertains precisely to their inability to move. Drawing on the concept of ‘trapped populations’ this paper contributes to address this research gap, enabling a reconsideration of the relationship between mobility and vulnerability in situations of crisis. While existing theorising on trapped populations typically focuses on migrants’ ability to escape from danger, the paper argues that the lack of resources needed to cope with forced immobility, rather than the lack of the resources necessary to move, actually represents the greater problem. By analysing the experiences of trapped migrants in Libya during the 2011 civil war, the paper makes clear how differential access to economic, social and cultural capital can shape patterns of (im)mobility, leading to involuntary stasis for the most vulnerable groups. Furthermore, the paper argues that involuntary immobility for migrants in Libya took the form of a process, which I term involuntary immobilisation. This concept speaks to the fact that mobility is often progressively eroded by the structural constraints generated by a crisis. The paper concludes by suggesting that the concept of involuntary immobilisation can also be applied to analyse other instances in which structural constraints lead to the disempowerment of individuals by disrupting their freedom of movement, already central to their life project.

**Panel: What are the relationships between human trafficking, ‘modern slavery’ and forced migration?**

**Patricia Hynes, University of Bedfordshire**

**Forced migration, refugees and ‘trafficking’**

People who are forced to migrate include refugees and those who are ‘trafficked’. However, there are distinct legal frameworks, definitional differences, separate recording of statistics,
differing policy agendas and, often, separate literatures surrounding seeking asylum and trafficking. Arguably a product of restrictive borders and lack of safe channels for migration, ‘trafficking’ is often viewed as a result of economic drivers and is viewed through a security lens with labels assigned such as ‘victims’ or ‘survivors’. Refugees, as by-products of social change (Zolberg, 1989) and social exclusion, are largely recognised as political, seeking refuge from persecution and considered either to be ‘deserving’ or ‘undeserving’ of protection within increasingly narrowing interpretations of the definition of a refugee and shrinking asylum space.

This paper draws on early findings from mainly qualitative research underway into ‘vulnerabilities’ to and ‘capacities’ to resist human trafficking across Vietnam, Albania and Nigeria and arrival into the UK. The study utilises a conceptual framework from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) – the Determinants of Vulnerabilities Model – that explicitly incorporates both ‘vulnerabilities’/‘risk factors’ and ‘capacities’/‘protective factors’ for migrants. This research seeks to generate ‘thick descriptions’ (Geertz, 1973), rich, nuanced and contextually-based accounts of human trafficking to move beyond stereotypical representations and existing dominant narratives. The interface between those who are forced to migrate and people who are ‘trafficked’ is explored.

Hannah Lewis, University of Sheffield

Victimhood and deservingness in forced migration and modern slavery

This paper will explore moral frameworks of deservingness and victimhood that operate in relation to depictions of refugees and people who have been trafficked. Human trafficking emerges amid complex intersections of migration regimes, global inequalities, precarious labour, and the criminalization of certain activities, peoples and mobilities. Abolishing modern slavery has achieved global policy consensus, arguably by relying on simplistic tropes of ‘evil’ traffickers and deserving ‘victims’. What can be learned from debates in refugee studies about the consequences of constructing refugees as an exceptional figure particularly deserving of intervention politically, morally and practically? What convergences and divergences exist in the production of victimhood in images and frameworks to address forced migration and human trafficking?

The paper will report on early findings of a UK Economic and Social Research Council project that aims to better understand the roles of faith-based organisations in three terrains: anti-trafficking service provision, public representations, and governmental discourse and policy making. How do images and representations that convey victimhood shape the types of exploitation and people deemed deserving of assistance? Postsecular partnerships between religious, non-governmental and statutory bodies emerging in the global ‘fight’ against modern slavery are balancing rights-based and moral imperatives. However, debates on human trafficking and how tackle it regularly sideline links with migration processes and governance.

Kiril Sharapov, School of Applied Sciences, Edinburgh Napier University

Dead animals, frozen grass and people on the move: neoliberal encompassment and abandonment in Mongolia

In recent years Mongolia experienced a series of prolonged natural disasters, including the ‘dzud’ - unusually hot summers followed by severe winters. With temperatures dropping to -55°C in February 2016, 1.1 million of the total 56 million national livestock died of starvation...
devastating livelihoods of nomadic herder families, and contributing towards the on-going displacement of hundreds of thousands of nomadic herders and their families from vast grasslands of Mongolia to the growing shantytowns outside the capital city – Ulaanbaatar (hosting up to 700,000 internally displaced people).

This paper draws upon the concepts of neoliberal abandonment and agnotology to interrogate how continuums of slow decay of nomadic herders, their animals, grasslands and entire ecosystems pass between and through each other within the context of neoliberal state/capital entanglements. By drawing upon a series of interviews with internally displaced residents of semi-legal ‘ger’ settlements on the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar conducted in June 2016, the paper explores the processes of, on the one hand, neoliberal encompassment of the savaged body of Nature and of expendable human bodies as resources to be consumed and exploited; and, on the other hand, of neoliberal abandonment of the viciously neglected human and non-human others, whose life is earmarked as lying outside market value. In response to the panel proposal to explore links between migration, displacement and human trafficking, the paper sets the scene for further discussions of the relationship between internal displacements, socio-economic vulnerability, demand (or the lack of it) for low-paid low-skilled labour, the availability and the ease (or difficulty) of accessing such labour, as factors determining the location of the global ‘precariat’ on the continuum of neoliberal abandonment/encompassment.

Elizabeth A. Faulkner, Staffordshire University

The removal of the agency of the child within the discourse of human trafficking and ‘modern slavery’

The terms human trafficking and ‘modern slavery’ are used interchangeably and are treated as exceptional phenomenon which require an array of legal, political, technological responses in addition to widespread emotive driven campaigns to ‘spot the signs’. What is frequently excluded from the discourse is the impact that the power of the contemporary abolitionist movement has had upon our perception of migration and the adoption of the constructed hierarchy of status afforded to those identified as victims of trafficking, slavery and forced migration. The relationship between child trafficking, child slavery and the forced migration of children is illustrative of the hypocritical language that enshrouts contemporary debates about children within migration frameworks. The powerful protectionist discourse that has emerged seeks to remove all agency from children, endorsing the perception that all children are inherently vulnerable. The endorsement of a hierarchical framework of status serves to draw discrete and concrete boundaries between deserving and undeserving ‘victims’. The lack of access to safe migration routes is not acknowledged nor the impact of the sometimes-lethal immigration policies adopted by states such as the United Kingdom. This paper seeks to challenge the removal of the agency of children within the context of the legal and policy responses to the phenomenon.

Refugees in Europe (1)

Panagiotis Peter Milonas, York University

The Psychologization of Security and the Syrian Refugee Crisis

How can North Americans and Europeans justify knocking down financial borders, while simultaneously erecting walls to put an end to the flow of immigration? There are a number of
justifications. Most relate to the alleged security threats immigrants pose. Very few considerations, however, can prevent the unprecedented transformation the world is currently experiencing and restrict the mass movement of people as global health risks. The outcome is the medicalization of security. This has resulted in the idea of “health security” where public health and public safety are a priority. Although disease control and prevention were initially the central points for all global public health activities, today, global public health crises also include mental illnesses. This shift offers Western countries the opportunity to exclude scores of people fleeing war zones from entering their borders or the privilege of moving freely within them. By focusing on the treatment and management of the refugees from the Syrian Civil War, I want to demonstrate that there is a correlation between the psychologization of security and the exclusion of immigrants and refugees who are wrongfully depicted by governments and the mainstream media as a threat to the West’s stability. I argue that global mental health risks serve as an ostensible reason to exclude economic immigrants and asylum seekers. This, however, is not the first time that the psychiatry and psychology have been misused to justify segregation. The expanding psychologization of security serves as a disciplinary mechanism to justify excluding certain groups, in this case, Muslims.

Seyedeh Akhgar Kaboli, Finland Futures Research Centre, University of Turku

Images of the future of young refugees in Finland

Since the onset of the second decade of 21st century, the popularity of Finland as a destination for forced immigrants has increased. In 2015, Finland experienced the steepest raise in the European Union (EU) for reception of asylum-seekers. The majority of refugees who have joined Finnish society since 2010 are with Iraqi, Somali, Afghan and Syrian background nationalities while the outcomes of surveys display these four nationalities as the least welcomed by Finns.

In this study, the images of the future of a group of young refugees are investigated as representatives of their expectations for the future in the new society. Images of the future indicate their holders’ hopes, fears and anticipations for the future, influence their decisions and when future becomes reality, it involves elements from the previously held images of the future. Reflections of gender, ethnicity and refugee background of the participants are also investigated in their images of the future.

The participants of this study are a group of young refugees (18 to 29 years old) whose countries of origin are Iraq, Somali, Afghanistan and Syria. In-depth interviewing and active imagination process are applied to collect the research material. Then, Qualitative Content Analysis is used for analyzing the material with Causal Layered Analysis (CLA), as the framework of analysis. CLA is method and theory from the realm of critical futures research. The created images of the future using the above-mentioned combination of methods reflect on their holders’ multi-layered emotions and assumptions.

Raluca Bejan, University of Toronto

Problematizing EU’s Relocation System of Shared Responsibility

Starting in 2015, high numbers of irregular migrants from Middle East and Africa had reached the Italian and Greek coasts. Hungary had later become an entry ‘hot spot’, once people could no longer claim asylum in Greece due to long backlogs and limited reception capacities. The European Commission invoked a quota based provisional relocation system to ease out the
burden felt by these front line states and to transfer some of the refugee numbers to other EU nations. The first relocation decision intended to transfer 40,000 people from Italy and Greece over the next 2 years. The second one added a new relocation goal of 120,000 people: 15,600 from Italy, 50,400 from Greece and 54,000 from Hungary and calculated a distribution key on four weighted indicators: GDP (40%), size of the population (40%), unemployment rates (10%) and past number of asylum seekers applications (10%).

The relocation process was for the most part unsuccessful. There was a lack of thorough implementation and several states failed to launch (or accommodate) pledges. Lack of a shared agreement has led to political and ideological frictions amongst the Member States. Some countries simply refused to comply and several states have completely opposed the plan.

This paper critically analyzes EU’s temporary relocation system for internally re-distributing refugees. It argues that the current distributive quota fails to equitably allocate inter-state responsibility, especially as the weighted distributive indicators do not fully account for the inherent economic, social, cultural and political differences between the EU Member States. It further draws from the field of taxation policy and uses the notions of horizontal equity and vertical equity to demonstrate how the current relocation scheme is progressive in application, yet flat in impact, since it proportionally equalizes the share of responsibility, without progressively adjusting it to match states’ capabilities for relocation.

Panel: The Potential of ‘Big Data’ to Improve our Responses to Forced Displacement

Given the unprecedented levels of forced displacement and the recurrent problems in addressing large-scale movements, a community of social and computer scientists in collaboration with humanitarian actors is working to use ‘big data’ to develop an evidence-based simulation tool that can identify patterns of displacement and support the planning of humanitarian responses (e.g. the location of shelter, food, supplies). This panel reports on a collaborative project of Georgetown and York Universities with NGO partners funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) that is using Iraq, a country of high displacement, as a case study. The panel will present on the 1) challenges of building a research community among social and computer scientists and humanitarian practitioners; 2) the model of migration theory that informs the analysis; 3) the development of modelling and data mining tools; and, 4) preliminary findings using online social media data and traditional data sources.

Susan McGrath, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University

The challenges of building community across the cultures of social and computer scientists and NGO practitioners and integrating quantitative, qualitative and practice knowledges.

Susan Martin, Donald G. Herzberg Professor Emerita of International Migration, Georgetown University
The challenges and implications of using ‘big data’ in forced migration research and the development of a theory of migration that is attempting to address the micro, meso and macro drivers of forced displacement.

Lisa Singh, Georgetown University

The modelling and data mining tools that can effectively discern patterns of displacement from extremely large data sets such as Twitter

Kira Williams, Wilfrid Laurier University

The findings

While simulation, via agent-based modelling, is an increasingly-used approach to study migration in the field (An 2012: 25; Kniveton, Smith, & Wood 2011: 534), scholars have yet to sufficiently formalise traditional theories of international migration to be used in simulation (Bijak 2011: 47-50). Following Bijak (2011), we therefore used expert knowledge gathered via a Delphi method survey with humanitarian workers in Iraq to identify and relate key factors causing displacement. Proxied variables of these factors form the basis for an agent-based simulation designed to predict future displacement.

Regional Perspectives: Central and South America, Mexico, Haiti

Jorge Morales Cardiel, Universidad Autonoma de Zacatecas

The process of accompanying undocumented immigration by transit countries, the case of Mexico

Mexico in the early decades of this century is going through by a new migratory paradigm, the most outstanding is the change in relation to their migratory patterns, from being the traditional country of expulsion to become a country of transit of undocumented migrations. The documentation on the process of accompaniment towards immigrant persons will be carried out within a network of civil society organizations; secular and confessional, installed on the route of undocumented immigration, that have been proposed to promote assistance in joint strategies to address violations of the human rights of these migrants.

The accompanying process focuses on the defense of the human rights of the undocumented immigrant with a special scope in the process of empowerment, since it prioritizes the advice on a personal level based on the restorative action of attention to the victims. One of the keys of the accompaniment is to attenuate the huge emptiness of power on the part of governmental institutions through the practice of humanitarian service. The accompaniment throws increasingly clear signs that is starting to prevail a community perspective of certain groups of civil society and faith-based volunteer groups towards the undocumented immigrant in transit, who through their support strategies are in the process of transforming its own role making it more active.

Luann Good Gingrich, School of Social Work & Centre for Refugee Studies, York University and Julie E.E. Young, Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition, University of Lethbridge

The NAFTA border’s dispossession: Social exclusion within, across, and in-between the Mexico-
Guatemala borderlands

The focus of this paper is the production and function of the “NAFTA” border as a transnational social field in the day-to-day lives of migrant women who organize their livelihoods around the Mexico-Guatemala border. Through the narratives of Central American women in a town near this border, we apply a feminist political geographical analysis of the everyday practices and official procedures that produce symbolic violence (Good Gingrich 2010). Using Pierre Bourdieu’s concept of the state (and its borders) as a transnational social field with a precise structure of capital and social economy, we articulate emerging spaces and mechanisms of social exclusion and dispossession that reduce certain bodies to commodities and sites of economic and symbolic profit. We document the paradoxical enforcement and definition of state borders in relation to the (im)mobility of migrant women through extraterritorial or transnational policing of movement into and through Mexico. While we start from the experiences of migrant women from Central America living in the in-between space of the Mexico-Guatemala borderzone, the de facto border that defines their opportunities both here and in their home communities is one we refer to as the NAFTA border. We argue that this transnational marketized social field produces systems of predation and exploitation. Crucially, the simultaneous openness and closure of state borders via migration management regimes produces an entrepreneurial context that makes possible – even makes necessary – a range of gains and profits at the expense of migrant bodies.

Yannick Gill, Howard University School of Law

The Problem with "The Haitian Problem"

This paper discusses the causes of “The Haitian Problem” and the oversimplification of the issue which currently impacts Haitian refugee claims. This paper proposes a legal remedy to the disparate Haitian refugee claims through 4 sections. Section I will discuss the governing law, both domestic and international, that controls Haitian asylum claims in the United States. In particular, the section will provide an overview of The Refugee Convention of 1951, the Refugee Act of 1980, and the Convention Against Torture. Section II will detail the past and present conditions within Haiti and the Immigration and Nationality Act as it relates to Haitian asylum claims and temporary protected status. Through an explanation of the politics and natural disasters of the area, this paper will discuss the source cause of both the forced migration and refugees from Haiti. Section III will detail how Haitian refugees are received in the United States and the political history that establishes a basis for political claims of asylum. Finally, section IV will offer recommendations to remedy “The Haitian Problem” and explore the issues that stem from viewing Haitian refugee claims as a problem. This paper recommends a change in the policy surrounding what qualifies a refugee, training to streamline the disparate rulings on refugee claims, and an extension to the temporary protected status granted previously granted to Haitian refugees.

Roundtable: Protection Mechanisms for Migrant Young People and the European Border Regime

Jennifer Allsopp, University of Oxford; Marianella Kloka, PRAXIS; Jovana Arsenijevic, MSF Serbia

Chair: Reem Mussa, Médecins Sans Frontières
The Limitations of Child Protection Mechanisms in the European Border Regime

Key Questions:
- What are the implications of the EU border policies on unaccompanied minors and separated children
- What are the policy implications or limitations in the child protection mechanisms
- In what ways have child protection interventions or categories contributed to increased vulnerabilities

It has been reported that children account for more than one third of the total migrant population arriving in Europe, high number of them travelling unaccompanied or separated from families. European border policies which are increasingly restrictive and focused on deterrence mechanisms pose great challenges for the protection and well-being of child migrants. This panel will examine the limitations of protection mechanisms for migrant children and young people requiring protection in light of EU border policies.

Under the EU law specific to child refugees and children seeking asylum, key requirements are established to: (a) recognise enhanced vulnerability of unaccompanied minors to sexual abuse/exploitation and/or human trafficking; (b) appoint guardians or representatives for the child victim of human trafficking; and (c) ensure ‘special protective provisions’ such as free legal counselling, representation and child-sensitive conduct of investigations and trial hearings among others (also mentioned under the Directive 2013/33/EU). However, the implementation of restrictive border policies has compromised the basic principle of providing ‘international protection for unaccompanied minors’; placing children in conditions that often deprive them of their rights.

The discussion will take place between academics, legal actors and humanitarian operational experts. Through reflection of empirical research and operational experiences this panel will interrogate the (i) implications of EU border policies on increasing UAMs vulnerabilities, (ii) the limitations and deterioration of child protection mechanisms as a result of border policies, and (iii) the ways in which child protection interventions and categories increase risk and vulnerabilities for young migrants.

Important case studies from three different points along the European migratory route (from Greece to the UK), asylum process and categories will be considered. This includes the issues of detention as a means of protective custody for UAMs as seen in Lesvos, the rates of violence experienced by young people at borders by state authorities in the Balkans, and the (something on the becoming adult project UK- possibly the implications of categories associated with categories such as “child” as limited often not supporting through transition into adulthood)

Panel: Beyond the crisis frame: unpacking the complexities of the enduring phenomenon of separated child migration from Central America and Mexico to the US

In 2014, the Obama administration declared that a “humanitarian crisis” was underway as the number of Central American separated children arriving at the borders peaked. Yet the crisis
frame oversimplifies this phenomenon, and there is still a dearth of research exploring the diverse experiences of children who migrate alone. This panel focuses on Central American and Mexican unaccompanied and separated children who flee violence in their home countries to seek refuge in the US, presenting findings from four empirical studies that illustrate different historical periods, stages and dimensions of this complex and perduring regional phenomenon of child migration. We discuss the ways in which unaccompanied minors complexify dominant narratives regarding their assumed vulnerability as they develop resilience while pursuing dangerous journeys north, confronting conditions of extreme precariety and navigating risks posed by smugglers and immigration check-points. Further, we bring attention to Mexican separated children, “invisible refugees” whose right to seek refuge in the US is undermined by discriminatory policy and by state actors who assume them to be economic migrants, ignoring how violence shapes the migration of Mexican children similarly to that of Central Americans. We also discuss another invisible population of child-migrants: unaccompanied and separated indigenous children, whose distinctive ethno-linguistic characteristics lead them to face increased vulnerabilities both during migration and while detained in the US. Finally, we examine how unaccompanied minors’ perception of self, coming of age and incorporation experiences in the US are shaped in enduring ways by their interactions with the immigration and asylum bureaucracies.

Amy Thompson, University of Texas Austin, School of Social Work

*Invisible Refugees: Separated Mexican children and the United States*

In recent years, United States media and policy attention has focused on the arrival of separated children from Central America, fleeing regional violence and instability. However, with the notable exception of 2014 – 2016, US Border Patrol data indicate that historically and consistently more unaccompanied children from Mexico cross the US border than any other nationality. The relative invisibility of this population is due, in part, to the United States’ bifurcated policy for receiving separated children that effectively blocks admission to children from neighboring countries. Parallel to this political barrier, to the extent that they are visible, separated children from Mexico are popularly perceived as either economic migrants rather than refugees or smugglers and potential security threats. Still, results from multiple mixed methods investigations of the repatriation of separated Mexican children indicate that the economic motivations of these children and youth often bely experiences similar if not identical to those of separated children fleeing from Central America. Drawing on a decade of field research experience with repatriated Mexican children, I discuss misconceptions and misrepresentations of this population by state actors on both sides of the border. I will then discuss the implications of policies that ignore the agency and lived experience of separated Mexican children.

Angel Escamilla Garcia, Northwestern University, Sociology Department

*Unaccompanied Mayan Children and the Journey to the United States*

In 2014, an unprecedented number of unaccompanied minors—approximately 68,500—were detained by the United States at the U.S.-Mexico Border. Due to this rapid and drastic increase in numbers, the United States’ capacity to provide minors with shelter and services was overwhelmed, and President Obama went so far as to call the situation an “urgent humanitarian situation.” Most of these minor migrants came from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. They were mostly native Spanish speakers and “mestizos.” However, some of these unaccompanied minors were Indigenous Mayan children from Guatemala who stood out in many ways, including culturally and linguistically. The two primary objectives of this paper are
to estimate the number unaccompanied minors that are indigenous, as no available data currently does so, and to explore indigenous minors’ migration experiences. This paper explores the situation of minors by combining information from two sources: (1) narratives I collected in 2014 at government-sponsored migrant shelters housing unaccompanied minors along the Texas-Mexico border; and (2) migrant detention data. I compare available Border Patrol data with data collected in migrant shelters by the Vera Institute of Justice to estimate what percentage of minors detained by Border Patrol are indigenous Guatemalans. Then, I describe specific issues that indigenous children face during migration and following detention. Ultimately, this paper explores the unique vulnerability of Guatemalan indigenous minor migrants as they migrate to the U.S.

Chiara Galli, University of California Los Angeles, Sociology Department

Coming of Age while “Hyperaware” of the Law: Legal Consciousness of Unaccompanied Minors and their Incorporation in the US

Since 2012, 157,936 unaccompanied and separated children from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala have been apprehended at the US-Mexico border and classified as “Unaccompanied Alien Children”. This legal category confers them temporary protection from deportation and placement in the custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), which has the dual mandates of caring for and controlling them. Upon release from ORR custody, youths are placed in the care of family members, who are entrusted by the state to ensure their compliance with the law, and they must navigate the asylum application process to seek long-term status in the US. Based on interviews with these adolescent asylum-seekers, this paper explores how their incorporation and coming of age experiences are shaped by their multiple interactions with the immigration control bureaucracy, as well as the care and control of ORR and their family members. Through these contacts, youths are made “hyperaware” of the law, taught normative values of appropriate teenage and migrant behavior, and internalize the stigmas associated with their social position, as racialized Latino adolescents, perceived as deviant, as claimants for humanitarian relief, perceived as suspicious. These interactions shape youths’ “legal consciousness” (commonsense understanding of law), which is characterized by a unique combination of fear and trust of government institutions, misinformation and information about US laws, and notions about how deserving migrants should behave. This influences unaccompanied asylum-seeking youths’ incorporation in the US, informing the ways in which they claim belonging in their new homes and make coming of age decisions.

Panel: Forced Migration Law’s broken seams: When the normative framework is part of the problem

Forced migration is a complex phenomenon in constant transformation. Thus, its regulation means a huge challenge. The intricacy of its nature collides with the rigid structure of any legal system, preventing normative frameworks from embracing the whole matter. For example, legal categories are often unable to include all the diverse ways in which these types of exodus take place. As a consequence, those excluded are silenced. Moreover law responses have trouble identifying the multiple factors that cause involuntary migration, producing partial solutions that sometimes worsen displaced persons’ fate. It is also possible that the implementation of a particular normative framework triggers forced displacement, even if that is not its aim. This panel explores four scenarios in which normative frameworks for managing forced displacement seem to be part of the problem.
From a perspective based on Critical Political Geography, Angela Iranzo’s paper questions human rights’ capability to effectively protect victims of human trafficking, refugees, asylum seekers, stateless, irregular migrants or persons in exile. Beatriz Eugenia Sánchez’ paper analyses how the strict separation between voluntary and forced migration legal categories have prevented regional organizations in Latin America from offering multilateral responses to environmental migration. In the third paper, Woodly Louidor reveals the failures of the responses given by host States to Haitian environmental migrants after the 2010 earthquake. Authorities’ inability to understand the heterogeneity of both migrants and their needs explains the gaps in the protection of this population. Finally Maria Prada and René Urueña present the worst of the scenarios: when Law, trying to provide protection to fragile ecosystems, causes forced displacement.

Ángela Iranzo Dosdad, University of Deusto

*Movement as a political place and its exclusion from the universal system of human right,*

States’ compliance with human rights is currently understood as the best way to face the vulnerability of forced migrants in the world. However, human rights are not being effective to protect victims of human trafficking, refugees, asylum seekers, stateless, irregular migrants or persons in exile. From a perspective based on Critical Political Geography, this paper analyzes to which extent the solution to be achieved is an integrated part of the problem. Although we live in globalized societies, the international regime of human rights is still rooted in a modern understanding of politics, which is mainly based on the territory of the State. Therefore, it supports a sedentary approach of human beings which interprets movement as an exception in itself; resulting in the difference between the rights of placed people and the rights of those displaced. Thus, this proposal studies the most recent international legislation on human rights (particularly focusing on UN, EU, Council of Europe, the Organization of American States and other Latin American regional institutions) looking to know whether they include other forms of human space different from that one based on the State’s territory. To this end, this paper addresses the difference between two key concepts, “the rights in motion” and “the right to be in motion”, and explores a particular case concerning the treatment the diaspora of the Colombian armed conflict is receiving under transitional justice mechanisms as victims of human rights.

Beatriz Eugenia Sánchez-Mojica, Independent Researcher

*Multilateral Managing of Environmental Migration in Latin America: Looking for a hero?*

Managing migration and displacement related to environmental disasters and climate change effects is one of Latin America’s greatest challenges in the XXI century. According Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre for 2016 there were about 1.8 million people internally displaced due to environmental causes in the region. There are no official data related to transnational migration and cross-border displacement; nonetheless several studies had pointed out that both of them are growing. Responses to these kinds of exodus have started to emerge at the local level. However there have been few multilateral actions. Despite the fact that some statements on this issue have been made by diverse intergovernmental organizations —such as the Regional Conference on Migration, the South American Conference on Migration and the Organization of American States— just the former has developed an instrument for helping States to cope with cross-border disaster-induced displacement in a coordinated way.
This lack of multilateral action is particularly striking in a region where three integration processes are taking place: MERCOSUR— that involves most of South American countries— as well as the least known Central America Integration System (SICA) and Andean Community of Nations (CAN). All of these regional organizations have developed complex normative and institutional frameworks to managing transnational migration. Thus, it would be reasonable to expect some kind of action regarding environmental exoduses. But, although there have been some debate, not a single measure has been taken in this regard yet. This situation turns even odder as these regional organizations have already developed actions and even policies to deal with climate change effects and offer coordinated responses to environmental disasters. However, none of them has included the human mobility factor into such measures.

Latin America seems to be a very particular case where, in spite of the existence of numerous possible regional forums to cope with environmental migration and displacement, no one seems to be willing to do so. One powerful reason for such behaviour is that environmental human mobility simply does not fit into the normative and institutional structures used by regional organizations to manage human mobility. Does it mean that a multilateral response in Latin America should be searched outside these organizations? This paper looks into that question.

René Urueña and Maria Angelica Prada, Universidad de los Andes

The last peasants: non-conventional forms of environmental displacement in the wastelands and natural parks of Colombia,

Fabio Moreno lives in El Verjo, a rural area situated within the Forest Reserve of Bogota’s Eastern Hills. He has lived there all his life, just like his parents, from whom he inherited not only his land but also his way of living. He recognizes himself as a peasant, as do his children, at least for now. However, like many other peasants around the country, his way of living is being threatened by the most unusual rival: conservation policies. According to the Colombian environmental legislation, wastelands and natural parks, such as Bogota’s Eastern Hills Forest Reserve, are conservation territories that are incompatible with most human activities, including among them all forms of agriculture or construction.

The teleology behind this legislation seems very clear, to protect environmentally rich territories from degradation by human activities. However, such legislation is currently threatening more than 25 thousand peasant families around Colombia with displacement and the eradication of their way of living. Most of these families have lived in those territories for more than half a century and, in many cases, long before they were declared wastelands or natural parks by the law. The existence of this, almost Kafkaian, socio-environmental problem has been triggered by a conservation paradigm that sees environmental protection as opposed to all forms of human activities.

For Fabio Moreno, and his fellow peasants in El Verjon, the tangible effect of this regulation has meant the loss of their form of sustenance and the abandonment of the territory by their children. Until now they have resisted displacement, as they themselves call it, through the appropriation of environmental discourses and practices, while advocating for a shift towards a “parks with people” legislation. Nonetheless, some fear that increasing the flexibility of conservation policies would open the door for some forms of land grabbing by multinational corporations. The objective of this paper is to make sense of this uncommon form of environmental displacement by analyzing the competing interests and discourses that lay...
behind the conflict between Colombia’s environmental legislation, and peasants’ claims for a right to remain in their territories and maintain their traditional way of living.

Refugees in Europe (2)

Ine Lietaert, Ghent University; Malte Behrendt, Ghent University

Comparative analysis of care and reception structures for URM in Greece, Italy and Belgium

Since 2015, large concerns are expressed regarding the important numbers of refugee children who are travelling on their route to or through Europe. A considerable number of these young people are travelling without their parent(s) or caregiver(s) and are referred to as unaccompanied refugee minors (URM). Despite shared agreements on protecting URM’s rights and providing effective protection as key priorities for EU Member States, the care and reception structures availed for URM largely differ in various States, and keep on challenging many MS authorities.

Building on a typology of services developed by Watters and Hossain (2008) and based on document analysis and extensive observations during field visits, this paper compares care and reception structures for URM in Greece, Italy and Belgium along Watters’ & Hossain’s multiple dimensions, including participation in services, services’ structural dimensions, levels of control, and state versus NGO involvement. Further, the paper investigates whether for this particular type of care structures, the existing typology needs to be complemented with additional dynamic or static dimensions, including URM’s profiles, states’ welfare regimes and societies’ social climate and opportunities available for URM’s in the societies. As such, this elaborated typology can help to understand particular differences between care structures, also for other refugee and migrant groups.

Agata Blaszczyk, Polish University Abroad in London

The Polish Resettlement Act and Polish Resettlement Camps – the origins of the Polish Diaspora in the UK after WW2

The subject domain of this paper is Polish immigration to post-War Britain. It portrays the Polish community’s rehabilitation in exile and the British government’s creation of a model migrant settlement policy for Polish refugees after 1946. It explains how Poles successfully integrated into mainstream British society and highlights the importance of education as their route to civic integration.

The research leading to this study examined the political implications of the passage of the Polish Resettlement Bill in March 1947 (the first ever British legislation dealing with mass immigration) and how the original refugees formed much of the Polish community as it exists today. A good deal of the work linked to the Bill involved education as provided for by the Committee for the Education of Poles, a body brought into being on 1 April 1947.

Thanks to the Committee, many Poles obtained the qualifications that enabled them to secure jobs posts and ultimately a career in industry or business and so play a useful part in the economic life of Great Britain and her overseas territories.

Children of Polish descent, who were born, brought up and educated in the reality of the resettlement camps or hostels have engaged in professional careers and made their Polish names recognizable in a rapidly diversifying British society.

Polish refugees became one of the most prosperous immigrant groups in Great Britain and the
Polish minority constitutes one of the largest ethnic groups in the UK today.

**Molly Fee, University of California, Los Angeles**

*Pre-Resettlement and the Precarity of Waiting in Transit Countries*

Refugees rarely travel directly to their final destination. During their forced migration, refugees often first pass through transit countries, especially for those who will be resettled elsewhere. Refugees’ stays in urban areas or camps may last several days or years as they await the next step of their journey. During this time, refugees often face the challenges of navigating a culturally and linguistically foreign context in which they are excluded from the meaningful activities that facilitate integration, since they may not be permitted to work or attend school.

This paper examines the context of waiting for Iranian religious minorities who must first travel to Vienna, Austria in order to apply for resettlement in the U.S. This group serves as a timely case study for examining how refugees navigate the transient stages of their migration, which may be prolonged though temporary. While in Vienna, they endure months of compulsory idle waiting, free from persecution yet unable to begin the long-term process of settling in a new country. Based on participant observation and 43 interviews with Iranian refugees in Vienna, this paper examines the precarity and vulnerability associated with protracted waiting. Because resettlement ultimately provides safety and stability, we tend to overlook the uncertainties associated with this “pre-resettlement” phase. My finding suggest that even when waiting is temporary and remedied with eventual resettlement, the time spent in transit has very real consequences on refugees’ physical and emotional well-being as well as on their financial resources intended for resettlement.

**Jane Freedman, Université Paris 8**

*“After Calais?”: Creating and Managing (In)Security for Refugees in Europe*

In October 2016 the dismantlement of the main refugee camp in the Calais region began. This camp, often known as the “Jungle” had become a symbol of the refugee “crisis” at the heart of Europe, at once a growing point of contention between the British and French Governments both claiming that they were attempting to secure their borders, and a visible reminder of the insalubrious and insanitary conditions in which refugees were living in European borderlands. Following the destruction of the camp refugees were dispatched to various reception centres across France, but these have proved largely unsuitable to their needs, and in some cases have facilitated the use of the Dublin process to return refugees to third countries. This article will examine the “mismanagement” of the refugee camps in and around Calais, arguing that French government policy has been largely reactive, led by competing and often contradictory demands coming from various sources at local, international or European levels. Further, attempts to “secure” borders have led to increasingly insecure conditions for the refugees themselves, and have made it more difficult for those who are attempting to support them. Finally, the failure of the French and British governments to propose any suitable long term solution to the issue of refugees in Calais can be seen as a reflection of the wider failure of EU policies, and of the ways in which inaction and mismanagement can constitute a form of violence against these refugees.

**Syrian Refugees (1)**

**Myriam Ouellet, Université Laval; Danièle Bélanger, Université Laval**
Forced migration and social stratification: pathways to exile from Syria to Canada

Of the nearly 5.3 million exiled Syrian registered to date with the UNHCR, 40,081 were resettled in Canada since 2015. This paper focuses on the pre-migration and migratory experiences of refugees resettled in the province of Québec under the Government-Assisted Refugee category (GAR). More specifically, we seek to analyze the influence of social class on the exile pathways of these migrants. The paper examines the relationships between various forms of capitals - economic, social, cultural, symbolic, human, and spatial (in a Bourdieu’s sense)- and ressources mobilized in forced migration pathways from Syria to Canada. Based on on semi-structured interviews with 20 Syrian families resettled in Quebec City from Lebanon and Turkey, our results show an heterogeneity of profiles and pathways. The first group is composed of middle-class families who had sufficient ressources to reach a third country on their own but who have been selected by the Canadian Government on the basis of their global vulnerability in that country. Second, families from middle-high class had access to sufficient resources to live in the first host country, but faced serious health problems requiring costly and high quality health care. We elaborate on how refugees being resettled under the same program have different experiences of forced migration, in part shaped by their social class. The paper seeks to address the heterogeneity of experiences and the importance of social class as a marker of pathways to exile.

Deniz Gökalp, American University in Dubai

State-Building and Syrian Refugees in Iraqi Kurdistan

Drawing on fieldwork in Erbil and Sulaimaniyah and theoretically informed research on the politics of displacement, this paper provides an analysis on the refugee situation in Iraqi Kurdistan. The Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq (KRG-I) presents a unique case of refugee politics given its aspirations for independence and strategic/militarized population management tactics to change the population demographics in favour of the Kurds in northern Iraq. As of August 2017, according to UNHCR, there are 238,500 registered Syrian refugees residing inside Iraqi Kurdistan. In a recent statement, the Kurdish authorities are claiming that there are about an additional 25,000 unregistered Syrians inside their territories. The KRG-I has embraced an ‘open door’ policy with a political motivation given that the majority of the Syrians seeking refuge in Iraqi Kurdistan are the Syrians of Kurdish origin. Syrian refugees are expected to stay, settle down and integrate into the ‘soon-to-be independent’ Kurdistan by the Kurdish authorities as opposed to the 1.5 million Arab IDPs who are currently residing in the region, perceived as a demographic challenge and security threat, and expected to leave. The lenient official attitude towards the inflow of Kurdish Syrians by the Iraqi Kurdish authorities has not yet been translated into social inclusion and improvement of living circumstances of the refugees (about 40% of them are children) in the politically and economically vulnerable region. This paper aims to investigate the socio-political implications of the KRG-I’s refugee policy, and the cases of social exclusion and violence against Syrian refugees in Iraqi Kurdistan.

Thomas McGee, Independent Researcher

Syria’s Stateless: Vulnerabilities in Displacement

This paper traces migratory narratives of stateless Syrians, highlighting historic context of statelessness in Syria as well as the challenges some have experienced as asylum seekers along the European refugee routes. Focus is placed on how the status of persons who are already stateless can trigger new and additional vulnerabilities in displacement contexts. One aim of this paper is to make visible the suffering of such ‘stateless persons’ within the large refugee and migrant flows since the onset of the recent Mediterranean crisis, while also highlighting
deficiencies in the response of immigration and humanitarian actors to adequately understand their situation. This includes the exclusion of stateless refugees from certain international resettlement schemes for Syrian refugees. Ultimately it is necessary to recognise how the protection concerns associated with each of statelessness and displacement respectively are often mutually exacerbating, multiplying the vulnerabilities faced by stateless refugees seeking safe passage to Europe. Based on this case study, the paper concludes by suggesting a series of areas for advocacy attention in order to ensure the best interests ‘stateless refugees’.

Refugee Issues: A view from Africa

Eveliina Lyytinen, Migration Institute of Finland

Refugees’ Exilic and Deportation Journeys of Trust

This paper presents a novel analytical framework to examine refugees’ journeys to exile from the perspective of ‘trust’. I define trust as a positive feeling about or evaluation of the intentions or behaviour of another, and conceptualize it as a discursively created emotion and practice which is based on the relations between the ‘trustor’ and the ‘trustee’. I create an analytical framework for the study of refugees’ ‘journeys of trust’ that consists of the temporal characteristics, the drivers and contexts, and the contents and orientations of ‘journeys of trust’, and the characteristics of the voyagers and their intersectionality. In this presentation, I will present my empirical findings regarding Congolese refugees’ journeys to Kampala, Uganda. Moreover, I will discuss the usefulness of this trust-focused analytical framework in others contexts, such as asylum seekers’ forced deportation journeys from the EU.

Roberto Forin, International Centre for Migration Policy Development

Trapped in “transit”: involuntary immobilization and the capability to stay

Most research in refugee studies focuses on populations compelled to move. Although understandable, this focus on forced mobility has arguably led scholarship to overlook those migrant populations whose vulnerability pertains precisely to their inability to move. Drawing on the concept of ‘trapped populations’ this paper contributes to address this research gap, enabling a reconsideration of the relationship between mobility and vulnerability in situations of crisis. While existing theorising on trapped populations typically focuses on migrants’ ability to escape from danger, the paper argues that the lack of resources needed to cope with forced immobility, rather than the lack of the resources necessary to move, actually represents the greater problem. By analysing the experiences of trapped migrants in Libya during the 2011 civil war, the paper makes clear how differential access to economic, social and cultural capital can shape patterns of (im)mobility, leading to involuntary stasis for the most vulnerable groups. Furthermore, the paper argues that involuntary immobility for migrants in Libya took the form of a process, which I term involuntary immobilisation. This concept speaks to the fact that mobility is often progressively eroded by the structural constraints generated by a crisis. The paper concludes by suggesting that the concept of involuntary immobilisation can also be applied to analyse other instances in which structural constraints lead to the disempowerment of individuals by disrupting their freedom of movement, already central to their life project.

Reem Mussa, University of Oldenburg
Growing Up Precariously in the City: The Case of Second Generation Eritrean Refugees in Khartoum

This paper examines the lived experience of second generation Eritrean refugee youth residing in Khartoum, primarily exploring issues related to identity, constructions of refugeeness and precarious status. Due to the legal structures in Sudan including the encampment policy, refugee status offers protracted urban refugees a lack of protection and opportunities for formal integration. Many Eritrean refugees in Khartoum are in violation of the Asylum Act (2014) which limits freedom of movement, access to government services such as education and registration in urban centers. Thus, Eritrean refugees in Khartoum sit in the nexus between refugee and irregularity, which has resulted in continued police harassment, exclusion and exploitation. This analysis is starkly missing in current debate on border management and the so-called European Refugee Crisis which disproportionately places a spotlight on Eritrean migration to the Global North and constructs Sudan as a transit country. These categories and discourses have significant political and structural implications that impact the lives of Eritrean communities at a local, national and international level. The current discourses of migration management restrict refugees, potentially criminalizing communities whilst failing to address root structural issues such as precarious status. An analysis of inter-generational settlement in Khartoum offers an opportunity deconstruct these categories through centering the narratives of Eritrean youth who grew up navigating the city under continued policies of exclusion.

Hanna Haile, McGill University Faculty of Law

The role of law in aggravating or mitigating the vulnerability and precariousness of refugeeness: the Case of Eritrean Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Since the early 2000s, many Eritreans have been leaving their country often illegally and at great peril to their lives in order to escape human rights abuse, political and religious persecution, drought and bleak economic prospects. Despite the dangers associated with these kinds of crossings, the numbers of those crossing borders into Sudan, Ethiopia and Libya in hopes of attaining asylum or refugee status in Europe or North America. These refugees and asylum seekers are vulnerable to many dangers during the journey, including the possibility of becoming victims of the Eritrean government’s shoot to kill policy at the border, war in neighboring countries, predatory human traffickers, and very unsafe traveling conditions which may sometimes result in death.

Canada is one of the destination countries for many refugees who originally come from countries like Eritrea through the Canadian Refugee and Humanitarian Resettlement Program for people seeking protection from outside Canada and the in-Canada Asylum Program for people making refugee protection claims from within Canada. Although the Canadian refugee resettlement system is considered one of the best in the world, it has also been criticized for having some flaws, including, the high permanent residence fees and the appeals procedures in the case of an unfavorable outcome.

Based on personal interviews, this paper chronicles the vulnerabilities and precarity faced by Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers that are resettled through the Resettlement Assistance Program in Canada pre, during and post migration and the role of law in aggravating or mitigating their vulnerability and precarity.

Caroline Kihato, University of Johannesburg
Urban Refugees: Resilience, social networks and policy implications lessons from Nairobi, Peshawar and Gaziantep

This is part of a three-country study that explores the role of social capital and social networks in urban refugees’ quest for self-reliance in Nairobi (Kenya), Peshawar (Pakistan) and Gaziantep (Turkey). Using survey data and in-depth interviews conducted with refugees in Nairobi, this paper outlines the nature of social relationships in refugees’ home and host countries and examines the ways in which social relationships shape their socio-economic capabilities. The study used both quantitative and qualitative research methods. Our survey comprised of 1074 interviews with refugees from twelve countries, now living in Nairobi. In addition to the survey, we held one-on-one interviews with twenty-two respondents (with an equal number of male and female respondents) from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somali, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Uganda and Burundi. Urban refugees in Nairobi are income and asset poor, living mostly from hand to mouth. With few income generating opportunities, low and irregular remittance transfers, less than half are able to meet even basic needs such as clean drinking water or sanitation. Overall, the research finds that few respondents have social networks in Nairobi. In fact 75% of our sample said that they did not have any contacts in the city before arriving. What emerges is a picture of a population that is socially isolated. Although the survey shows that primary kin connections provide some support to newly arrived refugees in Kenya, these too are tenuous and provide erratic support in the medium to longer term. In fact in some cases, these ‘strong’ social connections result in weak or negative forms of social capital causing greater individual isolation. In-depth interviews show that refugee households that experience external economic shocks, rely increasingly on weak ties – strangers or well wishers – for assistance. Overall, men are more economically resilient than women – they are more likely to earn more and find work than their female counterparts. Our research shows that the most important indicators of employment are language skills, gender and the age of the respondent. Further, Somali and Eritrean refugees have better economic outcomes than other refugee populations, while Ugandan and Burundi refugees appear to be the most vulnerable.

Laurence Juma, Rhodes University

Closure of refugee reception centres in South Africa: Erosion of rights and a creeping policy of encampment

This paper discusses the underlying issues of law and policy that inform the current move by the government of South Africa to close refugee reception centres that are located away from the borders. The move while raising fears that the government may be slowly edging towards enacting a policy of encampment for refugees and asylum seekers, has also prompted a relook at the existing legal framework for the protection of urban refugees in South Africa. Indeed, and as the paper will show, the closures have not only impacted rather negatively on the protection of refugees, especially urban refugees, but also diminished the responsibility that the government should bear as far as the guarantee and protection of the rights of refugees and asylum seekers are concerned. The paper will appraise these developments and at the same time critically analyse the newly published White Paper on International Immigration for South Africa (2017), which is supposed to be the government’s response to what it views as the deficits in the existing immigration law. Despite affirming the government commitment to non-encampment, the White Paper proposes the introduction of “Asylum Seeker Processing Centres” which will be facilities that provide “accommodation” for refugees and asylum seekers while their status is being determined. The paper will consider this new proposal by the White Paper in light of the moves mentioned and debate whether the government is moving closer to adopting a policy of encampment as a strategy for managing urban refugees. Apart
from discussing the protection imperatives that are likely to be adversely affected and the rights deficit may result from the closures, the paper will also analyse some of the recent judicial decisions such Scalabrini & Others v Minister of Home Affairs & Others, that have challenged government action to show how the issues that are of concern in this paper have been ventilated and settled through judicial intervention.

Regional Perspectives on Refugee Issues: Asia/Southeast Asia

Minati Kalo, Jawaharlal Nehru University

The Rohingya Refugee Crisis in Bangladesh: A Current Analysis

The problem of forced migration and refugee is seen as composed of various major clusters of factors and the network of relationships between Bangladesh and Myanmar. Bangladesh is one of the important countries facing the problems of refugees, migrations and displacements. At the same time, Bangladesh is an over populated country of South Asia, sharing its borders with India and Myanmar. After the independence in 1971, Bangladesh has started experiencing the constant refugee flight of Muslim Rohingya (An ethnic Muslim Minority Group) from Myanmar because of the fear of religious as well as ethnic persecution. Bangladesh has mostly welcomed them and provided them protection under the ad hoc decisions, although there is no statutory law for the refugees. This work takes into consideration the basic components of the Rohingya refugee situation such as forced migration due to repression in native Myanmar, the consequent refugee problems causing conflicts between Bangladesh and Myanmar and the local and international efforts to manage and resolve these situations. For understanding the dynamics of the problem, the activities of the Rohingya refugee and internationalization of this issue are also singled out for particular consideration. Basically, it is a problem which manifests itself in various forms on the societal, governmental and international levels. It is a humanitarian and moral issue, a security issue, a development issue and to a growing extent it is issue of an environmental and natural resources. This paper also explores the dynamics of Bangladesh-Myanmar relationship disrupted by the Rohingya refugee crisis.

Basundhara Tripathy, Wageningen University and Research

Migration, Immobility and Climate change: gender dimensions of poverty in coastal Bangladesh

Global environmental change has led to movements of people within and between various world regions. Bangladesh has been recognized as one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to the impacts of climate change. The issue of climate-induced migration and immobility of the ‘trapped population’ are the key issues investigated in this paper. Gender complexities, the confinement of women to certain spaces and its relationship with poverty have been explored within the environmentally fragile region of south west Bangladesh. The focus on immobility is a consequence of the paradigm shift towards seeing migration as adaptation. It implies that in focusing on the migrants, researchers could be missing the most vulnerable populations—those who cannot afford to adapt and/or move. Keeping track of both those who stay and those who migrate will offer a better understanding of the effects of mobility on vulnerability and resilience as well as serve as a yardstick for the policies being devised.

Women and young girls who fall within the ‘poorest of the poor’ umbrella category, but their experiences in the vulnerable environment vary according to inequalities such as age, class, religion, etc. These experiences of women and their lack of capability of movement from the place of origin have been analyzed in this research. The study contributes to the larger debate
of migration and immobility which is under researched, highlighting gender dimensions in coastal Bangladesh.

Chaphiak Lowang, Jawaharlal Nehru University
The Forgotten Refugees: A Study of Lhotshampas of Bhutan

The present era has witnessed a series of conflicts between different ethnic groups which has uprooted thousands of lives from their homelands, making them stateless people. This phenomenon is particularly pervasive in South Asia where every state barring Maldives has been home to one or more ethnic conflicts. The tiny nation of Bhutan has cultivated a self-righteous image of itself owing to its unique national philosophy that measures development based on the gross happiness of its citizens. However, it is relatively unknown that the discriminatory policies of what is essentially an ethno-majoritarian state systematically disenfranchised and dispossessed a large section of its population which gave rise to a full-blown ethnic strife between the dominant group—the Drukpas (Buddhism) and the minority group—the Lhotshampas (Nepali Hindus). This ethnic conflict which took place in Bhutan clearly depicts characteristics of human rights violations furthering displacement and forced migration of the minority group. A refugee crisis was reached as state action led to the expulsion of around 100,000 Nepali residents from the southern Bhutan to neighbouring countries like India and Nepal where they were given shelter in the refugee camps in Nepal. Decades later this crisis still remains unresolved. Although it is expected to relax as more refugees are resettled in developed countries like USA Canada Norway, New Zealand etc. This paper would examine the origins of refugee crisis in Bhutan and their current concerns and experiences and also would analyse the state responses and policies towards addressing the refugee problem in Bhutan.

Lucy Fiske, University of Technology Sydney (UTS)
Crisis and Opportunity: Gender and Social Change in Exile

Expulsion from the state is approached as a crisis within both human rights and refugee studies, with Hannah Arendt proposing that the ‘loss of national rights was identical with the loss of human rights’ (Arendt 1976, 292). This analysis, conceptualises the state as a protective structure and seeks to rehabilitate the refugee into the state system, whether within a reformed natal state (through return), or into a new state (through local integration or resettlement), ultimately restoring the refugee as ‘citizen’. This model is rooted in what Nira Yuval Davis (1999, 119) terms ‘the “fraternal” enlightenment project’ and is both western centric and has a male, purportedly universal imagined citizen at its heart. Postcolonial feminist scholars have articulated the many ways in which third world/non-western women’s relationships to the state are more commonly either distant or repressive. Expulsion from the state may not, for those who have held only notional or marginal citizenship, entail the ‘radical crisis’ of human rights (Agamben 1998, 126) that refugee studies and human rights theories conceive. Moments of rupture and crisis that disrupt powerful socio-cultural norms and break the alliance between constraining state and civil society structures can also be moments of social transformation and opportunity. This paper examines the testimonies and social practices of a community of Hazara refugees in transit in Indonesia who are using their expulsion from the state to challenge constraining patriarchal norms within their community, profoundly changing gender, age and power relations.

Mary Rose Geraldine A. Sarausad, Asian Institute of Technology
Creating Categories of Migrants at the Borders of Cambodia and Thailand

This paper investigates the rising trend in migration not only from within the Mekong region, but also of those coming from outside the region; mainly, unauthorized or irregular migration. Findings from the study of Filipinos in Thailand is particularly revealing because of the type of migration system established by migrants themselves, evolving over the last 60 years and has remained understudied. Although a migration system exist, its development was difficult to ascertain because of the absence of formal connections based on labour migration between the two countries. Results from the surveys in five major provinces in Thailand and at the three borders between Cambodia and Thailand, and in-depth interviews revealed that Thailand’s approach to international migration or cross-border migration has been twofold. On one hand, migration policies are seriously enforced upon those coming from the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) such as Myanmar, and in some cases, on other countries within the GMS corridor. On the other hand, the handling of migration policies toward other migrants from outside of the GMS has been seen as flexible, changing and indefinite; creating ambiguous implications of legality. Various categories have emerged and have been used to refer to a migrant’s status in the absence of a legal employment status. The main reason for this is that current definitions of legality in Thailand are problematic as seen in the twofold approach in enforcing migration laws, the social climate created, and the ability of other migrants to ‘bend’ them. Thus, the practice of border crossing has become a negotiated space due to the complex migration regimes present in Thailand. This paper, therefore, highlights the various ways in which classes of migrants have been redefined within more complex migration regimes in Thailand, and explains the dynamics within networks and processes vis-à-vis the borders resulting to the development of other categories within the binary classifications of migrants.

Saima Raza, Asia Pacific Refugee Network

Refugee as a human

Refugees are presented as illegal migrant, alien etc. Everywhere in the world there is a different concept of refugee. No one treat them as a human. Refugees are also humans they have same dreams and wishes as we have but the difference is we go to other country as tourist or for some business purpose but refugee not choose the countries to live, their purpose is live with peace like other humans. People now adays have very quick judgment on refugee issues without looking on fact they call them terrorist.

Regional Perspectives: Refugees in the Middle East

Oroub El-Abed, SOAS- London University

Citizens and refugees: Managing through engendering disparities

This work questions the economic opportunities accessed by Palestinian-origin Jordanians living in East Amman since 1989. The question sought to unpack four aspects: firstly, the access to citizenship rights Palestinian-origin Jordanians have been enjoying since 1948 in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Secondly, the economic integration of Palestinian refugees, who have become citizens in Jordan and their ability to grow up the ladder. Those Palestinian-origin Jordanians studied in this research represent a group of a particular class, the disenfranchised one, living in the eastern part of Amman known to host the middle-lower class. Fourthly, the research question has specified a time, the year 1989, that dates the beginning of the political and economic liberalisation which very slowly sought to create new circles of actors whose political or economic interests pair with that of the state. The disparities, that existed earlier in
Jordan, widened, bringing in limited beneficiaries who have been reaping the fruits of liberalisation and open economy. The case study in this work, the Palestinian-origin Jordanians of East Amman, has been impacted by these aspects and have been vulnerable to political instability, economic fluctuations and social divisions. This work has sought to analyse the state-refugee/citizen relationship in order to understand the politics used by the state to manage its peoples, with their varied origins, classes and social statuses. This background has become essential to understand how the new comers of the many refugees, pushed by the new conflicts in the Middle East region, have been treated in Jordan.

Suzanne Menhem, Lebanese University

Forced migration and its impact on the work of Syrian young women in Lebanon

After the breakout of the Syrian war in 2011 and the ensuing crisis, thousands of Syrian refugees and their families (came) to Lebanon. According to UNHCR statistics for 2015 the number of Syrian refugees registered were 1,200,000. It should be noted that these refugees are not residing in camps of their own, but are distributed in towns and cities and therefore engage with Lebanese society. The result of this asylum is their relentless search for work and a salary that is less to what the Lebanese worker receives.

The integration of Syrians in the Lebanese labor market is not new. The Syrian workers was previously employed "in the construction and agriculture sectors. After the end of the Lebanese civil war in 1990, the Syrian labor force expanded from their former sectors into the industrial sector as well as the tourism services sector of hotels and restaurants.

Previously, many Lebanese employed Syrian girls in domestic service and in agriculture, but this reality changed with the Lebanese civil war due, on one hand, to the instability of the security situation and (on the other hand) to the change in the Syrian mentality.

The security occurrences that hit Syrian society since 2011 has led to the forced migration of Syrians, in general, and of "children, women and youth in particular".

This paper studies the employment of young Syrian women in Lebanon through the hypothesis of social and economic changes. It will raise the problematic of the employment of young Syrian women and their emergence in the Lebanese labor market.

The employment of young Syrian women into the Lebanese labor market is not something new. Most of them had left schooling in Syria in order to start work while others continued to work in the professions in which they worked in Syria. In addition, within this group of young women who had worked in Syria and who then started a new type of employment in Lebanon.

This reality, created by the Syrian crisis, raises a number of central questions: the arrival of these young women in Lebanon; their preparations for entering Lebanon’s formal and informal labor market and their involvement within; the basic occupations and conditions in which they work, their relationship with the Lebanese employer, and their interaction with both the Lebanese and Syrian employees and the socio-economic results of this youth work.

Methodologically, in addition to the literature review, field work will be carried out to include firstly, an exploratory observation and secondly, a semi-structured interview on a sample of 20
young Syrian women, on how they see themselves before and after their forced migration, and their future hopes in terms of education, specifically the training that is required.

A qualitative analysis (qualitative approach) will be adopted with regard to data analysis. The study will also show changes in their living conditions, education and employment through the adoption of policies that can improve the situation of young women in the future and to propose recommendations and strategies to the concerned collaborators (Ministry, NGO, associations...).

Samia Qumri, Independent researcher

Survival in times of displacement; rethinking resilience and precarity in the case of Syrian Refugees in Jordan

In a world flooded with information and data influenced by the ever growing migration and demographic changes due to crises, creating robust policy solutions is highly challenging to any state. To change the common perspective of the ‘burden factor’ associated with any displacement requires coming together as participants to identify and address shared issues. Syrian refugees Camps in Jordan have become emblematic of the displacement of Syrians and have contested the idea of burden yet in fact pose as an opportunity for resilience, change and development.

In recognizing the disproportionate impact of the Syria crisis on the economic and market development in Jordan, as well as mitigate any associated tensions by the host community towards the refugees related to employment. As a result, there’s need to prioritizes economic, market development and livelihoods as part of its wider strategy focused on integrating refugee communities and associate them with the development process of the state. Jordan’s economic opportunity and market development programming must be integrated by all relevant stakeholders be it the government, UN/NGO entities and the donor community for better response targeted at the economic, market development and livelihoods sectors.

The aim of this paper is to translate identified possibilities for action into concrete initiatives for dealing constructively with the consequences of migration. And to fostering resilience of local communities is the essence to any recovering economy.

Sena Duygu Topcu, Max Planck for Social Anthropology

Renegotiation of gender and emotions in radical uncertainty: Syrian refugee families in Istanbul

Drawing on recent studies of affect and gender, this paper will focus on refugee family members’ work and socially positioning themselves in the given regional and local specificities in Istanbul. I explore Syrians’ refugeeness from a gendered and emotional perspective where men encounter unemployment, long-working hours, precarity of jobs, or hardship in establishing a status in the market as a tradesman. At the same time, gender roles are renegotiated as women and children start working, and women take on new bureaucratic and social responsibilities outside and inside home.

This paper draws on ethnographic fieldwork among Syrian refugee families in Istanbul to demonstrate how gender roles and family relations are negotiated at times of crisis, and radical uncertainty. Findings are based on twelve months of research in 2016-2017 in Ikitelli, a
province in Istanbul which hosts Turkey's biggest organized industrial zone, attracting refugee families from different backgrounds.

The refugee family members create new boundaries in gender roles in the process of adaptation to their refugeehood in the new social and economic environment. Love and care relations between men and women in the families in the context of the new social and economic pressures in Istanbul go hand in hand with shifts in practices of masculinity and femininity. While Syrian men and women are expected to establish new gender norms, they persist to practice some of the traditionally represented gendered practices. The extent or the presence of these shifts changes across generations.

Regional Perspectives: North America, Australia, New Zealand, and the UK

Ranjith Kulatilake, York University

Re-Queering the Queer and Benevolent Othering – On the Frontline with LGBTQ Asylum Seekers in Toronto

LGBTQ asylum seekers take various routes to enter Canada: via agents without an entry visa, or with a visitor or student visa. Substantially coming from Africa, others are from the Middle East, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe and South Asia. Upon arrival, they face extraordinary challenges: strict deadlines, complex system navigation, trauma and grief, abject poverty, homelessness, racism, transphobia and homophobia. They must prove the credibility of their claims, including fitting into one identity as dictated by the North American definitions of the LGBTQ acronym. Often their lawyers label them: for example, if married they become ‘bisexual’, even though the marriage was often forced upon them, or used as a cover up. They are urged to attend and volunteer in programs offered by not-for-profit agencies and there obtain letters of support. This ‘re-queering’ process entails memorising their narratives, familiarising themselves with the LGBTQ definitions and Toronto’s queer scene, about which they may be tested at their refugee hearings. All this while funding for services is being reduced, waiting times for work permits are getting longer, incidences of racism are increasing and jobs are more precarious. And still Canada is portrayed as a safe haven and Toronto is hailed as the world’s most multicultural city. This paradox is called ‘benevolent othering’.

This paper is based on my frontline experiences of working with LGBTQ asylum seekers at a community health centre in Toronto that provides primary health care, community programs and interpreter services for immigrants and refugees.

Jessica Darrow, University of Chicago; co-presenter: Jessica Howsam, University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration

How to weather the storm: Implications from the impact of President Trump’s Executive Orders on the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program

Almost immediately after assuming office, the Trump administration pursued restrictions and reductions to the U.S. refugee program through multiple channels: Executive Orders, amendments to the Refugee Act, restructuring and decreased federal funding, lowered admissions ceilings, and understaffing the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration in the State Department. Against this backdrop of institutional precarity, this study examines the impact of President Trump’s Executive Orders on domestic refugee resettlement organizations.
Using a grounded theory approach, this study describes how administrators interpreted, implemented, and responded to the Executive Order within their different roles. Data collected through semi-structured interviews with key informants from relevant federal agencies, National Resettlement Agencies, state offices, local resettlement organizations, and Mutual Assistance Associations was analyzed using content and discourse analysis. Preliminary analysis describes key differences in the ways different institutional actors responded to the organizational conditions created by the Executive actions. While some agencies engaged in innovation, others were unable to move beyond stopgap measures intended to whittle budgets to a bare minimum. Ultimately this study describes the distinct organizational strategies used to “weather the storm” of uncertainty in this unprecedented and highly politicized moment in the history of U.S. refugee resettlement. This study contributes to growing literature on policy implementation, providing insight into the relatively obscure process of refugee policy implementation. Moreover, analysis of these organizational strategies offers vital information for resettlement practitioners and can potentially be adapted to other institutional contexts facing similar constraints.

James Simeon, York University

*No Refugee Protection for Those Who are Complicit in International Criminality in Canada, USA, UK, Australia and New Zealand*

Refugee protection is not granted to all those who are complicit in international crimes under Article 1F of the 1951 Convention related to the Status of Refugees. The underlying moral and legal principle here being that those who are criminally liable for the commission of international crimes, and are responsible often for the forced displacement that produces refugees, should not be the beneficiaries of a Convention intended to protect refugees. This paper will analyze comparatively the leading superior court refugee jurisprudence in five common law jurisdictions: Canada, USA, UK, Australia and New Zealand. It will seek to discern what constitutes complicity under international refugee law based on the superior court refugee law judgements in these five States. This comparative national jurisprudential analysis will be supplemented with the judgements on complicity and exclusion and/or extended criminal liability that are found in a number of international courts such as the European Court of Human Rights, the Court of Justice of the European Union, the Inter-America Court of Human Rights, the Africa Court of Human and Peoples’ Rights, the International Criminal Court, and the International Court of Justice. The comparative national and international jurisprudential analysis on complicity and exclusion will be able to provide a clear ‘snap shot’ of the state of international law with respect to one of the most difficult and contentious areas of criminal liability for the purposes of excluding those who are responsible for serious international crimes from refugee protection.

Panel: Temporary & Durable Responses to Displacement Crises: Comparative Perspectives

Chair: Ruvi Ziegler, University of Reading; Co-convenor: Evangelia (Lilian) Tsourdi, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford

Christel Querton, Newcastle University
'New Wars’ Refugees: Revisiting the Refugee Convention to Engender Permanent Responses in the European Union

The number of persons claiming asylum in the European Union has risen dramatically and most now originate from regions experiencing armed conflicts. Contemporary armed conflicts or ‘new wars’ are distinct from traditional warfare and are generally characterised by the rise of non-state actors and fragile states in the context of globalisation. Civilians are increasingly targeted as fighting parties aim to control and terrorise populations in the absence of conventional military power. Although there is wide recognition within conflict and security studies that most conflicts have a gender dimension this is almost entirely overlooked within international refugee law scholarship.

Therefore, this paper contends that international refugee law based on traditional concepts of international law, such as the war/peace or civilian/combatant dichotomies, needs to be reconceptualised to better respond to the realities of ‘new wars’. Drawing on gendered theories of conflict, this paper proposes a framework for the interpretation and application of the Refugee Convention definition to adequately reflect gendered dynamics within particular societies and the role of violence in ‘new wars’. It sets out that gender, understood as a hierarchy of social power, is an essential element to explain the nature, causes and responses to violence. This paper will further discuss the potential contribution of this framework for permanent responses to Afghan, Iraqi and Syrian asylum claims through data collected from appeal instances in several EU Member States.

Evangelia (Lilian) Tsourdi, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford

Adding Fuel to the Fire: How emergency-driven solidarity constructed an EU ‘asylum crisis’

Policy makers had conceptualised the Common European Asylum System as a ‘common area of protection and solidarity’. Article 80 TFEU establishes the principle of ‘solidarity and fair-sharing of responsibility’, a principle which is structural to the EU asylum policy, dictates a certain ‘quality’ in the co-operation of the different actors, and nuances the goal of the policy. And yet, the absence of solidarity and fair-sharing in the administrative governance of the policy is glaring. This paper critically assesses how emergency-driven solidarity constructed an EU ‘asylum crisis’. It outlines the main tenets of the initial design for the implementation of the policy. It then focuses on three areas: responsibility-assignment; practical cooperation; and EU funding, examining the scope of solidarity, and efforts to operationalize it. It covers developments catapulted by the 2015 ‘asylum crisis’, such as the emergency intra-EU relocation schemes, the emergence of new funding lines, and the enhancement in the operational role of EU agencies. It argues that despite the rhetoric surrounding the solidarity principle, rather than being structurally embedded in the system’s administration modes, it remains emergency-driven. In this sense, the implementation design fails to attain ‘fair sharing’, as well as to respond to what are essentially structural, rather than exceptional needs, constructing an EU ‘asylum crisis’.

Nick Maple, University of London

Regime-shifting in Southern Africa & the Global refugee regime

This paper examines state responses to refugee influxes in Southern Africa and how these interact with the global refugee regime. Taking South Africa and Zambia as case studies, the paper provides a multi-scalar perspective on contemporary refugee policy and practice by
analysing how the implementation of the refugee regime is being changed and constrained at the ‘meso-level’ (the state level) and the ‘micro-level’ (the local level such as the municipality).

At the national level, drawing on the new South African Green and White Papers on International Migration, the paper suggests via a form of regime shifting, the treatment of refugees in South Africa is rapidly moving from policy and practice founded on the global refugee regime to a new migration management approach whereby refugees are becoming viewed solely as economic migrants. At other levels of analysis, however, for example at the municipality level, the paper shows how new political, economic and social relations are emerging, which allow refugees and asylum-seekers access to regime norms that may bypass or ignore conventional interactions with legal and policy frameworks at the national level.

**Hugh Tuckfield, University of Sydney**

*How States Decide: Durable solutions, international norms and protracted refugee situations*

This paper investigates the enduring question of how states decide to create and implement durable solutions and to follow or reject the international human rights norms of the international framework of the refugee regime in their decision-making behaviour. It does so in the context of how and why the Himalayan states of Nepal, sandwiched between China and India, in 2006-07, decided to agree to a proposal by Washington to resettle the Bhutanese, but did not agree to accept a similar proposal to resettle the Tibetan refugees. To investigate this paradox my research has developed a conceptual framework grounded in international relations (IR) theory and the concept of socialization to ‘explain how state and non-state actors change their behaviour and embrace new ideas’ to conform to international norms of the refugee regime. This research contributes to understanding how other states decide on modes of protection and durable solutions, whether to follow or reject international human rights norms, and how their decision-making behaviour is shaped by other state (the US, China and India) and non-state actors (UNHCR).

**Ruvi Ziegler, University of Reading**

*A European Protection Space? ‘Beneficiaries of International Protection’ & Freedom of Movement*

This paper probes the mobility space that persons recognised as BIP occupy in the EU legal landscape in contradistinction from (other) third-country nationals. While Article 33 of the Qualification Directive requires MS to allow BIP intra-state freedom of movement under the same conditions that TCNs generally enjoy (cue Article 26 of the 1951 Refugee Convention), the Long-Term Residents Directive (LTRD) which facilitates cross-border mobility after five years of continuous residence (Article 4) has initially excluded BIP. In 2011, the LTRD was amended (2011/51/EU) to encompass BIP. Hitherto, BIP are excluded from the application of the ‘highly qualified employment’ Directive (‘Blue Card’ holders) (Directive 2009/50/EC) (Article 3(2)(b)), though the European Commission recently proposed a revision that will extend its application to BIP. It is contended that BIP are the ultimate non-citizen ‘European’: they are granted international protection by a MS based on a uniform status determined by EU law and authoritatively interpreted by the CJEU. The question which MS is responsible for determining eligibility is similarly determined by EU law- (in)famous ‘Dublin’ (Regulation (EU) No 604/2013). Indeed, these features distinguish BIP from other TCNs: MS generally make first admissions decisions regarding the latter based on their (independently determined) immigration policy. Hence, it could be suggested that, whilst the responsibility for determining the status of an individual as a BIP lies with (one) MS, their mobility ought not be restricted to that MS. BIP are forced migrants; they are unable to return to their country of origin and thus wholly dependent.
on their state of asylum. The creation of an EU Protection space where BIP can exercise mobility rights could carry an emancipatory potential: one that is not only realised through actual movement, but also liberates the BIP to seek domicile that would better align with their own preferences.

Roundtable: Refugeeness and Precarity: Separated Children, Security, Terrorism and Exclusion from Refugee Protection

James Simeon, York University; Yao Li, University of Potsdam; Joseph Rikhof, University of Ottawa; Maarten Bolhuis, VU University Amsterdam; Elspeth Guild, Radboud University; Didier Bigo, King’s College London and Sciences-Po Paris

This Round Table proposal consists of six paper presentations that will focus on the broad theme of “criminality, precarity and ‘refugeeness’ or, more narrowly, Convention refugee status” and fits very nicely within the IASFM17 International Conference Theme 1: Crises, Precarity and Refugeeness. The first paper will consider the so-called Exclusion Clauses of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, Article 1F, and will focus on the function, objectives, and consequences of exclusion from refugee protection. It will also consider the punitive nature of these clauses in excluding persons for their alleged involvement in criminal activities. The second paper will consider the plight of separated children, which have experienced sharp increases in numbers in recent years, and, will address, specifically, the situation of former child soldiers and how they are exploited by their smugglers/traffickers en route and by the asylum processes in their host countries upon their arrival. Special emphasis will be placed on the former child soldiers’ dual nature, as previous alleged ‘perpetrators’ of serious crimes and as ‘victims’ of persecution. The third paper will consider security screening for refugee claimants. National security concerns have been pre-eminent since 9/11 and States are resorting more and more to security screening. However, a “knowledge gap” exists in relation to the effectiveness of the methods used for identifying people posing a security threat. Moreover, little is known about the possible negative consequences of these methods and more insight into these potential negative consequences is imperative. The fourth paper presentation will interrogate the issue of ‘refugees and security,’ which are at the top of the political agendas in a number of European states. Not surprisingly, this issue has been picked up by the UN in the New York Declaration that calls for two compacts: one on safe, orderly and regular migration; and, the other on refugees. This paper will focus on the linkages between ‘refugees and security’ and how the UN will address this overriding concern in the negotiations on the new Global Compact. The fifth paper will consider the question posed (again) by many policy makers after the arrival of substantial numbers of refugees, principally by means of perilous journeys by sea, in Europe in 2015-16 and the resurgence of terrorist attacks, “Is there a link between these recent refugee arrivals and terrorism?” If this is a false continuum, then, what kind of analysis assists in understanding it? The sixth paper will examine the exclusion of “terrorists” from refugee protection in three common law jurisdictions: Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom. It will comparatively analyze, in particular, the legal definition of terrorism in each of these jurisdictions as well as whether there is a convergence or divergence in the leading jurisprudence on terrorism in and across these three jurisdictions. The comparative analysis will also consider asylum seekers’ exclusion from refugee protection for their alleged direct or indirect involvement and participation in terrorist activities. Together, these six paper presentations will provide a detailed cross section of the state of “criminality, precarity and refugeeness” in both national and international refugee law and practice, and public policy today.
Regional Perspectives: Greece

Olga Demetriou, PRIO

Forced migration and citizenship in post-conflict settings

This paper will explore the links between citizenship regimes in post-conflict settings and the regulation of refugeehood. Taking as examples the cases of Greece and Cyprus, it will argue that local conflict contexts matter to the governance of refugeehood today. The paper will build on Voutira’s analysis of –emic and –etic concepts guiding such governance to argue that in the context of multiple crises this intersection becomes ever more relevant. The focus of the analysis are the legal regimes guiding ‘refugee’ identification, their connections to the Greco-Turkish conflict, and their effects on different refugee populations. The paper is an additional submission to the panel proposed by Cindy Horst on "The good citizen in refugee settings: displacement, hospitality and citizenship”.

Jovana Mastilovic, Griffith Law School

The Impact of Securitisation on Access to Asylum in the European Union: A Case Study of the Closure of the Western Balkans Route

The European Union (EU) has implemented many policy developments in the field of asylum due to the arrival of more than one million people seeking international protection in 2015. Conflict was the primary reason people arrived on the Greek islands from Turkey and continued their journey to northern European countries via the Western Balkans route. The EU response to this influx of people was increased co-operation with Turkey and the Western Balkans countries in the field of border management. This presentation will first describe the policies implemented on behalf of the EU Member States to ‘better manage migration’. It will then present the results of empirical data collection conducted with non-governmental organisations assisting people seeking asylum and policy-makers on the Greek island; Lesvos, the countries of the Western Balkans, and Hungary. The intention of empirical research was to find out whether the intentions of the EU – Turkey Statement and the closure of the Western Balkans route have been achieved, what impacts they have on people seeking asylum, and whether they have elevated security (and for whom). There are currently tens of thousands of people seeking asylum restricted in movement in the Western Balkans countries and Greece as a result of border closures and more people lost their lives trying to reach the EU to seek asylum in 2016 than they did in 2015. This presentation will address the consequences of EU policies and their impact on people seeking asylum.

Vasiliki Kakosimou, Head officer of the Asylum Unit in Piraeus

Dealing with Unaccompanied Children Seeking Asylum - the case of Greece

In the asylum procedure, separated children form a special sub-group of children among the unaccompanied ones that requires specialized protection. The law allows separated children to apply for asylum, by themselves or through a guardian or legal representative, independently from the accompanying adult. Separated children are not clearly informed about asylum procedures, the possibility of applying independently for asylum, and the consequences of the different choices.

Appropriate legal advice and representation throughout the asylum procedure is essential to
ensure that separated children receive a fair treatment of their claim. However, legal representatives are not appointed systematically in the case of separated children seeking asylum.

The recognition rate for separated children in Greece is considerably lower than for the general asylum seeking population. It is important to note, however, that most separated children whose asylum application is rejected obtain permission to stay temporarily or permanently on humanitarian or other grounds.

The estimated number of UaMs in Greece is 2,450 (31th August 2017) according to EKKA. In 2017 (31th of August) the Greek Asylum Service received 1,725 asylum applications from UaMs but only 160 of them (0.4% of the general asylum seeking population) were given a form of international protection. In 2016, 2,352 applications from UaMs were received, from which 103 (0.2% of the general asylum seeking population) were recognized as beneficiaries of international protection (Greek Asylum Service Statistical Data- September 2017).

Roundtable: Mediated Greek family: The transformation of refugee families through crisis

Larissa Noel, York University

Crisis is an experience that in some cases cannot be erased. It is an experience that is absorbed, and creates a strong imprint. What happens if crisis influences a collective group, household, or in this case a family? The notion of crisis for many instances is overlooked and not properly understood. What does crisis mean, and what does it evoke? This ethnography will closely analyze how Syrian refugees encounter crisis, during their transition into Athens, Greece. The ethnographic context will be focused in Athens at a family day center, for refugees. The ideology of transformation, primarily towards families and kinship will be critically analyzed in the context of the Athenian society. The idea of family and kinship was originally recognized as “distinctly European”, within Athens. This paper will analytically view how this idea is detrimental, towards refugees who are settling in Greece. The anthropological methods which have been applied to this research were informal interviews with several families throughout the day center, participatory observation, and reflexivity with an emic perspective, through qualitative analysis. Multi-sited analysis, has been applied to identify what particular groups of individuals are classified as “the other” from the perspective of the Greek population, and why? Inventively, the Greek orthodox is highly incorporated with the Greek identity, which becomes problematic towards the emergence of a new form of a Greek family. Evidently, this ethnography will draw attention to the oppressive experience that several refugee families have encountered. Furthermore, the notion of austerity will be closely analyzes, in order to understand how the lack of certain resources affects the development of the refugee family units, transitioning into the Greek society.

Unaccompanied children

Océane Uzureau, Marina Rota, Ilse Derluyn, Ghent University

Analysis of the transit experiences of unaccompanied refugee minors travelling into Europe

Travelling to and through Europe alone or separated from their parent(s) and caregiver(s) for
various reasons, unaccompanied refugee minors (URM) are highly exposed to risk of abuse, exploitation and other traumatic experiences during their journey.

In this presentation, we present findings of the CHILDMOVE project, which intends to document the psychological impact of various transit experiences of URM who travel along the Central and Eastern Mediterranean Route. Based on semi-structured interviews with URM in different transit and destination countries (Greece, Italy and Belgium), various aspects of the minors’ journeys will be investigated and analyzed such as, the decision-making process to leave their home country, their living circumstances while being on the move and their negotiations about and changes within their trajectory. The accounts of the young people will also provide valuable knowledge on their perceived dependency on smugglers, experiences of abuse from different actors and the detrimental living conditions in first reception and detention centres or informal camps in certain settings. Based on these findings, we aim to increase the insight into the risk factors encountered by URM and contribute to a better identification of their material, social and psychological needs along their migratory journey which might be valuable for support services dedicated to this population.

Jovana Arsenijevic, Médecins Sans Frontières

Violence inflicted on minors attending MSF mental health clinics - “caught in limbo” by Europe’s restrictive migration policies

Background and Objectives: In response to the so-called “European Migration Crisis”, the European Union (EU) has introduced restrictive migration policies with aim to deter migration and close migration routes towards the EU, most significantly the closure of the Balkan Route and the EU-Turkey Deal in 2016. Border closure policies have resulted in the most vulnerable migrants often unaccompanied minors and separated children pushed into more dangerous and marginalized conditions, experiencing violence often perpetuated by state authorities.

Among migrants/refugees who were under 18 years of age (minors) attending mental health clinics operated by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in Serbia assessed a) their presenting mental health symptoms and b) the trend of traumatic events and physical injuries and alleged perpetrators.

Method: A cross-sectional study (September 2016 to February 2017) of routinely collected retrospective data from MSF mental health clinics.

Results: Of 143 minors interviewed, the majority (n=117, 82%) were unaccompanied, 26% were children (<15 years) and 9% were female. The most frequent mental health symptoms included: adjustment/acute reactions (30%), anxiety (29%) and depression (13%).

Of all minors (n=143), 84(59%) experienced traumatic events with 67(80%) having accompanying physical injuries. Electrocutions, sensory deprivation and cigarettes burns were also seen. There were 19 child victims of physical violence, the youngest being 10 years. The most frequent alleged perpetrator of physical injuries was state authorities in the EU namely Bulgaria, Hungary and Croatia, responsible for 97% of such injuries. Traumatic events standardized by 100 mental health consultations were high and sustained (44%-73%) over the study period.

Simon Goodman, Coventry University; Kayleigh Brown, Coventry University; Helen
Liebling, Coventry University

A culture of disbelief: Demonstrating how asylum interviews with separated children are interrogations

Unaccompanied minors or ‘separated children’ are refugees travelling alone. In the UK, if they can convince the Home Office in an asylum interview that they are refugees, they will be given refugee status. Existing analyses of the asylum system in the UK point to the existence of ‘a culture of disbelief’ whereby refugees are assumed to be lying about their cases, which may explain the high rate of rejection (and also successful appeals) in refugee decisions. However, until now, no detailed analysis of the interviews refugees have with the Home Office, which determine their status, have been conducted. Therefore, this paper uses the discursive psychological approach, which addresses how arguments are made and responded to, to assess these decision-making interviews. Five transcripts of asylum interviews conducted between Home Office staff and unaccompanied minors were obtained, with consent. Discourse analysis identified three features of the asylum interview which functioned in distinct and overlapping ways to interrogate and discredit the child’s account. These are: (1) speculation by interviewers about the child’s fear (‘fear versus fact’); (2) highlighting inconsistencies in accounts (‘you didn’t say that before’); and (3) use of unanswerable and unverifiable questions (‘tell me exactly what happened’). Analysis revealed that, contrary to safeguarding policy, children are often exposed to an adversarial system, which inhibits narration of their story in a safe and comfortable way and may reduce their likelihood of being granted refugee status. Suggestions for improving the asylum system for separated children are offered based on these findings.

Katharina Schaur, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, Almut Bachinger, International Centre for Migration Policy Development

Building a good life: How separated children and youths navigate labour market policies and their own aspirations in Austria

Separated minor refugees are affected by the ongoing re-shaping of welfare and labour market policies in a particular way, as they are situated within workfare discourses which demand young people’s staying in school and education lest they become jobless “burdens”; and the perceived “refugee crisis” with an increasingly charged Austrian discourse, which puts them under the general suspicion of having immigrated for economic reasons or to enjoy social benefits. As young people, they are on the one hand framed as being particularly deserving of support, but on the other hand, they are the target of racist fears and clichés. Within academic discussions, the situation of young separated minors is still mainly analysed in the context of their particular vulnerability and psychological distress. What is less discussed is young people’s ingenuity in forging their own path in a difficult environment.

Based on qualitative interviews and group discussions conducted in several Austrian provinces in July - October 2017, we will analyse how separated minor refugees navigate this charged situation. We add to a growing body of research that focuses on young refugees’ agency, as they find their way through a jungle of regulations, and covert or overt discrimination; negotiate sometimes contradictory expectations of their friends, teachers, caregivers, families, and (potential) employers; and develop their own perspectives against the in many ways restricted framework of opportunities provided to them.
Rebecca Murray, University of Sheffield

‘Access as Belonging’, what does access to higher education mean for forced migrants?

Going beyond asylum seeker-led calls for access to higher education, this paper analyses the challenges faced by forced migrants who have accessed higher education and face both immigration and academic pressures. Drawing upon over a decade’s experience as a practitioner and campaigner, as well as recent PhD fieldwork data, I will present my framework of ‘shared characteristics’. This framework relates to forced migrants who not only seek asylum but also opportunities in HE (higher education); to commence, continue or validate existing HE qualifications. In doing so, I argue that from the unique and individual experiences of forced migrants, a shared understanding of the challenges encountered can be garnered. It also endeavours to critically reflect upon current HE initiatives (UK & Sweden) and the extent to which they facilitate the reclamation of agency, often lost as the result of displacement.

In 2005, led by a group of forced migrants determined to access HE, I began to lobby UK HEIs to provide scholarships for individuals forcibly displaced from their country of origin. In 2010, the success of this campaign led to the development of the ‘Article 26’ project, which works in partnership with HEIs to deliver scholarships targeted at forced migrant students. Academic year 2015/16 there were 28 scholarships, however the number of scholarships more than doubled in academic year 2016/17. Alongside this, I have undertaken doctoral research to explore HE policy and practice in relation forced migrant access, participation and success in opportunities created. This comparative case study research focuses on two countries within the EU, one a familiar (UK) and the other an unfamiliar (Sweden) context. Analysis of interviews with 26 forced migrant research participants, supported by the direct and indirect implementation of opportunities for forced migrant students across the UK, provided the foundations upon which to develop the framework of ‘shared characteristics’.

Dina Batshoun, University College London - Institute of Education

Experiences of Access to Higher Education for Gazan Refugee Youth in Jordan: Exploring Perceptions, Pathways, and Issues

This research explores the experiences of access to higher education for Gazan refugee youth in Jordan. Gazans are Palestinians whose families took refuge to Jordan from the Gaza strip in 1967 or after. In spite of higher education moving closer to being universal in Jordan, thousands of Gazan youth are today still unable to access opportunities as easily as their Jordanian peers. Gazan refugees do not have a Jordanian citizenship or identification number, and are viewed as foreign residents, meaning that when applying for public universities they are treated as ‘international’ students, having to pay much higher fees in comparison to Jordanian peers and to other Palestinian refugees in Jordan.

This research is a qualitative research, and is interpretivist and critical in its epistemology. The theoretical framework this research is built around is complexity. One-to-one semi-structured interviews were undertaken with six male and female Gazan refugee youth in their twenties, all of which managed to access higher education, here defined to be a first degree at university.

The research presents the different pathways of access available to Gazan refugees and suggests that these pathways are limited, not accessible or known to all, and do not fit the needs of all Gazan youth. Furthermore, the findings highlight 2 major issues, that a. access to
higher education both affects and is affected by Gazans legal status, socio-economic status, opportunities for work, and more, and b. access to higher education is highly affected by communication and the dissemination of information. Findings argue that Gazan youth face inequity, social injustice, and systematic violence with regards to their experiences of access to higher education in Jordan.

Maha Shuayb, Lebanese American University

*An education ‘for’ exile: a comparative study of education experiences of Syrian refugee in Lebanon and Germany*

In the introduction of her essay ‘We Refugees’, Hannah Arendt states:

“In the first place, we don’t like to be called ‘refugees.’ We ourselves call each other ‘newcomers’ or ‘immigrants.’ [...]In order to rebuild one’s life one has to be strong and an optimist [...]. Since everybody plans and wishes and hopes, so do we. [...] After so much bad luck we want a course as sure as a gun.”

While ‘Newcomers’ as Arendt states leave in the hope of a new life and the possibility of a better future, they are often sentenced to life imprisonment in what the international community defines as ‘refugee’. This ‘imagined community’ has been ‘imagined’ and is defined by everyone but ‘them’. They are assigned a legal, moral and physical status of which they can hardly ever break free or seek self-actualisation. Refugees or ‘new comers’ are perceived as the object of fear and threat by the local community, or the object of pity by philanthropists. They feel either humiliated and left behind with an uncertain future, or they feel degraded and unrecognised for their individual qualities, earnestness and determination to rebuild their social positions and cultural identities in destination countries often unfamiliar and hostile for newcomers.

As the number of refugees are increasing worldwide, their perceived threat is also on the rise manifested in the unwavering determination of most developing countries to keep them away shunned in camps or what is known as ‘unintended settlements’ in developing countries while throwing money to the local community to contain them. At the same time, we see the efforts of most UN agencies as well as INGO, the EU and the World Bank etc. is being focused on the micro and meso level of the crisis while removing structural barriers has been a far-fetched objective. In fact, most countries have introduced policy restrictions to deter the potential influx and settlement of refugees.

The objectification of refugees is not the only impediment facing them in their attempt to seek a better future. ‘The emergency’ paradigm dominating the response to refugee crisis negates the reality that most refugee crisis are protracted. Studies show that the average time a refugee spend in exile is 20 years. The ‘emergency’ approach reflects the unwillingness of these agencies to foresee let alone plan for a future. These are some issues facing newcomers in their attempt to live a decent and a more prosperous life than that in their country of origin.

Against this background, this study focuses on education one of the fundamental means for aspiring for a better future. Through case studies of schools in both countries, it compares the education provisions in Germany and Lebanon for integrating the Syrian refugee children. Syrian refugee children in both countries face a myriad of challenges when accessing education including schools’ capacity, language, being out of school for over two years, integration, and bullying. The study will compare the different approaches adopted in these two countries for
the integration of Syrian refugees in education. It also examines examples of good practice on
the policy level as well as school practices that can support ‘new comers’ to ‘re-imagine’ the
refugee community.

Tanja Fendel, Institute for Employment Research Germany

Legal Discrimination within Integration Policies? The Paradigm of Activation and Educational and
Work Experiences of Female Refugees in Germany

Activating integration policies with the paradigm of being challenging but also supportive have
been enforced in several European countries. The Integration Act for forced migrants,
introduced in Germany in 2016, is based on this principle. Before the law came into force,
accepted refugees in Germany received a residence permit for three years and afterwards a
permanent permit. Due to the paradigm of activation, today a permanent residence permit is
only granted if refugees have sufficient German language skills and are able to secure most of
their own livelihood.

The study addresses the question whether for female compared to male refugees it is on
average more challenging to meet the new requirements. We give empirical evidence about
gender differences in educational and employment participation as well as in language skills.
The used data is based on qualitative interviews with 123 and quantitative Interviews with
4,800 adult forced migrants who came to Germany between 2013 and 2016. Theoretically, we
refer to concepts of legal discrimination and civic stratification.

Due to human rights violations, women have often been excluded from education or paid work
in their home countries. In Germany their labor market participation is on average lower than
the male one’s and working conditions are more often precarious. Thus we argue that female
refugees have a higher risk to fulfill the new requirements for a permanent residence permit
only together with a partner, only later or not at all. Their chances to move up within the
hierarchy of civic stratification are lower.
THEME TWO: Civil society, new humanitarianism and citizens’ mobilization

Panel: The good citizen in refugee settings: displacement, hospitality and citizenship – Part 1

Maria Jumbert Gabrielsen, PRIO and Elisa Pascucci, University of Tampere

Citizen responses to the refugee crisis: interactions between new volunteers, humanitarian organizations and state responses. Case of Norway and Greece

The humanitarian spaces emerging from the confluence of border security mandates of ‘control’ and humanitarian concerns of ‘rescue’ have become new sites of intervention, for traditional humanitarian actors, but also for European and governmental agencies providing rescue and assistance services, as well as volunteer initiatives instigated by European citizens, who in the process have reconstituted their identity as humanitarian. The starting point for this project is that whereas humanitarian regimes of intervention have historically responded to situations where the state is unable or unwilling to assist crisis-affected communities, whether due to armed conflicts or natural disasters; the emergence of humanitarian spaces inside and alongside Europe’s borders unfolds, as hypothesized in this project, as a result of a security apparatus set up to ‘protect the borders’. This poses the question of not only states’ responsibility towards citizens and non-citizens in distress, but also how responsibilities of ‘regular’ citizens are shaped and understood, responding to situations of distress – out of moral or ethical concerns, or out of a sense of obligation when other official responses seem to be absent.

The first case takes the new ‘spontaneous’ volunteers as a focal point, to understand both the triggers of such initiatives, and how they operate alongside public authorities and more established humanitarian organizations. The latter also come with more established sets of rules, principles and procedures, where the spontaneous volunteers, with less experience, are less committed to these principles. At the same time, the spontaneous ‘new humanitarians’ were able to recruit more new volunteers than anyone else, and, it might be argued, respond more effectively to humanitarian needs. It will study in particular the Norway-based initiative Refugees Welcome to Norway (RWTN) and the Norwegian-initiated initiative of ‘Dråpen i Havet’, conducting first reception of boat migrants on the beaches in Greece.

Dorothea Hilhorst, ISS and LSE

From beneficiary to citizen. Exploring the magnification of labelling in humanitarian aid

Humanitarian has always had a complicated relation with the communities it serves, which has been apparent in the unhappy history of how aid speaks about and names refugees and crisis-affected populations. This paper revisits the debate about ‘the political in the apparently non-political’ (Wood 1985) labelling practices, and elaborates on the concept of citizen as perhaps a more appropriate label than current shorthands for crisis-affected people.

Humanitarian aid has been extensively criticized for its use of othering and distancing labels, such as case-load and target groups. It has also been criticized for using the terms victim and beneficiary, which implies stripping off people from their identities, boxing them into a passive recipient, and essentially reducing people to their relationship with aid providers. Attributing a dependency syndrome to people has been a powerful manifestation of this view of people, and
the dogged reference to dependency syndromes, despite the abundant counter-evidence, points to the political implications of labelling practices.

This language of humanitarianism has undergone substantive change in recent years. Notions of resilience, a focus on capacities of communities and refugees, consistent reference to participation and accountability has affected the ways aid actors view affects populations. IFRC will refer to people as the first responders, conveying more active agency to people and recognizing their crucial role in their own survival. Lately, we see references to clients of aid, to recognize the rights to be informed and receive quality assistance. While these labels may be seen as a major step ahead, the paper will focus on a number of persistent problems with these labelling practices.

The second part of the paper proposes to view affected populations primarily as citizens. Although the formal citizen status of refugees may be in question, current theorizing on citizenship emphasizes its performative aspects and recognizes horizontal as well as vertical forms of citizenship, which makes the concept a great analytical tool. It enables us to analyze the manifold ways in which crisis-affected populations not only organize their individual survival but also affect – through their desires, their everyday survival and focused action - the public space in which they live.

María Hernández Carretero, University of Oslo

Refugees, hospitality and citizenship

This paper explores views on refugee reception and incorporation among host populations in Norway and Sweden, based on preliminary findings from an ethnographic study of citizen reactions and responses to the upsurge in refugee and migrant arrivals to both countries from 2015. I analyze how individuals express and justify their respective positions and, where relevant, their motivation to mobilize through civil society initiatives, and in which ways these relate to dominant political discourses in their respective countries. I explore how individuals see their views and actions with respect to state positions and (in)action – for instance whether they at all view them as supporting, complementing or contesting official policy and practice. I explore how, in practice, attitudes to refugee reception and inclusion and related activities serve to continuously delineate, reinforce or challenge previously existing boundaries of citizenship, of host and guest, insider and outsider, and whether individuals see themselves and their actions as having a role in actively shaping how such categories and boundaries are crafted. I approach these questions through the theoretical lens of the anthropological concept of hospitality, which has traditionally been concerned with how social groups deal with outsiders.

Panel: The good citizen in refugee settings: displacement, hospitality and citizenship – Part 2

Zoe Jordan, Oxford Brookes University and Cathrine Brun, Oxford Brookes University

Hosting in protracted displacement

Since Chamber’s proposal in 1986 that hosts are at best a secondary concern and often taken for granted in refugee responses, humanitarian policy documents have maintained the important role of hosts, while simultaneously revealing hosts and hosting practices to be an understudied part of a displacement process. In this paper we discuss different meanings of
hosts and hosting found in the literature and add to this literature by analysing two cases of hosting in the context of Islamic and Muslim practices: the historical case of internally displaced Muslims during the civil war in Sri Lanka that ended in 2009, and the contemporary case of Syrian refugees in Jordan. By way of analysing the two cases, we explore the different meanings of hosts and the diversity of hosting practices with a particular focus on how these change over time in a particular displacement crisis. We also consider the role of the humanitarian and government responses in these developments. This analysis leads to a discussion of the representations of hosting practices and host and refugee identities during displacement, and the particular politics of changing identities and group formation for both hosts and refugees that emerges from protracted displacement crises.

Oliver Bakewell, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester

The Citizen Refugee

Drawing on research among the Congolese population in Kampala this paper explores the extent to which people’s ability to navigate life in the city is shaped by their perceived, actual, or potential legal status. The majority of respondents identified themselves as refugees, while acknowledging their Congolese citizenship; only a handful referred to themselves as Ugandan. It seems that the combination of refugee status, the associated dream of resettlement and the rejection of ‘local integration’ (or citizenship) by the Ugandan government generates a negative cycle which makes it very difficult to see constructive ways forward. From the perspective of Congolese, they have neither desire to return to Congo nor do they see a future in Kampala despite having lived there for many years. However, some respondents gave glimpses of other possibilities, when they made it clear that they would prefer to have some formal status in Uganda as regular citizens but they struggle to see a route to citizenship. Despite the relative openness of Uganda’s refugee policy, the question of citizenship remains a continued challenge to the idea of refugee integration.

Olga Demetriou, PRIO Cyprus Centre

Forced migration and citizenship in post-conflict settings

This paper will explore the links between citizenship regimes in post-conflict settings and the regulation of refugeehood. Taking as examples the cases of Greece and Cyprus, it will argue that local conflict contexts matter to the governance of refugeehood today. The paper will build on Voutira’s analysis of –emic and –etic concepts guiding such governance to argue that in the context of multiple crises this intersection becomes ever more relevant. The focus of the analysis are the legal regimes guiding ‘refugee’ identification, their connections to the Greco-Turkish conflict, and their effects on different refugee populations.

Cindy Horst, PRIO

Refugees as ‘Vanguard’ Citizens

The radical uncertainty that refugees face because of war, flight and exile often shapes their participation in society in dramatic ways. Violent conflict and human rights abuses are not just disproportionately experienced by, but also further create, political subjects. Such life events can transform the motivations, sense of responsibility, and political action of citizens with refugee backgrounds. In this paper, we explore the links between the civil-political engagement and the life-stories of such individuals. In what ways does the moral shock of political evil provide human beings with a sense of necessity of action long after such experiences? I highlight the possibility of refugees as ‘vanguard’ (Arendt 1943), playing a leading role in new
developments and ideas in their new societies. Empirical research in Oslo, Norway, has shown how some of those with life-stories that include violent conflict and flight, play a central role in hosting practices for other refugees and are actively involved in challenging marginalizing trends in their new societies.

Panel: Citizenship, Belonging, and the Sanctuary City Movement across Canada.

Graham Hudson, Ryerson University

Sanctuary City Policy in Toronto: Law, Custom, and Practice

The sanctuary city movement is a heterogeneous, urban response to exclusionary immigration laws. In the North American context, sanctuary consists in formal policies and procedures, which in some (but certainly not in all) cases are responsive to broad-based community mobilization. In these ways, sanctuary challenges the claim that federal governments possess exclusive authority over citizenship, rights, and political membership. But this picture belies a more complicated social and political milieu that can both facilitate and impede the operation of formal laws. Numerous reports and studies in Canada and the United States show that access to services are conditional on a host of informal factors, including the discretionary power of city officials and variable conceptions of deservingness. More structural forces also play a role, including the complementary logics of security and liberalism, which construct non-status migrants as dangerous, deceitful, illegal and, consequently, undeserving of services.

This paper adopts a legal pluralist approach to the study of sanctuary city policy in Toronto, Canada. It uses empirical research as a basis for identifying the informal factors that have shaped discretion over the provision of services in Toronto, while infusing a dose of realism about the efficacy of formal law. Particular attention will be paid to the collaborative and the competitive interplay of diverse laws, both within the state (e.g. municipal, provincial, federal) and between official law and the customs of particular institutions (e.g. police services). The examples of policing and education will be used as case studies.

Idil Atak, Ryerson University

Protecting the Undocumented Migrants: Sanctuary City Policies in Toronto and Montreal.

In 2014, Toronto, the first Canadian sanctuary city, reaffirmed its commitment to improving undocumented migrants’ access to programs and services in City-funded agencies. In February 2017, the City Council of Montreal unanimously adopted a declaration designating Montreal as a "sanctuary city". The City Council asked the Government of Quebec to review its policies regarding provincially funded services for undocumented residents to promote their access to health care, emergency services, and community housing. In addition, both in Toronto and Montreal the sanctuary city policies strive for ensuring that undocumented migrants can have access to the local police without the risk of being reported to the immigration authorities or deported. However, research shows that official policies have not been consistently realized in practice. This paper provides a comparative critical analysis of the implementation of sanctuary city policy in Toronto and Montreal. Drawing on the results of an exploratory empirical research and using the theoretical framework of “local governance”, it maps the nature and extent to which formal policy effectively protects the human rights of undocumented migrants.

Sasha Kovalchuk, McMaster University
Sanctuary’s Sovereign Rule: Exceptional Private Power of Local Immigration Policy within Toronto’s Sanctuary City

Sanctuary City scholarship encounters a dilemma. Studies reveal Sanctuary Cities, wherein municipalities provide services regardless of immigration status, often result in a false sense of security for undocumented peoples living in constant threat of deportation. Yet scholars remain optimistic because Sanctuary Cities challenge the primacy of the state to police migration. I argue Sanctuary City literature dichotomizes policy effectiveness thus obscuring how state officials, business, and civil society actors each contest and can possess local sovereign control over citizenship. I develop the concept of private delegated sovereignty as a metric to trace the local political process and contest over enacting citizenship. Three overlapping theoretical methods reveal Sanctuary City local governance mechanisms. First, Sanctuary City policies utilize zoning technology described by post-development globalization theory (like by Murray and Ong) who show how local and subnational bodies configure exceptional territorial zones to benefit private business who gain degrees of sovereign power over citizenship, labour, and environmental regulation. Second, in cases of immigration federalism (like in Canada and the U.S.), decentralized and shared de facto jurisdictions over migration enables each level of government to partake in zoning technologies controlling migrants. Third, Toronto demonstrates how zoning technology operates within local immigration policy in cities capable to benefit migrants’ well-being. Sanctuary City policies are a zoning technology available for levels of government to configure jurisdictional bounds of local immigration governance. Sanctuary Cities reveals a contest between state, business, and civil society actors over delegated private sovereign zoning to administer citizenship powers within immigration federalism.

Panel: ‘Helping hands’ in a rebordering Europe

Conveners: Synnøve Bendixsen, University of Bergen, Marie Sandberg, University of Copenhagen, Dorte Jagetic Andersen, University of Southern Denmark

In 2015 Europe experienced an almost unprecedented refugee crisis as a consequence of people fleeing their home countries, especially Syria, and an increasing territorialisation of Islamic State. The response of the European Union was primarily to enforce its external borders using naval blockades and FRONTEX-led programmes to push back migrants even before they entered the European continent. Among European citizens, responses to the refugee crisis have differed. Concurrent to moral panics as well as outbursts of violence and discrimination, a plethora of counter movements can be observed, either organised in cooperation with refugee organisations and NGO’s, or in the shape of privately organized initiatives.

This panel will discuss the different ways in which people of everyday life Europe choose to ‘give a helping hand’, doing their own aiding work in support of refugees coming to Europe. Papers will discuss various forms of citizen mobilization and engagements, from self-organized fundraising to illegal smuggling of single individuals across borders. By ethnographically investigating the rationales, aspirations and experiences of the private initiatives and activism, the panel aims at enhancing our understanding of how everyday ‘aiding practices’ can be seen as ways of enacting the European citizen. Are some of these practices representing new forms of humanitarianism? What can these practices tell us about the Europeanisation process? Are the aiding practices a critique or a distancing from the European project? Or can some of the practices also be understood as signaling new kinds of European citizen awareness and ‘everyday life Europeanisation’?
The panel is organised by the interdisciplinary research network: Helping Hands. Research Network on the Everyday Border Work of European Citizens.

**Kolar Aparna, Olivier Thomas Kramsch, Joris Schapendonk/Nijmegen Centre for Border Research (NCBR)/Department of Human Geography/Radboud Universiteit**

**Can Europe be ‘Helped’?**

In the context of a widely perceived ‘Willkommen fatigue’, we begin by asking: who has the luxury of having tired hands to help? Implicit in this question is the ‘who’ or ‘what’ of helping hands, and the specific relationship of those ‘hands’ with the ‘hands’ of others apparently not in a position to help themselves. Resonating with the ‘White Man’s Burden’ of the European imperial 19th century, ‘helping hands fatigue’ implies a burden assumed by a White, liberal, tolerant and humane Europe helping according to the principles of Christian charity. What this perspective blends out is the self-organizing capacity of migrants and refugees themselves, their ability to construct ‘worlds’ in relation to their host societies. In the current European Union context these worlds, we argue, are often cross-border in nature. Migrants cross and re-cross the intra-European borders of nation-states to secure for themselves material resources and rights not available within the confines of individual nations. Drawing on our own dilemmas and confrontations in creating a ‘space of refuge’ in everyday practices of university life (co-writing, co-producing research and classroom debates, co-travelling with refugee comrades and those involved in refugee-support, to name some) we propose the contemporary European border as a dynamic site of experimentation for subverting ‘help’ and ‘hospitality’. We argue, based on the same, that refugees become ‘hands’ that are in the process of ‘helping’ Europe awaken to Other political possibilities for action and solidarity which remain hidden.

**Line Steen Bygballe Jensen, University of Copenhagen and Lydia Maria Kirchner, University of Copenhagen**

**Volunteering for Change. A cultural analysis of grassroots volunteer networks in support of refugees in Berlin and Copenhagen**

Taking the point of departure in the complex socio-political landscape marked by tensions and disunity in the wake of the refugee crisis in Europe, this presentation explores the grassroots volunteer networks that formed to support and welcome the refugees arriving to Europe. Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in the two urban settings of Berlin and Copenhagen and consisting of 14 interviews and 23 participant observations, insights on grassroots volunteer networks for refugees across borders are presented from our thesis research in 2017. This includes a discussion of how the networks work and what motivations and aspirations they build on, as well as their potential and vulnerabilities. The analysis draws theoretical inspiration from the performative multiplicity approach within Actor-Network Theory and with a focus on the everyday life in the researched networks. Through the research themes of social movements, conviviality and active citizenship, the paper elucidates how contemporary forms of engagement are enacted in the grassroots volunteer network of Moabit hilft and Wedding hilft in Berlin and Venligbohus and Solbjerggruppen in Copenhagen in their day-to-day activities. The analysis and discussion shows how the grassroots volunteer networks function as cultural laboratories with loose organisational structures that seek to create relational spaces that can accommodate difference and have the ambition to create alternative structures of political participation. Thereby the networks emerge as local manifestations of and answers to global challenges, that find their expression in the refugee crisis.
Katerina Rozakou, University of Amsterdam

Visits to the “forgotten”: Sociality behind bars between solidarians and deportable women

Drawing upon a group of solidarians who visited detained migrant women in a pre-removal center in Athens, I will here explore elements of this “sociality behind bars”. Gift-giving in the form of basic goods, telephone cards, medicine etc. was only one part of this complex relationship. The solidarians clearly distinguished their visits from any form of humanitarian or institutionalized NGO assistance. The principles of egalitarianism and anti-statism predominated in the ways in which they conceptualized their activities. The constant confrontation with the state -personified in the police officers in charge of the detention center- was constant and took the form of kraximo (“slating”). Kraximo is a culturally informed way of political demonstration that involves the unanticipated disturbance of the workings of the detention center or any other form of public facility. At the same time the solidarians often resorted to agreements and mediated between the deportable/detained women and the police officers who guarded the detention center. Both in their confrontation moments and in moments of unforeseen cooperation, their interactions with police officers drew upon particular moral understandings of personhood.

Daniela DeBono, Malmö Institute for Studies of Migration, Diversity and Welfare, Malmö University and Cetta Mainwaring, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Glasgow

Solidarity at Sea: How NGOs sustain and disrupt the humanitarian border spectacle in the Mediterranean

Non-governmental organizations rescued 40,000 people in the Mediterranean Sea in 2016. In 2017, these organizations were increasingly criminalized by EU member states and agencies, accused of ‘colluding with smugglers’ and acting as a pull factor. In this climate, as Italy increased cooperation with Libya to stop migrants from taking to the seas, many suspended their operations. This paper explores the search and rescue efforts of NGOs in the central Mediterranean Sea in the 21st century, between 2014 and 2017. Drawing on Agamben, scholars have characterized the Sea as a ‘state of exception’ where monitoring is limited and migrants are reduced to ‘bare life’, subject to the law but with little access to rights. Others have contended that migrants demonstrate agency even at sea. Here we examine how the Sea is a contested space and how the ‘state of exception’ fluctuates, contracting and expanding as these contestations take place. In particular, we examine how solidarity and humanitarian work is understood and operationalized by NGOs on the high seas, and how their work contributes to and disrupts the humanitarian border spectacle in the Mediterranean.

Antigone Lyberaki, SolidarityNow and Panteion University

From Sanctuaries to Hotspots – Where Next for Forced Migration? A bottom-up view from Greece, through the lens of SolidarityNow

Images of solidarity and humanitarianism in Greece have been changing through time. From Delphi to Moria, the road is long and winding. The broader European picture is also fraught with contradictions and clashing versions of the ‘true meaning’ of European citizenship. This is often characterized as “willkommen fatigue” among hosting societies, which is often paralleled in a mirror “uncertainty fatigue” among communities of newcomers who are trapped in first asylum countries during prolonged limbo periods. Beyond the surface of changing and fragile economies, there are other deeper issues of concern, such as population ageing and silent gaps
in care provision, but also the sweeping winds of populism and the policies of “fortress Europe”. In this paper I intend to present the experience of SolidarityNow from its various projects (Solidarity Centers, Accommodation, Campaigns and networking) in order to outline a version of activism based on humanitarian values and aiming at the emergence and reinforcement of open societies.

Panel: Challenging new forms of activism and social accountability: different perspectives from Sudan, Germany, and Canada

Through different case studies, this panel will address and critically analyze emerging forms of activism and social accountability on four continents. While adopting distinct approaches of analysis, including through policy, institutions, and civil society actors, the presentations focus on the significance of these forms of activism and mobilization.

Rai Barbosa de Oliveira, European Master in Migration & Intercultural Relations (EMMIR)

Persons of Concern Institutionalized Activism in Sudan

As new forms and modes of activism are sparked across the globe, it is important to recognize the right and the propensity of Persons of Concern to act politically in order to seek their goals. This paper aims at shedding some light on the issue of refugee activism in Sudan, through the institutionalization of the role of Community Volunteers under the Community based Protection vindicated by UNHCR in Sudan. As it is a new project, many lessons are being drawn, including the extent to which Persons of Concern of UNHCR actually perceive themselves as bridges between the institution and their national communities upon taking the role of Community Volunteer. It is important to reflect upon the level of (mis)trust that is engendered in these relationships and the level of ownership attained by Community Volunteers through urban outreach programs in Khartoum. How do the communities attached to these volunteers by national principles feel about their role? Moreover, what are the internal dynamics of such volunteer programs amongst volunteers themselves and how does that positively or negatively impact on the constituency of urban outreach effectiveness in Sudan? Prior to the beginning of the program of community volunteers, there were informal Committees composed by Persons of Concern of UNHCR from different nationalities that met regularly with UNHCR to express community concerns. Now with fewer, yet institutionalized members of community volunteers, how have the changes to these structures impacted the capacity of Persons of Concern to express their voices?

Linda Becht, Laura Boucsein, Katharina Mayr, European Master in Migration & Intercultural Relations, EMMIR

The Dynamics of Othering in Activism as Part of Germany’s Post-2015 “Willkommenskultur”

In the context of Germany’s Willkommenskultur (culture of welcome) and the aftermath of Germany’s increased reception of refugees, this paper critically evaluates the involvement of activists with refugees and analyses to what extent and in what ways they otherise the refugees with whom they are engaged.

For this purpose, the article draws on humanitarianism and a distinction between exclusionary
and inclusionary Othering. The analysis of eight semi-structured interviews with a heterogeneous group of refugee and non-refugee activists involved in Germany’s Willkommenskultur showed that Othering was omnipresent in the speech patterns of the activists. Exclusionary Othering took the form of infantilisation, victimisation, paternalism, the distinction between good and bad refugees, objectification, and culturalisation. Activists who had had a flight experience and/or were sensitised to power hierarchies tended to make more use of inclusionary Othering, which includes the attempt to connect as allies and on equal terms, role-taking, an awareness of one’s own situation and the rejection of exclusionary Othering. Furthermore, the creation of a collective Self was identified as a means to break the strong binary between refugees and non-refugees.

Awareness-raising training among activists as well as increased involvement of activists with flight experience might thus contribute to breaking this binary and reducing exclusionary Othering as well as its impact of reinforcing unequal power relations. An effort towards increased self-awareness not only needs to be made by activists but also the research community.

**Erika Massoud, European Master in Migration & Intercultural Relations (EMMIR)**

*Decolonizing Solidarity within Migrant Justice Activism*

This paper explores solidarity ties between migrant justice activism and indigenous movements on Turtle Island, commonly referred to as North America. Bringing together theory and practice, led by these movements, this paper analyzes the ways in which their self-organization challenges, on the one hand, settler colonial states, and on the other, dominant understandings of belonging to a community. Indigenous peoples have been forcefully and violently expelled from their lands in the process of settler colonial states asserting sovereignty. Equally, these states continue to expel non-status persons and others who are constructed as outsiders. Thus, asserting sovereign power over whom is considered foreign or unwelcome continues to (re)produce a colonial discourse on who belongs to the ‘imagined community’ of the nation.

Historical experiences of displacement of indigenous and migrant communities have reinforced solidarity ties between activist movements in certain contexts. Yet, critiques from indigenous activists on ‘allyship’ have highlighted how migrant-led movements can further reinforce settler colonialism, by rendering visible migrant struggles within state structures and ignoring indigenous sovereignty and world views. This paper questions how migrant justice movements position themselves within decolonization and in relation to indigenous movements. How can migrant-led movements transform the principles around which they organize to decolonize their struggles and solidarity with indigenous activism? Adopting an approach which combines theory and practice in research can articulate ways of knowing that are shaped by activism. Ultimately, solidarity ties between migrant justice activism and indigenous movements can challenge and re-conceptualize the relationship between territory, sovereignty, and belonging.

**Regional Perspectives: Australia and Asia**

**Susan Banki, University of Sydney**
Homeland Activists Without a Home: The Why of Precarious Activism for Burmese and Bhutanese refugees

While precarious populations are often active in efforts to reform the countries from which they come, engaging in a variety of contentious politics to push for democratic reforms or regime change, it is also true that populations without valid passports (refugees, stateless, undocumented) are empirically among the most powerless and precarious of actors, particularly regarding their potential to influence state behaviour. The literature offers both perspectives: refugees as pawns in larger geo-political systems, and refugees as active participants in their own social and political lives. How do we resolve these two perspectives around refugee agency? The first part of this paper employs the literatures of precarity, social movements, transnationalism, and diaspora studies to develop a set of hypotheses about the factors that explain precarious homeland activism. The second part draws on field work and grey literature from refugees from Burma in Thailand and refugees from Bhutan in Nepal to test these propositions. The paper concludes with some observations about the assumptions underlying precarity and proximity for homeland activists without a home.

Louise Olliff, University of Melbourne / Refugee Council of Australia

From resettled refugees to humanitarian actors: Motivations, modalities and implications of diaspora humanitarianism

Refugees resettled to Australia often establish small voluntary-run organisations to mobilise resources and implement humanitarian projects targeting displaced populations in other parts of the world. These ‘everyday humanitarians’ raise money for schools and health centres, purchase wheelchairs and water pumps, send material aid, facilitate migration outcomes, and advocate at different levels to draw attention to the plight of ‘their people’. The capacity of resettled refugees to draw on transnational social networks, contextual knowledge of humanitarian situations and systems, mobility enabled through resettlement, and (in)visibility makes them distinct humanitarian actors. Although not ‘new’ in their actions, there is increasing interest in what role diaspora organisations could or do play in responses to forced displacement.

Based on multi-sited ethnographic research in Australia, Thailand, Indonesia and Geneva, and interviews with representatives of 26 refugee diaspora organisations formed in Australia, this presentation focuses on the motivations, modalities and implications of diaspora humanitarianism. It explores the complex moralities and motivations that underlie acts of helping, and of the social world of those who have been mostly unseen by more powerful humanitarian actors. This research also muddies the lines between ‘those who suffer’ and ‘those who help’ and explores the implications of diaspora humanitarianism as a distinct form of transnational engagement—one that is shaped by the politics, histories and positionalities of people who have direct personal connection to, or experience of, ‘being a refugee’.

Panel: New Humanitarianism in Context: Protection and Refuge from the Past to the Present

Glen Peterson, University of British Columbia

Selective Sanctuary: Colonial Extradition Practice and the Concept of Political Refuge in Republican China

How did the notion of “political asylum” play out in a colonial context? The idea of the modern
political refugee was first introduced to China more than a century ago as part of a growing international debate over the practice of extraditing fugitives. By the late 1800s extradition was increasingly regarded by states as a necessary response to growing transnational mobility and the need for effective international legal mechanisms for the repatriation of fugitive criminals. However, the extradition of persons for political offenses was controversial, especially among liberal states that championed the idea of political freedom. This paper explores the tensions and contradictions that emerged when European notions of political freedom and asylum for political offenders were transposed onto a colonial landscape. It does so by examining British and French extradition practices involving the sovereign Chinese state as well as colonized spaces within China. By considering the ways in which the emergent humanitarian principles associated with the concept of the modern political refugee collided with the realpolitik of imperial interest, we can better understand the nature of the enduring challenges faced by humanitarian activism in a world of nation-states.

Laura Madokoro, McGill University

Sanctuary in Context: Historical Contingencies and Contested Notions of Legitimacy and Authority

The concept of a “sanctuary city” has become an increasingly popular phenomenon in recent years. There are currently 19 sanctuary cities in the United States with hundreds of smaller jurisdictions embracing a similar status. Practices vary but the core element of contemporary sanctuary city practices is that individuals, including children, who do not have proper paperwork or official immigration status will not be denied services within that jurisdiction. From a historical perspective, one of the more striking aspects of the current moment is the opposition of one jurisdiction against another.

In the Judeo-Christian tradition, until the medieval period, sanctuary was undertaken by churches in order to protect fugitives and alleged criminals from prosecution and allow time for penance. In England, sanctuary was granted by the Crown to particular spaces, Westminster Abbey for instance with the idea that religious authorities would take the practice of sanctuary seriously and not allow it to be abused. Over the past five hundred years, the practice of sanctuary has continued with a noticeable shift in practice. Now, the persons offered protection are generally refugees or migrants, considered innocent of whatever allegations are laid against them, and worthy of protection from state.

To contextualize the present moment, this paper considers how refugees caught up in sanctuary practices involving individual churches and the state transformed notions of civil society and attendant responsibilities. The paper focuses in particular on the various contingencies that have shaped sanctuary practices from the late 19th century with a view to understanding the manner in which individual questions of protection have been bound up with larger questions of religious legitimacy and state authority and the impact this entangled history has on contemporary practices.

Megan Bradley, McGill University

Socializing UNHCR: Refugees’ roles in interpreting and promoting international norms

It is often assumed the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is the guardian of the central norms in the international refugee regime, and the flagbearer for refugee protection. In this capacity, UNHCR educates refugees about their rights, and
“socializes” states to respect the cardinal rules of the refugee regime. Examining the ways in which refugees mobilize to protect themselves, and actively debate and conceptualize their own rights, yields a more complex picture. In some cases, refugees themselves “socialize” UNHCR by pushing the agency to recognize and support their own interpretations of key norms. This paper explores this “turning of the tables,” and its implications for understanding the exercise of subaltern power in the refugee regime, through a historical case study. Drawing on UNHCR archives, the paper explores how refugees from El Salvador collectively interpreted an under-examined norm in the refugee regime, the right of return, and how they mobilized at different levels to advance their vision for return. This entailed engagement with UNHCR at different levels, from the local to the international. This engagement prompted a significant rethinking on the part of UNHCR of the meaning and implications of the right of return for refugees, and the agency’s own role in supporting refugees’ claims to exercise this right in the face of state opposition.

Geoffrey Cameron, University of Toronto

Religious groups and the institutional origins of private sponsorship in Canada

Why did private sponsorship develop in Canada, traditionally considered to be a statist country with an actively managed immigration policy? This paper answers this question by tracing the evolution of the private sponsorship program from early partnerships with religious groups in the post-war period to the legal establishment of private sponsorship in the 1976 Immigration Act. What this institutional history reveals is that private sponsorship developed through iterative negotiations between religious groups and government bureaucrats over the moral and practical dimensions of refugee resettlement. Ministers responsible for immigration were unwilling to exclude religious groups from the policy process, but bureaucrats sought to sideline their active involvement in selection and resettlement. The Goldilocks solution was private sponsorship, where these groups were granted an active role, outside of government-sponsored programs. This compromise was a logical, but counterintuitive, consequence of statism, and a particular expression of public religion animated by transnational solidarities. The institutional and religious contours of this history are relevant to consider at a time when Canada’s private sponsorship program is internationally celebrated with a view to promoting policy diffusion.

Shauna Labman, University of Manitoba, Faculty of Law

The Export Experiment: Globalizing Private Sponsorship

After over a decade of pilot programs, shifting numbers, narrowed criteria, submission caps and the introduction of a new blended sponsorship model, the change in federal Canadian government in 2015 came with a strong promise of resettlement, both governmental and private. Filipo Grandi, UN High Commissioner for Refugees declared that “Canada has taken the mantle of humanitarian leadership in the world” as talk grew of private sponsorship as a response to the asylum crisis in Europe. In September 2016, in partnership with the UNHCR, and the Open Society Foundations, Canada announced a joint initiative aimed at increasing the private sponsorship of refugees around the world. Whereas in the past the Canadian government turned to private sponsorship as evidence as its own humanitarianism at home, the new government embraced not just the numbers but the resettlement model itself on a global stage. But private sponsorship sits it the particular context of Canadian history and geography nor has it been without challenges. This article anchors its concerns in these challenges and the relationship between resettlement and asylum. Canada embraced resettlement because geography meant it was not a country of first asylum. New state interest
results conversely from the reality of an influx of asylum seekers. Concerns with the privatization of state responsibility and the power of selection that resettlement offers over uncontrolled asylum raises questions over who will benefit from additional sponsorship places and who will face increased obstacles to access.

Roundtable: Taking stock of the 2015-2016 refugee migration towards Europe: what future for protection, belonging and citizenship?

Danièle Bélanger, Université Laval; Celine Cantat, Central European University; Danica Santic, University of Belgrade; Katherine Pendakis, King’s College; Gunnar Stange, University of Vienna

The 2015-2016 migration from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea and other South Asian and African countries has drawn enormous media and political attention. Migrants seeking protection travelled through various routes, taking risks and facing tremendous precarity and uncertainty. Over two years after the closure of borders, participants of this roundtable will discuss issues of protection, belonging and citizenship.

Participants of this panel will go beyond 2015-16 binary vision of this migration that tends to predominate. Initial openings of borders coupled with citizen-led humanitarian and solidarity work led to hopes for new forms of political community based on new imaginings of borders. But by early 2016 it became clear that the response of EU states was much more traditional. Borders were closed, and the problem externalised, amidst culturalist and securitised discourses. One of the consequences of post 2015/16 refugee movements has been a general agreement, even amongst liberal parties, that refugee protection, when granted, should be limited. ‘Refuge’ and ‘migration’ are seen as two different things and categories of ‘refugees’ and ‘economic migrants’ reinforced. In Europe and many other countries of the world, people recognised as refugees are given short-term permits to stay, with the expectation of return. The expectation that refugees can or should plan long-term residency and citizenship in host countries has been watered down by the growth of subsidiary protection rather than full fledged refugee protection. There however continues to be attempts at crafting solidarity and images of new political communities by grassroots and other groups. In this context, how can we map or respond to the call for new forms of political community amidst a securitising and externalising discourse and politics in Europe? Speakers of this roundtable will provide questions and illustrations to spark discussion among the participants about this question. Examples from a few countries will brought forward.

The objective of this roundtable is to launch an open discussion with the conference participants about the 2015-2016 refugee movement, in the midst of the current devastating situation for refugees, many of whom, are stuck, waiting and silenced. It is an opportunity to discuss how to mobilize our research findings to further the debate and restate the legitimacy of the need for protection and long-term solutions.

Panel: Citizen Mobilization and New Solidarities Opposing European and US Restrictionism

This panel examines new forms of citizen political action through voluntarist and solidarity
work with refugees that challenges increasingly restrictionist and nationalist policies in Europe and the United States. The papers are based on ethnographic and qualitative research examining how citizen activists and volunteers have become increasingly important actors in emerging forms of “new humanitarianism.” The presenters examine the prospects and limits of their involvement in the privatization of aid and protection in Greece, the Austrian/Italian border, and the United States. Papers address voluntarism and refugee resettlement in the United States as a mode of political resistance to racist and xenophobic policies; the role that grass-roots initiatives in Greece play in supporting refugees and asylum-seekers; and how volunteer groups and grassroots organizations participate in border monitoring in Italy and Austria as a form of “humanitarian citizenship.” The papers underscore that citizen mobilization has created new spaces for democratic deliberation on the rights of forced migrants, but in the absence of wider organizing such efforts are not likely to transform fragmented governmental and intergovernmental responses to large-scale migration.

Scott Harding, Grace Felten, and Kathryn Libal, University of Connecticut

“Doing Something to Fight Injustice”: Voluntarism and Refugee Resettlement as a Mode of Political Engagement

While the protection of refugees is fundamental to international human rights law, rising xenophobia and nationalism in Europe and the United States have undermined historic commitments to refugees and immigrants. The U.S. government has historically touted its generosity and support for refugees, claiming that the program reflects “the United States’ highest values and aspirations to compassion, generosity and leadership” (U.S. Department of State, Refugee Admissions, 2017). This humanitarian framing is in sharp contrast to the restrictionist rhetoric from President Trump and recent policies seeking to radically curtail or end refugee admissions.

In this context, community mobilization in support of the U.S. refugee resettlement program has become more visible and vocal. Based on qualitative interviews and field observation in Connecticut and other states, this paper underscores how citizen mobilization and engagement in communities hosting refugees has led to new forms of lateral organizing across geographic locales. In the past community “co-sponsorship” or other voluntarist approaches to refugee resettlement have been critiqued for neoliberal underpinnings. Yet in this political moment such efforts have become part of a broader movement to challenge policies that exclude those fleeing violence and persecution. While citizen-refugee solidarity action in the United States often remains undeveloped, our research reveals how refugee resettlement is understood by community members as both “humanitarian” in nature and as a political act of resistance.

We discuss the efficacy of horizontal, municipal-level responses to support refugees and migrants as a strategy to combat fragmentary national approaches and exclusionary policies.

Elisabeth Kirtsoglou, Durham University

Producing ‘the refugee’ in the land of hospitality: Experiences from 2015-2016 Greece

In 2015-2016, more than one million asylum-seekers crossed the Aegean Sea from Turkey to Greece. The Greek state—in the midst of financial meltdown—was unprepared to deal with the number of arrivals. And international NGOs struggled to coordinate ‘humanitarian’ efforts. This paper focuses on the provision of housing, sustenance, healthcare and legal services to asylum-seekers in which relations between EU, state and non-state actors resulted in a markedly
uneven and asymmetrical landscape and violations of asylum seekers’ human and legal rights. Based on ethnographic data collected as part of an ESRC/DFID-funded project, the paper discusses how the quality of asylum seekers’ accommodation varied considerably and depended heavily on socio-historical, demographic and local-political aspects. The hierarchical and asymmetrical character of service provision will be analyzed against two major factors that played a crucial role in 2015-2016: First, the tendency of the state to ‘outsource’ most services to the third sector, volunteers and the local communities; second, the importance of a local ethos of solidarity underpinned by historical memories of being a refugee from Asia Minor (stemming from the 1919-22 Greco-Turkish war), and by culturally-specific cosmologies of what constitutes ‘giving’ and ‘receiving’. Ethnographic dialogues with refugees, state representatives, NGO actors, volunteers and members of Greek communities reveal the inefficiency of top-down ‘reception systems’ that disregarded the needs and aspirations of asylum seekers. The paper provides examples of grass-roots initiatives that were more effective and symmetrical than larger-scale efforts, calling for radical changes in the current ‘humanitarian care’ paradigm of asylum-seekers in Europe.

Marciana Popescu & Katharina Ehikioya-Lang

From border control to border monitoring: Shifting responsibilities between state and civil actors, as a path to safe migration

The political discourse on migration increasingly shifted towards securitization, with border control becoming the most important regulatory mechanism attempting to “manage” and limit human mobility. During the most recent migration wave into the European space, and due to the inability of state actors to properly respond, border control expanded and maximized. Externalization of borders and the expansion of clearly set the tone for a more restrictive, more state-controlled migration policy throughout Europe.

FRONTEX reports claim great effectiveness, visible in the immediate drop in numbers of migrants accessing Europe by Sea, both through Greece (the Balkan route, heavily controlled and mostly closed in 2016), and Italy (the Italian route, controlled by the Dublin III Agreement and bilateral agreements between Italy and Libya, for example). Yet, the more the state agents pushed for restrictive migration policies, closing borders, the more the civil actors engaged in creating a countermovement. Possibly one of the best examples of such engagement is reflected by the border monitoring efforts first at the border between Italy and Austria, and soon expanded to in-country efforts in Italy (the Verona-Trento-Bolzano migration route). Using a qualitative methodology, this study will present findings from participatory observation of border monitoring as well as interviews with volunteer groups and grassroots organizations involved in the border monitoring project in Verona, Trento and Bolzano, particularly focusing on factors contributing to civic engagement, and the impact of civic engagement on existing migration policies, at core implementation points.

Panel: Syrian refugees and the labour market in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey

With an influx of nearly five million Syrian refugees in just a few years, Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon shoulder the largest burden of the humanitarian crisis provoked by the conflict in Syria. Research to date has focused on refugees’ precarious living conditions, in part because of their ambiguous legal status and limited social rights. This panel shifts the gaze to labour markets. Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon have put in place policies aimed at regulating and/or
limiting labour rights and labour incorporation. Many other actors also intervene in labour market processes, including employers, international organisations, NGOs, municipal governments, civil society organisations and refugee solidarity networks. Presenters of this panel will unravel the dynamics at work in these three countries where refugees form a new contingent of cheap and vulnerable labour. The papers reveal how labour is a particularly illuminating vantage point to shed light on the management of refugee populations as well as the experiences of refugees in the region.

Katharina Lenner, University of Bath and Lewis Turner, Arnold Bergstraesser Institute

The politics of labor market integration for Syrian refugees in Jordan

Refugee response planners no longer frame Syrian refugees merely as objects of humanitarian care. They are increasingly portrayed as enterprising subjects, whose formal integration into labor markets can simultaneously create self-sufficient actors and cure the economic woes of host countries. But bringing together humanitarian and economic agendas is not an easy task. This article analyzes the contradictions and frictions that have emerged in the process of implementing the Jordan Compact - a political commitment to formally integrate Syrian refugees into the Jordanian labor market, which is supposed to showcase such win-win strategies. It argues that the Compact should be seen as a policy model, which has achieved enough consensus, and incorporated enough disparate objectives, to be labelled a ‘policy success.’ Yet central actors have neglected core features of Jordan’s political economy and labor market, and/or the lives and survival strategies of refugees, such that their radical blueprints of transformation have been disrupted. Despite the widespread commitment to the scheme, it is thus unlikely that the Jordan Compact will both reinvigorate the Jordanian economy and offer Syrians the prospect of a dignified, self-sufficient life - an important lesson for comparable schemes being rolled out across the globe.

Lama Kabbanji, IRD/CEPED

“Refugee” workers from Syria in Lebanon : Between agency and downward social mobility

This research investigates some aspects of the changing living and employment conditions of Syrians in Lebanon after 2011. To do so, I rely mainly on an ethnographic fieldwork that I conducted between May and November 2017 in the Lebanese coastal city of Tyr. The research focused on one of the restaurants along the sea where all the employees came from Syria after 2011. None of them had ever worked in Lebanon before. Participant observation, informal and formal interviews with the owner and the employees were conducted throughout the season. Audio-visual material has also been collected and allows to observe more subtly work interactions, power dynamics, and the lived experience of downward social mobility. Among the questions tackled: How did the changing Lebanese legal and political framework affect their living and working conditions? How did the war in Syria contribute to change the profile of “refugee” workers? How do these workers perceive themselves and their working/living conditions in Lebanon? The study of these “refugee” workers journeys, life stories and discourse will be mobilized to show how, despite a media, political and humanitarian discourse aiming at making Syrian refugees only poor “victims”, their agency remains complex: different considerations and desires are guiding their choices and destinations, despite the policies put in place to control them.

Danièle Bélanger, Université Laval and Cenk Saraçoğlu, Ankara University
Who regulates Syrian refugees’ incorporation to the Turkish labour market? Insights from the city of Izmir, Turkey

The inflow of over three million Syrian refugees into Turkey in the last five years has meant that the Turkish labour market has benefited from a large influx of cheap and vulnerable labour. In the absence of a well-planned strategy, labour market incorporation of refugees have been largely shaped by conflicting practices and perspectives of various actors that implicitly or explicitly take part in the process of “governing” them. Among these actors are market forces (i.e companies, small capital owners and entrepreneurs), state institutions, municipalities, international and domestic non-governmental organizations and city-based citizens' solidarity networks. This paper unpacks contentions among these actors and argues that discourses and policies of the Turkish state, the humanitarian “universalist” framework of international organizations and the altruistic agenda of city-based activists remain ineffective in moulding labour market dynamics and working conditions of Syrian refugees because market actors dominate other actors and their agendas. Because other actors have no significant effect on shaping labour processes, labour incorporation of refugees have been shaped to a certain extent by “unregulated” labour process on the one hand and the contending practices of various actors, which attempt to “regulate” the consequences of these work relations on the other. The paper develop this analysis based on an ethnographic study carried out in Izmir, Turkey in 2016 and 2017. Our argument emerges from our first-hand fieldwork with various actors on labour relations in the textile, shoe and agricultural industries.

Ismail Doga Karatepe, Kasel University

Syrian Refugees and Turkey’s Labour Market: The State and Capital Perspective

The main argument of this paper highlights that the business communities’ strategies concerning Syrian refugees’ integration to the Turkey’s formal labour market are relatively insignificant in fashioning the policy field. It is quite unusual considering that the business community has been historically regarded as the most important domestic stakeholder in moulding labour market regulations. My aim here in this paper is bringing the critical political economy, more specifically cultural political economy into the very centre of the analysis of the integration of Syrian refugee to the labour market. The entrance of hundreds of thousands of Syrians into the Turkey’s labour market has drastic impacts, given the fact that half of the Syrian refugees in Turkey are of working age and their hope to return Syria has already withered away. The massive influx has flourished new visions-cum-concrete strategies concerning the integration of Syrian refugees to the formal labour market. Against this backdrop, this research raises the question of why the strategies offered by business community are de facto inapplicable. The strategies of business community in question will be analysed by revealing relevant agency (A), structure (S), institutions (I) and discourses (D) – or put in other words, ASID framework, which considers the developments of agency-, structure-, institution- and discourse-relevant factors in a specific spatio-temporal context. This study draws on the primary and secondary data sources, including expert interviews, official bulletins, official gazette, newspaper reports and statistics.

Refugees and Turkey

Dolunay Ugur, Yale University
Politics of Transnational Humanitarianism: Humanitarian Aid Organizations Assisting Syrian Refugees in Southeastern Turkey

Turkey, as the top host country for Syrian refugees, also hosts dozens of international and local (Turkish and Syrian) NGOs assisting them, mostly in southeastern Turkey. However, Syrian refugees are not the only population who have been suffering in the region. The region, where Kurdish people constitute the predominant ethnic group, has recently witnessed state violence, curfews, civilian deaths, human rights violations, and hundreds of thousands internally displaced persons (IDPs) since the June 2015 general election. The co-existence of historically ‘less-than-citizen’ Kurdish IDPs and relatively recently ‘less-than-human’ Syrian refugees in the same region constitutes the ideal setting to explore the complex dynamics of transnational humanitarianism with politics, law, and morality, more specifically with nation states, international law, and humanitarian ethics. In the presence of these complicated dynamics and two “possible” beneficiaries of the humanitarian aid in the region, namely Syrian refugees and Kurdish IDPs, this paper analyzes the humanitarian claim of impartiality in determining who can be the “subject” of its assistance. The in-depth semi-structured and open-ended interviews with 20 humanitarian workers from 15 different organizations reveal that this morally and legally driven international assistance intersects with national and international politics in various ways. The research shows that humanitarian assistance cannot be given to the conflict induced IDPs in an authoritarian nation-state, like Turkey, if there is a prevalent fear among NGOs about being dismissed from the country where they operate. The paper argues that the realization of the humanitarian principle of impartiality in such conditions is strictly restricted by the national politics.

Rana B. Khoury, Northwestern University

Aiding Activism? Humanitarianism’s Impacts on Syrian Activists in Turkey

A common narrative of the Syrian conflict suggests that it began with a grassroots uprising and devolved into a violent war between armed actors, leaving civilians to become victims or warriors. A more careful consideration of developments in and around Syria uncovers evidence of continued unarmed mobilization among civilians. Indeed, refugees in neighboring countries like Turkey are deeply engaged in humanitarian, developmental, and political endeavors. This study seeks to demonstrate that Syrians in Turkey have engaged in abundant activism—non-routine or unconventional behavior on behalf of a cause. Still, the overwhelming militarism and humanitarianism that have characterized the Syrian crisis have had their impacts: activist organization is constricted and configured by security imperatives and, paradoxically, by the aid regime assisting civilians in the conflict. This paper contends that external assistance activates causal processes that transform the nature of activism. Among Syrians in Turkey, activism has evolved from contentious grassroots mobilization to an extensive but formal and uncontentious response to a humanitarian crisis. Fore-fronting the idea of war as a social condition, rather than merely a series of violent events, this study builds on scholarship on civilians, including refugees, and external actors in civil war, new humanitarianism, and contentious politics.

Panel: Cities for whom? Exploring urban issues and forced migration with innovative and participatory methods

Franziska Werner, Bauhaus-University Weimar, Urban Studies & Social Research, Co-Panel-Organizer: Anna Marie Steigemann
More than half of the global population lives in cities today. Therefore, the relevant questions are whom does the city belong to? How and to which extend can urban dweller be part of the city? The neoliberal structure of cities creates a competition for space and access to infrastructure depending on the inhabitants’ resources. It is even harder for forced migrants and asylum seekers to find their own ways as newcomers into these cities as their legal status is often uncertain and they therefore face constraints regarding access to proper accommodation, labor market or education. Since many governments continuously fail to address the so-called refugee crisis, civil society steps into the void on a local level and carries the burden to integrate and provide for the needs of forced migrants. They make use of public spaces as meeting points, which are less regulated locations that can be places for exchange, protest or other possibilities. However, in the neoliberal world nowadays even these locations are not free of control and privatization.

The links and relations between the city/urban spaces and the daily life of forced migrants and refugees will be the first focus of this panel. This as well can include works about refugee camps becoming city-like infrastructures over time. Secondly we would like to discuss new, innovative and participatory methods to explore these urban issues regarding forced migration. Relevant questions for us are:

What is the role of civil society in integrating forced migrants into the urban life? How can citizens use space within the city for civil engagement when it comes to supporting refugees? Which consequences does the neoliberal city have for the daily life of forced migrants and refugees and their use of space? To what extend are refugees able to constitute and participate in urban spaces? What methodology is adequate for researching spatial aspects of forced migration and how can research empower civil society and refugees by using participatory research methods?

Christian Sowa, SOAS, University of London

The Camp, Civil Society and the Right to the City

The paper explores the city by looking at refugee camps in Berlin. Framed around the Lefebvrian concept of the Right to the City, a main question is: who has the Right to the City? Related to this, two arguments can be made: first, camp-spaces exclude people from this right, from participating in urban life. But despite these exclusions, the paper also points to dynamics in which new (public) spaces are created and a Right to the City is reclaimed by focusing on the everyday life of refugees as well as on activism and protests. Hence, refugee-led processes are highlighted, rather than classical NGOs and volunteer-networks. This points to a discussion about the concept of civil society. It is argued that by reclaiming the Right to the City, by creating public spaces, a new vision of civil society is established.

In a second part, the paper will discuss ways to approach those questions methodologically. It is argued that a spatial view on the issue of camps, forced migration and the city is crucial. Based on spatial- qualitative research, issues of the city and society itself can be addressed. Furthermore, the question will be raised how research can solidarize with refugee struggles. Here, the paper critically engages with aspects of participatory research methods: How can research generate knowledge that at the same time support struggles? What power-dynamics are simultaneously reproduced in this research situation and how can they be faced?

Anna Marie Steigemann & Philipp Misselwitz, Chair of International Urbanism and...
Design/ Habitat Unit at TU Berlin

Spaces of belonging in architectures of asylum? Urban refugees’ agency in the production of space in Berlin, Germany and Zaatari, Jordan

Combining research methods from architectural and social sciences and combining the two into new hybrid methods that also include refugees stronger into the research and knowledge production process, the paper investigates physical, material, social, and symbolic appropriation processes by Syrian refugees currently housed in humanitarian settings in Jordan and Germany. We ask: What spatial knowledge is mobilized at the place of asylum? How does this knowledge hybrizide practices of the place of origin, experiences made during the escape, as well as during and after the arriving and uncertain period of stay at an unfamiliar place of asylum? How do spatial appropriation processes collide with humanitarian logics and technocratic emergency management approaches at the place of asylum?

We argue that arriving refugees mobilize “urban knowledge” at the place of asylum which can only be understood as a re-figuration process, which is equally at work in the case of other migrants, migration and translocal processes. The main focus is on the ways in which refugees perceive, adapt to, appropriate, and alter their new urban environments physically and socially and of how they thereby draw on existing and evolving stocks of urban and spatial knowledge, urban experiences, and relationships in so-called emergency accommodations in Berlin and the more urbanized refugee camp Zaatari in Jordan.

Through the direct inclusion of urban refugees in this study, we thus aim to explain how migration transforms urban space physically and socially and how planning and the social and technical infrastructures affect migrants’ mobility – socially and spatially.

Informal panel: The Politics and Practice of Forced Migration Research Methods, A Conversation

Anita Fábos, Clark University; Cathrine Brun, Oxford Brookes University; Charles Simpson, Tufts University; Nassim Majidi, Samuel Hall. Facilitators: Adam Saltsman, Worcester State University and Karen Jacobsen, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University

In this panel, we recognize the methodological tension facing researchers working with forced migrants: between a donor-driven desire for evidence-based research in humanitarian settings, on the one hand, and, on the other, an increasing awareness that the power imbalance of such methodological approaches between expert researchers and local collaborators and participants can have negative consequences for all involved. Responding to this, we explore the challenges faced by academic and practitioner researchers in working with displaced populations, and provide methodological insights for how researchers can address these difficulties. Our conversation interrogates our methodological standpoints asking how we have addressed dilemmas that arise in the field, and where we should go from here. We draw on our collective field experience as researchers from different social science disciplines working in different field and organizational contexts, often in close collaboration with forcibly displaced people themselves.

Rather than a formal panel, we aim to structure this as a conversation. Adam Saltsman and Karen Jacobsen will be facilitators, and participants will include:

- Anita Fábos
Abstracts

Cathrine Brun
Charles Simpson
Nassim Majidi

Specific themes that will be covered include:

- The challenge of collaboration: dealing with power and privilege
- The problem of timeliness: regarding the balance between conducting “good” research and the timeliness of the final report is often difficult to strike.
- Tensions regarding ideas of validity: exploring what makes research relevant and authentic to participants, versus that which counts as “evidence” for policy makers and donors.
- Over-researched environments: Navigating how to be an ethical researcher in humanitarian contexts that are “over-researched”

Panel: Feminist Researchers Against Borders: Reframing Debates on Mobility, "Refugees," and "Crisis" – Part 1

Note: This session will include the launch of a special issue of Refuge: Canada's Journal on Refugees, "Intersectional Feminist Interventions in the 'Refugee Crisis'".

Anna Carastathis, Independent Researcher, Athens

Intersectional Feminist Interventions in the 'Refugee Crisis'

This panel features papers included in the special issue of Refuge: Canada's Journal on Refugees, to be launched at the IASFM conference. “Intersectional Feminist Interventions in the 'Refugee Crisis'” was edited by Anna Carastathis, Natalie Kouri-Towe, Gada Mahrouse, and Leila Whitley, co-founders of the network Feminist Researchers Against Borders. I will introduce our framing questions and motivations for assembling the special issue, which departs from the observation that, with a few notable exceptions, scholarly attention to the declared global “refugee crisis” has not taken into account how it is constituted by the intersecting dynamics of gendered, racialised, class-, age-, religion-, and sexuality-based forms of oppression, discrimination, violence, and subjugation. In this special issue, comprised of articles developed through the inaugural meetings of the Feminist Researchers Against Borders network (last summer), contributors work to bridge this gap, offering feminist, intersectionally-informed interventions in discourses of "crisis." Our starting point is an intersectional framework and a no-borders feminist activist orientation for resisting capitalism, war, racism, and reproductive heteronormativity, and militarised nation-state borders.

Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez, Justus-Liebig University, Giessen

On ‘The Refugee Crisis,’ Coloniality and Racism

As the political debate on "the refugee crisis" makes evident, the right to asylum is not always negotiated on the grounds of political persecution or other forms of persecution due to religion, gender or sexuality. Rather, as an object of governance “asylum” represents a field of heated and controversial negotiations, subject to political and economic conjunctures. Within this context “the refugee crisis” articulates the
Seçil Dağtaş, University of Waterloo

Hospitality Across Religion and Gender: Displaced Women’s Experiences Along the Turkish-Syrian Border

Since 2011, over 3 million Syrians have sought protection in Turkey, making Turkey the country with the highest number of refugees in the world today. This paper draws on fieldwork in Turkey's border province, Hatay, which currently hosts over 400,000 Syrians in its towns and villages and about 20,000 in five refugee camps. I examine the everyday forms of religious kinship and the gendered practices of hospitality paying a particular attention to the experiences and narratives of Syrian women. Building on but also transcending the ethnic, religious, and national identities, these hospitality practices call into question the authority of the nation-state and international regimes in defining the “refugee” as bounded in space by the inviolability of naturalized borders. They reveal that what it means to be a “refugee” in a given context is determined less by universally defined politico-legal frameworks than by historically produced and culturally informed understandings of gender and religious difference in that context. These understandings, furthermore, derive significant insight from women’s labour and everyday networks at the local level, which often go unnoticed or are dismissed as trivial in public debates. Rather than the graphic and victimizing stories of sexual and gender-based violence under Muslim rule as highlighted in popular discourses, cross-boundary relations across religion and gender in Hatay call for a political language that decenters both Western imaginations of the “refugee” and territorially bounded categories of citizenship.

Aila Spathopoulou, King's College University

Crisis, what crisis? Immigrants, Refugees, and Invisible Struggles

Co-authored by Anna Carastathis, Myrto Tsilimpounidi, and Aila Spathopoulou. Different evocations of “crisis” create distinct categories that in turn evoke certain social reactions. Post-2008, Greece became the epicentre of the “financial crisis”; simultaneously, since 2015 with the advent of the “refugee crisis,” it became the “hotspot of Europe.” What are the different vocabularies of crisis? Moreover, how have both representations of crisis facilitated humanitarian crises to become phenomena for European and transnational institutional management? What are the hegemonically constructed subjects of the different crises? The everyday reality in the crisis-ridden hotspot of Europe is invisible in these representations. It is precisely the daily, soft, lived, and unspoken realities of intersecting crises that hegemonic discourses of successive, overlapping, or “nesting crises” render invisible. By shifting the focus from who belongs to which state-devised category to an open-ended, polyvocal account of capitalist oppressions, we aim to question the state’s and supranational efforts to divide the “migrant mob” into discrete juridical categories of citizens (emigrants), refugees, and illegal immigrants, thereby undermining coalitional struggles between precaritised groups.
Panel: Feminist Researchers Against Borders: Reframing Debates on Mobility, "Refugees," and "Crisis" – Part 2

This panel offers a politically and theoretically engaged reconsideration of some of the central terms organizing contemporary framings of relationships within and across borders: "migration," "refugees," and "crisis". Contributors to the emerging network, Feminist Researchers Against Borders, panelists offer new conceptual and strategic modes adequate to responding to the ongoing "refugee crisis" in historical and geographical context. Papers engage the framing of refugees as vermin - waste, numbers, and threats to the home - to examine the normalization of 'domopolitics;' the discursive practices of "anti-trafficking" as relying on nation-state logics of restrictions on mobility in the name of protectionism; the development of research methodologies that lead to queer coalitions between LGBTQI+ refugees, migrants and activists; and how the private sponsorship of LGBTQ "refugees" might strategically produce spaces beyond humanitarian and nation-state logics. All of our papers are critical of the territorializing logics of the nation-state and the controls over mobility that serve as alibis for global capitalism.

Bridget Anderson, University of Bristol;

In 2015 more than one million people entered the European Union, many fleeing wars in the Middle East. In the UK there was a strand of hostile media coverage that represented migrants as vermin or insects. This paper will examine this representation and its context, and argue that associations related to vermin – waste, numbers and threats to the home – provide useful insights into the anxieties underpinning negative responses to asylum seekers and to the prevalence of 'domopolitics.' Analysing these representations offers insights into the kinds of political questions that must be tackled in struggling for new ways to respond to and think about refugees attempting to enter Europe.

Nandita Sharma, University of Hawaii at Manoa

From Forced Migration to Forced Immobility: The Ideology of Immigration Controls as Protection

I discuss two 1835 Mauritius Ordinances which were the first British imperial regulations restricting the movement of co-British subjects into the shared space of the Empire. These ordinances marked the beginning of the end of the regime of unrestricted migration within the British Empire and presaged today’s world of immigration controls. Passed shortly after Britain’s Slavery Abolition Act of 1833, these restrictions were enacted over anxieties about freedom and slavery - and over challenges to their legitimacy. London was worried that the newly organized “coolie” labour system would be perceived as slavery, as it was by the slavery abolition movement. Both the labour contract of indenture as well as migration controls resolved these seemingly opposing sets of concerns. Unfree, indentured workers would have their mobility further restricted by both contracts and by the mobility controls of colonial administrators. Today’s largely uncontested nation-state logic of ever-more restrictive constraints on human mobility is central to the discursive practices of “human trafficking” aimed at ending so-called modern-day slavery. I argue that the contemporary discourse of “anti-trafficking” relies on many of the same tropes – and concerns – that viewed “coolie” labour as free and viewed state restrictions on human mobility and labour contracts as a form of “protection” for workers on the move.

Myrto Tsilimpounidi, Marie Curie Fellow at the Institute for Sociology of the Slovak
Academy of Sciences

Facing Crisis: Queer Representations Against the Backdrop of Athens

Co-authored by Myrto Tsilimpounidi and Anna Carastathis. In this presentation, we will reflect on our ‘Facing Crisis’ photography workshop, held in Athens (Greece) in July 2017 in collaboration with LGBTQI+ refugees, migrants, and local activists. The aim of the workshops was to engage people in collective acts of self-representation through portraiture—people who have been rendered entirely invisible in hegemonic, heteronormative discourses of the ‘refugee crisis’ in Greece, Europe, and globally, because their lives, desires, and embodiments do not fit the narrative of the ‘deserving refugee,’ understood in terms of what Gayatri Spivak has called “reproductive heteronormativity: “the para-reasonable assumption that producing children by male-female coupling gives meaning to any life,” “the oldest, biggest sustaining institution in the world, a tacit globaliser” that reproduces itself through “war and rape.” Our participants are survivors of war and gendered violence, in their intersecting manifestations, understood not as ‘exceptional’ crises, but as the systemic underpinnings of global capitalism. Rather than simply offering a counter-narrative of ‘inclusion’ to hegemonic and activist responses to the multiple, overlapping, declared and undeclared crises that converge in the urban space of Athens, the workshops intervene in embodied ways in the ways that such responses reproduce representational violence in rendering certain subject positions unthinkable, untranslatable, and, ultimately, unlivable. They are motivated by a desire for what Cathy Cohen has termed ‘queer coalitions;’ for living and working together across and against axes of power and lines of belonging constituting a bordered reality, which criminalises movements across space that contest the nation-state system.

Melissa Autumn White, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

 Stranger Intimacies: Private LGBTQ+ Refugee Sponsorship Beyond Humanitarianism and State Logics?

Although private refugee sponsorship has been possible since the late 1970s in Canada, it has recently become a key resettlement technology in the context of the Syrian "refugee crisis," and, on a much smaller scale, for those seeking asylum on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity and expression. The growing reliance on private sponsors to provide the "gift of mobility" calls for rethinking of the relationships between state and non-state actors, identity and geopolitics, emotion and bureaucracy, as these intersect to reproduce and subvert the territorialized/territorializing logics of global capitalism. With a focus on the Rainbow Refugee Assistance Program, this paper offers some speculations on how private sponsorships may facilitate the emergence of "stranger intimacies" that could be strategically positioned to undermine the state's primacy in the governance of mobility.

Panel: Exploring possibilities of solidarity and challenges to humanitarianism – In response to the Mediterranean refugee and migration crisis – Part 1

Discussant: Jennifer Hyndman, York University

Since the beginning of Europe’s so-called refugee crisis, two discourses have shaped public responses to the arrival of people to Europe from conflict-ridden countries. The securitisation discourse appeals to the need to ‘defend’ the economic and cultural security of the community, whereas the humanitarian discourse tends to stress the suffering of refugees and emphasises
the cultural and economic benefits the newly-arrived would bring to the community.

The aim of this panel is to explore the possibilities and limitations of the humanitarian discourse. We do this by discussing the practical forms of solidarity and resilience that have emerged since the ‘refugee crisis’. We ask: what forms of solidarity and activism have emerged during the Mediterranean refugee crisis? What kinds of challenges solidarity movements have faced? In what way have they countered, if at all, the securitisation of migration? The panel examines these questions from the perspectives of community, political agency, and citizenship.

The panel includes activists, activist scholars, and refugee activists and draws on examples of solidarity from the Mediterranean region, the Middle East and different parts of Europe. Among the country cases addressed are Jordan, Turkey, Greece, Italy, Hungary, France, UK, and Finland. The panel is divided into two parts. The first part of the panel focuses on different examples of solidarity activism. Drawing on these examples, the second part of the panel explores how they address changing concepts of community, political agency, and citizenship.

**Anitta Kynsilehto, University of Tampere / EMHRM**

*In defence of resilience: On the ways to support solidarity actors in mobile contexts*

Undocumented mobilities are perceived as a problem by established society yet many struggle to get any access to a regularized status. Many individuals, neighbourhood groups, networks and associations engage with these mobile people in order to provide everyday assistance, information, and human contacts, meanwhile seeking to keep the relation as egalitarian as possible. Drawing on multi-sited ethnographic research in several European countries and around the Mediterranean Sea, and the author’s involvement in various networks, I call these people ‘solidarity actors.’ Often the commitment transcends the boundaries of organizational limits, and many work in a voluntary, sometimes ad hoc manner, as has been manifested across Europe in 2015 and onwards, even if this type of engagement is nothing new.

Solidarity action is indispensable and personally rewarding, but simultaneously very tiresome and emotionally consuming due to the global political context that does not promise for an end to an increasing need for engagement. Some organisations have begun to pay attention to the well-being of their employees and voluntary workers in order to avoid burn-out and drop-out. However, this is not the case for all organisations, and for more informal groups and engaged individuals this type of support depends on resources one may have via other relational networks, and on the ways in which such issues are recognized as pertinent. At the same time, critiques assess the very idea of resilience as an integral part of the neoliberal order. How to recapture this notion, informed by the critiques but not remaining bound by them?

**Céline Cantat, Central European University**

*Migration Solidarity and Acts of Citizenship Along the Balkan Route*

The so-called Balkan route recently emerged as a crucial passageway towards western and northern Europe for hundreds of thousands of refugees and as an imagined geography highlighting the boundaries of “Europe”. Along the route, refugees move in and out of the European Union (EU), entering “Europe” through Greece then leaving via Macedonia and Serbia, before re-entering in Hungary or Croatia. Refugee movements provide a powerful standpoint from which to observe the territorial and symbolic geography of the EU and to
question the separation that has been produced between Europe’s imagined “inside” and “outside”, and between European citizens and non-citizens.

Refugee mobilities have been met by calls to reinforce and secure Europe’s borders but also by countless instances of solidarity by groups of citizens, activists and refugees themselves. What implications do these solidarities have for our understanding of political communities and political participation, and how do they challenge ideas of Europe and European citizenship?

In this paper, based on ethnographic research conducted in Greece, Serbia and Hungary, I explore these urgent questions by examining refugee movements and solidarity initiatives with refugees, and assessing their implication for formal understandings of rights, belonging and citizenship. By mobilising ethnographic methods that pay careful attention to the nuances of solidarity practices and discourses in both EU and non-EU sites, this paper aims to contribute to rethinking citizenship in contemporary Europe through a crosslocal exploration of issues of mobility, mobilisation, identity and belonging.

Marianna Karakoulaki, E-International Relations

No Borders against Border Violence

Summer 2015: The refugee crisis reaches its peak. Thousands of people are reaching Greece’s shores while moving towards the country’s northern borders. A humanitarian crisis is looming. An open-door policy, initially followed by Germany, is met by barbed-wire fences around Europe. As European states raise visible and invisible walls, people fleeing their homelands are met with violent responses and brutal security measures by state actors. As a response to the securitisation of the refugee crisis social movements around Europe and Greece step up to replace the violence created by structured borders with solidarity.

Drawing from interviews with social movements and members of the No Borders network in Greece as well as social media analysis this presentation looks at the role of social movements during the refugee crisis. How have self-organised groups managed to take a leading role in the refugee crisis? How did they fight the violence of the borders and the state? What does it mean to stand in solidarity with refugees?

This presentation suggests that self-organised networks of solidarity played, and continue to play, a crucial role from the early days of the refugee crisis by replacing the absent state, while combatting the violence created by borders with solidarity.

Reiko Shindo, Coventry University

Exploring the link between violence and foreignness: Toward the gothic approach to community

Since the refugee ‘crisis’ began in Europe, there have been a number of violent incidents perpetrated by immigrant refugees. While the securitisation discourse translates immigrant-refugee-involved violence into the language of fear, the humanitarian discourse struggles to speak about such violence. Because foreignness is framed as a welcoming change to the ‘host’ community in the humanitarian discourse, it tends to detach the image of violence from immigrant refugees. This paper asks: why, to begin with, is it difficult to ‘talk more frankly, yet not less responsibly’ (Bitter 2016) about violence in relation to foreignness within the humanitarian discourse? How can we talk about violent incidents involving immigrant refugees without using the language of fear? These questions will be explored with a focus on the idea of community. Drawing on the literature on home, the paper examines two leading
humanitarian campaigns developed in the UK during the Mediterranean migration and refugee crisis: the refugees welcome campaign, and the ’I Am A Refugee’ campaign.

Panel: Exploring possibilities of solidarity and challenges to humanitarianism – In response to the Mediterranean refugee and migration crisis – Part 2
Discussant: Eeva Puumala, University of Tampere

Imran Adan, Free Movement Finland; Eeva Puumala, University of Tampere
*Enacted community: Solidarity and participation seen through activist work*

How do people in their everyday lives and actions envision and enact ways of living together and reconciling differences? The question has become ever more pertinent since the so called refugee crisis in 2015. This presentation framed in the form of a dialogue will explore ways and possibilities of overcoming prejudices and suspicion that exist both among migrants and local populations. Questions of solidarity and participation are approached empirically through Imran Adan’s short film on overcoming barriers to communication and peaceful community relations as well as his activist work in Finland.

In their dialogue, Adan and Puumala explore the ways in which a sense of participation develops and how communities are enacted in people’s lives. The discussion sheds light on the multiplicity of social bonds, networks and various institutions that shape people’s perceptions of their possibilities and positionality within the society. It challenges static ways of envisioning communities and belongings and calls for more nuanced and grounded ways of promoting the integration of newly arrived migrants in Finland.

Jonathan Darling, University of Manchester
*Solidarity, vulnerability, and the labour of refugee activism*

Considering responses to refugee mobility in the UK, a focus on the practice of care for refugees, has centred on the effects of displacement and the vulnerabilities this exposes, both for citizens and non-citizens. A wide range of organisations at both national and local levels, have sought to welcome and support refugees in various ways, with an ethic of care at the heart of many of these responses. Critically, however, care itself often falls short of an articulation of solidarity, read as a political interruption into (shared) vulnerability. In this sense, solidarity asks not simply how suffering may be alleviated but under what conditions suffering flourishes. With this tension in mind, this paper focuses on the work of the Northern Ireland Community of Refugees and Asylum Seekers (NICRAS), a refugee-led organisation that supports refugees across Northern Ireland. In examining the recent work of NICRAS to investigate the housing conditions of asylum seekers and refugees across Belfast and to hold accommodation providers to account, the paper illustrates the forms of labour, learning, and collaboration that produce acts of solidarity. By exploring the shared labour of NICRAS in producing collaborative reports, challenging local authorities, and articulating claims to political visibility to the devolved Northern Irish Assembly, the paper discusses how acts of solidarity are both produced by, and productive of, relationships of learning and vulnerability.

Elisa Pascucci, University of Tampere
Performing refugee-ness: Syrian NGOs in Jordan and the sharing economy

The paper draws on fieldwork with two refugee women-led NGOs that fund themselves by selling workshops in traditional Syrian handicraft to tourists, expatriates and locals in Jordan, through the Airbnb Experiences platform. Engaging with theories of precarity and affective and non-material labour, the paper explores how, by participating in the emerging Jordanian urban ‘sharing economy’, Syrian NGOs attempt to counter the socio-economic precarization produced by restrictive immigration, labour and funding laws. While the actual material and financial impact of participating in such platforms remains limited, the sharing economy recasts individual and collective experiences of ‘refugee-ness’ through a performative act that makes them visible, intelligible and profitable in transactional relations. Reading the findings in a dialogue with recent research on hospitality, solidarity and refugee-to-refugee humanitarianism, I argue that critical research on the politics of asylum should pay more attention to the economies that sustain the inclusion of migrant and refugee-led groups in the NGO and humanitarian world.

Roundtable: ‘Informality’ as mode of political response in North America: Examining potentials and limits

This panel considers ‘informality’ as mode of political response to restrictionist state policies on resettlement and immigration in North America. In reaction to heightened attacks against refugees and migrants in some contexts, activism is visible and loud. But we also ask how political action might take a diffused and quiet form. Even in supposedly more accepting political environments, there is a manifested need for informal responses to government action and restrictions, however muted. We interrogate both potentials and limits of informal practice by individualized actors in three domains of civil society: state-funded resettlement agencies, refugee-run organizations, and migrants’ social networks. With scholars of social work and practitioner-scholars comprising this panel, we seek to connect research to practical application.

The first paper considers how actions of resettlement practitioners comply with but also subvert policy restrictions specified in funding contracts between Canadian governments and local agencies based in Calgary.

The second paper reframes informal refugee-run organizations as institutional actors that offset the limits of resettlement policy in the United States, while also pointing to the pitfalls of civil society as substitute for the state.

The third paper deliberates upon the contradiction that informal networks are sources of both respite and stigma for precarious migrants, as they contend with newly enacted visa regulations in Canada that aggravate vulnerability for labor migrants.

These three papers and the moderated discussion will open dialogue to consider ‘informal’ acts (in social networks, organizations and agencies) as part of the range of strategies of political action by and on behalf of refugees and migrants. How do such acts — subtle, indirect and quiet — constitute resistance? How do they empower the individual, remedy the hardships inflicted by policy and what are their limits?
Cesar Suva, Calgary Immigrant Educational Society

Subverting limits to public policy: Refugee resettlement and the intricacies of the public-private relationship in Calgary, Canada

While the articulated government response to the Syrian refugee crisis in Canada has been relatively accommodating, the state has addressed the practicalities of resettlement primarily through its partnerships with non-governmental community organizations (NGCOs). Such partnerships carry with them the benefits of a more grassroots-based understanding of the immediate requirements of refugees newly arrived in particular communities, but they have also been constrained by a funding process that compels NGCOs to restrict their programming to fit the terms defined in policy.

Taking these funding agreements as manifestations of public policy, this study examines the ways in which NGCOs respond to and operate under and around their restrictions. Through interviews with staff from three Calgary-based NGCOs as well as through the examination of funding applications in response to calls for proposals issued by various levels of the Canadian government, this paper will discuss how NGCOs have endeavoured to balance state requirements with newcomer needs. Various practices, such as the reframing of existing services deemed essential to fit the eligibility requirements of current calls for proposals, the opening of programming to wider audiences than those specified under funding agreements, and the deployment of volunteers to extend the reach of services provide a detailed picture of how government policies relating to refugee resettlement are implemented at the community level. Program staff employ various strategies in order to ensure their organizations are both responsive to actual migrant needs, whilst at the same time adhering to their contractual obligations to the state under these funding agreements.

Odessa Gonzalez Benson, University of Michigan School of Social Work

Institutional actor or substitute for the state?: Examining informal refugee-run organizations vis-a-vis state-funded counterparts in the United States

Amidst strong restrictionism and nationalism in the US, scholars and practitioners alike are pointing not only to the state and their partners, but also to actors at the ‘lowest’ levels for renewed visions of participatory governance. Emerging from local communities and run by and for resettled refugees, Refugee Community Organizations (RCOs) are informal grassroots organizational entities that provide a range of services and means for solidarity amongst newcomers. Such groups are indispensable on the ground but there is much to be understood about how they fit alongside their institutionalized actors and within policy frameworks.

This study examines the range and scope of activities of informal refugee-run organizations vis-a-vis their federally-funded counterparts. I draw on interviews with RCO leaders from 35 cities across the US, using the Bhutanese refugee community as case study and directed content analysis as methods. Findings illustrate in particular ways how RCOs have a dual component: RCOs fill in service gaps left agape by resettlement policies that stipulate employment-focused and resource-limited services, while also aiming to transcend policy limitations by pursuing long-term goals of meaningful membership. RCOs are evidenced as providers of material, practical assistance in direct response to specific policy gaps, but also as simultaneously transformative and contesting. In closing, I discuss social justice implications and the contradictions that emerge when informal organizations, lacking resources and without legitimacy, assume functions of the state in the resettlement domain.
Rupaleem Bhuyan, University of Toronto School of Social Work and Migrant Mothers Project; Marie Esel Laxa Panlaqui, Thorncliffe Neighborhood Office and Migrant Mothers Project; Lorraine Valmadrid, Migrant Mothers Project; Novabella L. Lopez, Migrant Mothers Project; Pearlita Juan, Migrant Mothers Project

Participatory research on migrants’ informal social networks and the conditions of exploitation for migrant workers in Canada

In this paper, we explore the role of informal social networks among people working in Canada’s Caregiver program. While the Canadian government removed a “live-in” requirement for international Caregivers in 2014, changes to regulations for work permit renewal and applications for permanent residence have produced longer periods of uncertainty where Caregivers are legally dependent on their employer; conditions that increase their vulnerability to exploitation and abuse. Considering the marginalization of Caregivers in Canada, the majority of whom are Filipina women, this research employed a participatory research design with oversight from a community advisory committee. Caregivers who participated in this study experienced different forms of labor exploitation and in some cases psychological or sexual abuse from their employers. Caregivers reported experiencing hardship during periods of unemployment and from the strain of family separation. While the removal of the live-in-requirement improved the quality of life for some Caregivers to have “a life of their own”, some remain with abusive employers due to challenges of renewing their work permit.

Informal networks through migrants’ church or via social media offer mutual aid and provide respite from their jobs. These tight-knight communities, however, can increase stigma for people during periods of unemployment, loss of immigration status, and the financial hardship associated with renewing their work permit. This research illustrates the social and psychological consequences of international domestic labor. We consider how stigma and vulnerability associated with precarious immigration status can shape the research process and thus our study findings.

Panel: Civic engagement to improve children and youth refugees’ social integration

Moderator: Michael Ungar, Canada Research Chair in Child, Family and Community Resilience, Dalhousie University

Michael Ungar, Dalhousie University

Engagement as a Strategy for Long-term Individual and Community Resilience

In his introductory remarks, Dr. Ungar will discuss the broader implications of civic engagement as a factor in the resilience of refugee and immigrant populations. He will briefly set the context for the panel and, based on his own research with Indigenous and immigrant youth, show that engagement in community mitigates risk exposure in different ways for young men and women from different populations.

Nicole Ives, McGill School of Social Work

Canada’s Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program

This paper will focus on Canada’s private sponsorship program, which requires the direct and
active engagement of community members in resettling refugees. Other countries, including Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States, have been investigating this program with a goal of possibly adapting it to their own resettlement systems. An introduction will provide the main points of this system, including strengths and potential drawbacks, to stimulate discussion of the implications of this strategy for broader use by countries of resettlement and ultimately for the well-being and long-term integration of refugees. How social workers can engage community-based resources and implications for working with diverse community-based entities will be discussed. Attention will be drawn to specific challenges within resettlement and how, drawing on social capital theory, social workers can partner with communities for social change for refugees.

Rev. Paula Kline, Montreal City Mission

Community connections that link newcomer families and youth with an engaged broader community

Montreal City Mission (MCM), founded in 1910, is a social justice-based ministry of the United Church of Canada. One of the organization’s programs focused on refugee and immigrant children and youth is Camp Cosmos. For over 40 years, Camp Cosmos has provided a 6-week summer camp to children from diverse cultural backgrounds focused on music, athletics, ecology, yoga, and science. Families typically have low, fixed incomes and are newly arrived refugees or single parents. In response to the Syrian refugee crises, Camp Cosmos expanded in 2016 to create a second camp on Montreal’s West Island. That year, 23 Syrian children were welcomed at both the West Island and Downtown locations. This past summer, numbers rose, with 28 Syrian children and 12 children whose families had recently crossed the Canadian/USA border for a total of 40 (camp fees waived). The total number of campers in 2017 was 121 (up from 50 in 2014). In addition to welcoming Syrian campers, there were also 3 young Syrian counselors-in-training who had their first Canadian job experience. This paper will discuss community engagement using Camp Cosmos as an illustration of a community organization that gathers volunteers from the larger community to offer initial settlement support and to bring refugee and local youth together in civic engagement activities.

Adan and Moad Alhjooj

Youth leadership in settlement

Youth provide leadership through the arts, social media, public speaking, and other strategies to engage and educate their peers and the larger community. More organizations in resettlement countries are sponsoring initiatives led by youth to provide them with a voice and platform for working together to build strengths, identify and address challenges, and advocate for solutions. The final presentation will be by two Muslim youth from Montreal, aged 15. Both youth volunteer with the Montreal City Mission Kid Zone project that reaches out to refugee children and youth and are also active in their neighbourhood community Teen Zone centre. Adan and Moad have worked together with other youth in Montreal City Mission’s Camp Cosmos, in their schools, and in both Israel and in Montreal, to identify challenges that youth with refugee and similar backgrounds experience in their host countries. They will describe civic engagement projects they initiated that build on their and their community strengths to address these challenges. Through their presentation, they will share their own perspective on civic engagement, what these experiences have meant to them personally, their challenges and successes in carrying these out, and how such experiences with civic engagement can help support refugee youth resilience while resulting in contributions to their families, communities, and countries.
Policy and Practice (1)

Lamis Abdelaaty, Syracuse University, Co-author: Liza G. Steele, State University of New York - Purchase College

Explaining Attitudes towards Refugees in Europe

While there is a large literature on attitudes towards immigrants, scholars have not systematically examined the determinants of attitudes towards refugees. Often, refugees are simply treated as a subset of immigrants, under the assumption that attitudes towards both sets of foreigners are similar. In contrast, we argue that immigrants are viewed primarily as economic competitors while refugees are seen as political actors. Attitudes towards refugees are shaped by political concerns related to ethnic identity and national security. Meanwhile, as other studies have shown, attitudes towards immigrants are driven by economic concerns related to income and occupation. We test these hypotheses using individual-level data from 16 countries in the 2002 and 2014 waves of the European Social Survey. By distinguishing between refugees and immigrants, this paper addresses an important gap in the academic literature on attitudes towards foreigners in Europe.

Grant Mitchell, Swinburne University

Civil Society Engagement of Government on Alternatives to Immigration Detention

David FitzGerald, University of California, San Diego

Institutional Constraints on Remote Control of Asylum Seekers

What are the institutional constraints on remote control policies of asylum seekers that attempt to prevent them from reaching the territories of states in the Global North to ask for asylum? I argue that only judicial systems with a judicial tradition of drawing directly on international law and strong rights of territorial personhood that can be applied in liminal spaces strongly constrain executive and parliamentary action. Civil society has a constraining effect through heuristically distinct legal and political mechanisms. Human rights organizations and investigative journalists increasingly range beyond state borders to highlight the secret practices and effects of remote control policies. Court cases draw from civil society’s knowledge to establish the risks of refoulement when deciding landmark cases. There are feedback loops between the legal and political mechanisms. A realist account of foreign relations is also necessary to understand the remote control options of destination country governments. The willingness of transit and origin states to cooperate with the Global North on mobility controls, such as restricting exit and allowing readmission, is contingent on the broader state of their relations. Remote control is linked to other interests in ways that can inhibit even powerful destination states from simply imposing their will on weaker states. Transit states share a similar dilemma as states in the Global North that seek on the one hand to control who enters, while on the other, to enjoy the rewards of cross-border trade and migration, including flows with other countries in the Global South.

Melissa Anderson, York University

When sanctuary cities aren’t enough: A Canada-Germany Comparison on the Application of Human Rights to Non-Status Migrants

My research explores the ways in which contradictions in legal jurisdiction threaten the
The application of human rights to non-status migrants, which in Canada, has enabled such practices as immigration enforcement personnel to raid social service agencies, elementary schools, and women’s shelters. While local actors such as migrant justice activists, doctors, social workers, and migrants, have been immensely successful in developing sanctuary zones and municipal sanctuary city motions across Canada, issues of legal jurisdiction continues to vex civil authorities, leaving many public services (namely healthcare) often inaccessible without the threat of deportation. At the same time, responding to the inaccessibility of health services in Germany, the State Government of Lower Saxony initiated a three-year pilot project in January 2016 to administer “anonymous healthcare vouchers” to ensure medical service funding to migrants without threat of deportation. Germany has amended federal laws to provide refugee claimants with medical care; however, welfare workers are still required to report non-status migrants, leaving these services inaccessible due to the risk of deportation they pose (German National Contract, 2016). My work develops a socio-legal framework for considering the spread and adaption of sanctuary policies, in which the insights of critical policy studies (Clarke et al., 2015) are tempered with those of comparative law. By comparatively analyzing sanctuary movements and practices in Canada and Germany, my research explores how countries with federal structures and divided jurisdictions make the provision of public services to non-status migrants necessary and simultaneously puts migrants in constant peril.

Policy and Practice (2)

Irina Sille, Swiss Forum for Migration and Citizenship Studies, University of Neuchâtel

Swiss NGO refugee advocacy discourse: Humanitarianism and solidarity with the “weak”

Asylum policies in most European countries have become increasingly restrictive over the past thirty years. A large body of sociological and political science research focuses on the arguments of control and abuse that States advance to justify this tendency. At the same time Fassin (2010) observes a humanitarianisation of refugee protection, as European States put increasingly forward humanitarian reasons when granting a less certain form of protection while refusing asylum. However, less attention has been given to non-state actors, such as advocacy NGOs, that also use a rhetoric of humanity, solidarity and vulnerability but try to reverse the State’s tendency of increasingly restrictive asylum policy.

This paper aims to look deeper into such ways of “vulnerabilisation” of refugees and the humanitarianisation of asylum by Swiss advocacy organizations. I ask what characteristics are emphasized in the organizations’ discourse when speaking about “vulnerable refugees” and their need of protection. Who is included in the category of the “refugee” and who is not? Moreover, what responsibilities should the State take when confronted with these categories of persons and on which arguments are those claims based?

The analysis of press releases of the two most important Swiss NGOs over the last five years shows that discourse is dominated by moral rather than rights based argumentations. From a solidarity movement perspective, one could argue that the image of the “refugee” as “the weak” creates a moral obligation based on the principle of help and charity.

Laura Schack, Royal Holloway, University of London
The relationship between civil society and the state in the integration of refugees in Berlin

The 2015 refugee crisis in Germany led to the proliferation of civil society engagement in the integration of refugees, and to the implementation of increasingly restrictive asylum policies by the state. Yet despite evidence of subversive and radical movements within civil society responding to these restrictions, civil society engagement has largely remained consistent with state requests for humanitarian aid, without crossing the line into political activism. This paper addresses the lack of critical analysis in the literature of the role played by civil society in facilitating integration, and contributes to debates surrounding the role of civil society in refugee integration and the independence of civil society from the state generally. By answering the research question, ‘what is the relationship between civil society and the state in the integration of refugees in Berlin?’, this paper seeks to uncover the underlying power dynamics which influence the extent of civil society’s engagement. Interviews were conducted with relevant civil society actors in Berlin in July 2017. The analysis of the results led to the development of an initial framework outlining the forms of civil society organisations which facilitate the integration of refugees and interact with the state in different ways. Furthermore, the application of Lukes’ Power framework revealed that the state exerts power over civil society across the three dimensions of power, thereby ensuring that civil society does not cross the line from providing humanitarian aid to engaging in political activism.

Caterina Giacometti, Nasp (Network for the Advancement of Social and Political studies) Milan and Turin

Inclusive rhetoric and exclusive practices? Power asymmetries between asylum seekers and urban social movements

Despite more and more rigid internal and external borders, numerous subjects of the civic society mobilize acting in support with asylum seekers and refugees. These subjects are different both in character and in performed actions. The motivations that drive their actions also differ. Among them, urban social movements seem to function as collectors of the claiming energy of these migrants and to offer a sort of counter-space of relation and reciprocal knowledge that helps the identification of common needs and aims. Through the organization of welfare activities and a constant and shared political reflection, social movements aim at providing the conditions for the capacity of action and of self-determination of asylum seekers to be progressively restored. Nevertheless, their privileged status of nationals causes strong power asymmetries in their relationship with asylum seekers. In fact, urban social movements are usually characterized by a specific radical anti-institutional approach that shapes their political agenda, giving priority to elements of re vindication and conflict. This approach may differ from some more concrete objectives aimed by asylum seekers that could be side-lined if activists are not willing to challenge their own political views giving more importance to inclusion activities rather than political conflict. If so, some mechanisms of paternalism and “subaltern integration” could emerge concretizing a “discrepancy between inclusive rhetoric and exclusive practices”. This paper aims at discussing the latter mechanisms trying to understand if and how urban social movements are actually capable of supporting asylum seekers inclusion into host societies.

Megumi Nishimura, Ritsumeikan University

Forced Displacements and Transitional Justice: Neoliberal Discourse and Post-War Realities

This paper analyzes how the discourses and instruments of transitional justice justify the post-war ethnic divisions.
Recent literature in this field recognizes that displacements after armed conflicts and large-scale human rights violation, including refugees and IDPs, are conceived as transitional justice issues. These analyses perceive the displaced persons as the unit of analysis whose interests are promoted by the current transitional justice instruments, such as the International Criminal Court and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

This paper in contrast argues that the current hegemonic discourse and associated instruments of transitional justice based upon neoliberal narratives justify the post-war ethnic compositions, or even ethnic cleansing during the armed conflicts. The ICC as well as ad hoc international courts has created and led the discourses of collective guilt of one side in the armed conflicts. One-sided justice scared and divide the refugees communities. The UN instruments and the governments of the neighboring countries enforce either repatriation or forced naturalization as a durable solution for refugees. Animosity created by those mechanisms had destabilized the already fragile regions, which cause the future conflicts.

The paper discusses the cases of Armenia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Kosovo, and the Great Lake region in Africa as the case studies.

Bridges to Integration

Maria Eleni Anastasopoulou, University of Oxford

*Tracing the influence of historical memory on people's attitudes, views, and behaviours towards contemporary migration and refugee flows*

Do migratory experiences leave a lasting historical memory that is transmitted from one generation to the next and that influences perceptions towards contemporary ethnic outgroups? This research proposal seeks to discover the potential effects of historical memory through the historical parallelism between the compulsory population exchange between Turkey and Greece (1923) and the current migration and refugee flows. More specifically, while focusing on the case of Greece, the research question that I aim to address is: Do people’s historical memories of forced relocation affect their attitudes, views, and behaviours towards contemporary migration flows? If so, in what way, and does the extent of the effect of historical memory depend on the generation? My hypothesis is that historical memory influences people’s attitudes, views and behaviours to different degrees, depending on the generation, by increasing tolerance and empathy. To test my hypothesis, and to overcome the numerous methodological challenges, I will use a methodology of collecting primary data using multigenerational surveys and in-depth interviews in addition to secondary data.

Christopher Records, Books Not Bombs- Karam Foundation

*Student Organizing and Supporting Syrian Students in Higher Education: Examples from the United States*

Books Not Bombs is a student-led campaign for scholarships for displaced students that is active on more than 180 campuses in the United States. Started in 2016, BNB has won scholarships at universities including Barnard College, Columbia University, Michigan State University, and the University of Southern California, while raising public awareness of the education crisis for refugees throughout the world. Books Not Bombs student organizers work to organize educational events, demonstrations, resolutions, petition drives, media events, meetings, and fundraisers in order to build support for providing refuge for the students who...
have the greatest need of it.

This presentation will provide an overview of the relevant issues for refugee students, some stories of students in the United States, background on the Books Not Bombs campaign, and key findings on student, faculty, and community engagement. It will also provide case studies of how students at universities as varied as the University of Southern California, the University of Evansville, Oxford University, and Salve Regina University have all successfully organized for scholarships, ensuring that dozens of students can continue their education in safety.

**Wendy Pettifer, Anti Trafficking and Labour Exploitation Unit (ATLEU) London UK; Yasmine Bouagga, Centre national de la recherche scientifique**

**Home for Refugees**

This is a French/English presentation about life in the Calais Jungle for unaccompanied minors. We both volunteered with the French Legal Shelter who had a daily presence on camp until its destruction in October 2016.

Wendy is a lawyer and talks about how her concept of home was challenged when working on take charge requests for unaccompanied minors in 2016. This changed her idea of home for those children who carried their home in their hearts remembering their close family. After months of perilous travel they arrived in the Jungle bright eyed and full of hope expecting to swiftly join a family member in the UK.

Their idea of home as a place of permanence changed as they bonded with their peer group in that dangerous place. Peers became their protection, their security, their hope.

Wendy considers the ability of the children to adapt to different forms of home on arrival in the UK: relatives, foster parents, Social Services provision.

Yasmine is an academic who considers the principal features in the camp which affected children. Camps are different: self-settled campsites made of ticky-tacky shelters: government-controlled areas supposed to identify and contain refugees: hybrid places with various humanitarian interventions. In these temporary spaces the notion of home is rarely considered: emergency issues of survival or security dominate. For unaccompanied minors suffering from a rupture from family, what kinds of homes are these?

Yasmine looks at different types of safe spaces created for children: schools, kids cafes, youth club created by volunteers, and la vie active a safe space created and controlled by Government contractors.

**Roundtable: Engagement for Innovation: How Grassroots Actors are Reinventing Humanitarian Aid in Greece**

**Joel Hernànde, Campfire Innovation**

TBD (subject to which actors/individual responders remain present in Greece next summer,
and which new actors have arrived and made a mark)

Over the last two years, as Europe’s migration crisis has stretched thin the capacity of the Greek state, the European Union, and humanitarian NGOs, a broad range of grassroots NGOs has emerged to fill gaps and provide relief services in Greece and in the Balkans. Staffed largely by volunteers, these grassroots actors stepped up to provide crucial services, preparing hot food, distributing essential hygiene products, and giving clean changes of clothes to refugees otherwise scantily prepared to continue their journey. Ahead of the Whither Refugees? Conference, Campfire Innovation proposes to host “Engagement for Innovation: How Grassroots Actors are Reinventing Humanitarian Aid in Greece,” a roundtable discussion featuring a range of grassroots actors operating innovative projects in Greece. The roundtable will highlight their accomplishments, reflect on the challenges they face as they take on crucial roles in an aid environment that is historically not built for them, and propose bridges between INGO and state actors, and grassroots organizations, that may reduce friction and provide for closer collaboration in future interventions.

Although volunteer actors have come in every stripe—and although some, due to inexperience or lack of professionalism, have put refugees at risk—the grassroots NGO community has proved resilient, denouncing its offending peers and outliving their errors, and pushing onward to continue providing relief. Grassroots NGOs thus saved lives, supported livelihoods, built infrastructure, and provided medical, educational, and psychosocial support to thousands of refugees in Greece.

Through its network of partner organizations, Campfire Innovation tracks, facilitates, and when invited to, supports the development of innovative approaches to aid. We provide direct assistance to organizations engaging in smart aid, while also showcasing their accomplishments in order to promote they work they conduct and disseminate best practices and innovative ideas. For example, Campfire Innovation helped responders in Elpida Home, a now-closed refugee reception center in the outskirts of Thessaloniki, develop a remarkably innovative distribution system, effectively creating a database-driven credit system allowing residents to access a free shop featuring clothes, household goods, toys, and hygiene products. Supported by Elpida Home and operated by ERCI, the shop allowed the site’s residents to supply themselves with maximum choice and in a highly dignified environment, allowed for rich data collection to help administrators manage stock as a function of the community’s consumption patterns, and was designed to be replicable and scalable—it was indeed replicated, partly or fully, in several further sites. This distribution system is just one of dozens of examples of intelligent, innovative aid deployed in Greece over the last year.

Drawing from Campfire Innovation’s network of similarly engaged and innovative actors, we propose to bring them together at the Whither Refugees? Conference, around the “Engagement for Innovation: How Grassroots Actors are Reinventing Humanitarian Aid in Greece” roundtable. The discussion would be moderated by Campfire Innovation’s founder and director, Ioanna Theodorou, and feature representatives from a range of organizations providing a wide variety of services, and staffed by professional and volunteer humanitarians of equally varied origins and skillsets. As of this proposal, the exact participants remain to be determined, because the grassroots community is fluid and constantly evolving, and we fear that organizations and especially individual coordinators who are present in Greece now may no longer be present come next summer. Rather than propose specific actors, we propose
inviting actors providing a range of services to the roundtable.

“Engagement for Innovation” would feature five types of actors:

- a tech-oriented organization, such as Habibi.Works or AstroLab, which have built and operate tech labs for refugees to learn programming and design, and pursue projects using the technology and equipment therein;
- a refugee-based organization, such as Jafra or KOOSH Radio, which are staffed exclusively by refugees and provide advocacy services, information dissemination, and opportunities for participation and leadership from within the refugee community;
- a logistics-oriented organization, such as HelpRefugees or A Drop in the Ocean, to highlight the challenges and gains of proper supply chain management;
- a medical actor, such as Team Kitrinos or DocMobile, to highlight the dynamics of providing medical care in precarious conditions, as well as the challenges of operating around Greece’s strained public health system and opportunities for mutual gain;
- a Greek organization, such as ERCI or Intervolve, in order to hear from local actors that will remain in Greece long after international actors have left.

We will firm up the specific participants as the conference date approaches, and look forward to leading a thorough and animated discussion.

Panel: Regimes of care, spaces of resistance: Contesting the humanitarian anti-politics ‘from below’

Since the first pioneering studies of migration and asylum seeking in Greece, the field has developed considerably and continues to evolve, especially as a result of the refugee arrivals since 2015. The dramatic crossings of over a million people, mainly from the Middle East and Asia, effected considerable visibility on the migration/refugee studies field. In a region dominated by narratives of “crisis,” the recent arrivals were readily confronted as another type of “crisis” in need of rapid interventions and strategic management. This political and policy approach predictably produced new layers of hierarchy between individuals, groups, and whole nations. New states of exception and exemption emerged, taking us further away from the vision of safe and legal passage supported by academics and activists on the ground.

We have collected five papers. Our proposal is an opportunity for dialogue on themes such as the material dimension of governmentality, biopolitics and bordering practices, and the manner in which the current humanitarian care paradigm produces ‘refugees’ as a separate, undifferentiated, invisible category of citizens. In stark contrast with structures that create and proliferate states of exception and spheres of political invisibility, we discuss new visions of citizenship as these are articulated either through every-day micro-politics of resistance, or through more organised grassroots initiatives. As it can be showcased in the example of City Plaza in Athens, grassroots initiatives can provide emancipatory spaces of potentiality through their emphasis on participation, self-organisation and inclusion.

[Chair/Organiser: Dr. Elisabeth Kirtsoglou]
Giorgos Tsimouris, Panteion University Athens

The Life of the Paper: The Material Dimensions of Governmentality, Biopolitics, and Bordering Practices in Greece

The paper establishes the interconnections between governmentality, biopolitics, and bordering practices as these have been witnessed in the makeshift camp of Piraeus in 2015 and 2016. It examines the life of the “registration paper” issued to refugees upon arrival at the Greek islands. The registration paper performed specific yet interrelated functions. It categorized persons either as potentially worthy of asylum or as “illegal” entities to be deported back to Turkey. Much like Cabot’s “pink card” (2014), the white registration paper literally “governed” as a material site for the enforcement of supra-national policies, bordering practices, and often arbitrary, ad hoc decisions on people’s legal status. Within the camps, one’s paper became a dispositif of biopolitical processes of humanitarian management (Rozakou 2012). Different humanitarian actors asked to “examine” these papers which were used as “proofs” of eligibility for humanitarian assistance. Chartia (as the refugees learnt to call their paper) enforced decisions taken at EU level, and facilitated the proliferation of borders and their extension into refugees’ daily lives. Like past forms of identification, the registration paper is a polytropic object and a complex material nexus of governmentality, the biopolitical production and management of reduced forms of citizenship, and the enactment of borders and new forms of nationalism. Ultimately, chartia is the material locus of partial democracies.

George Tyrikos-Ergas Durham University, NGO Agalia.

The Ethnography of Ghosts: Forced Migration as a Liminal Experience.

This paper intends to explore the applicability of the anthropological concept of ‘liminality’ to the ethnographic analysis of the experience of forced migration. On the basis of extensive fieldwork that took place between 2015 and 2017 on the island of Lesvos—a major gateway of refugee passage from Turkey to Europe— I attempt to redress the lack of refugee narratives about their own experiences. Various critical aspects of forced migration, the perils of the journey, the poor humanitarian standards, the life in camps, the legislative complexities, are largely—and perhaps deliberately—discussed in ways that omit the perspectives of the main actors, the refugees themselves. My approach challenges this status-quo by giving priority to the very words, symbols and ultimately to the representations refugees employ to narrate their own fates, and their own struggles for recognition. The paper starts by examining the meaning of the recurring claim of refugees that during their journeys, they “feel like ghosts”. I explore the implications of this claim in the production of the category of the ‘refugee’, claiming that persons are turned into refugees primarily by becoming invisible to others. My proposed paper is an ‘ethnography of ghosts’ that wishes to tell the stories of those who are rarely given the chance (and the right) to speak about themselves.

Maria Kenti-Kranidioti, Durham University

Making politics, Making Home: Refugee Politicisation in Piraeus, Greece

The present paper examines the different forms of refugee politicisation in Piraeus in 2016. As a result of the closure of European borders, nearly seven thousand refugees were transported from the Aegean islands to Piraeus where they remained for approximately two months before they were eventually transferred in the organised camp of Scaramangas. On the basis of original ethnographic evidence I wish to argue that refugees consciously resisted the positionality of the passive recipient of humanitarian care and sought to exercise some agency and control over their life situations. The paper documents prominent and notable political instances of politicisation such as the organisation of a united front of refugees from different
nationalities, demonstrations, the attempt to “occupy” Syntagma square and forceful confrontations with international humanitarian care representatives. Alongside those notable expressions of campzenship (Sigona 2015) however, one could observe what Auyero (2000) called a “micro-politic of resistance” that took the form of daily, conscious attempts to “reverse hospitality” (Rozakou 2010). The refugees were engaged constantly in “home-making” through inviting and feeding volunteers (and the anthropologist) in their tents, through cooking simple meals, and through exchanging courteous visits and small “gifts” presented by the visitor to the host. By examining the array and interplay of different practices, this paper attempts to provide a nuanced and complex picture of refugee efforts to “preserve their dignity” and to resist fixing themselves in passive positionalities and hierarchies of dependence.

Olga Lafzani, Harokopio University, Member of City Plaza.

City Plaza: A project on the antipodes of bordering and control policies

City Plaza was an abandoned hotel in the center of Athens squatted by activists and refugees on the 22nd of April 2016 -one month after the closure of European borders as a result of the EU Turkey agreement. Since then, 120 rooms provide shelter to approximately 400 people from about 10 different nationalities. City Plaza, however, is not just a housing project. It is a radical answer to the dominant policies of control and repression, to the militarization and privatization of the management of migration movements. It is also a counter example, providing on the one hand dignified housing conditions in the center of the city -in contrast to the social and spatial exclusion of the camps- while at the same time promoting self-organization and participation.

Against the illegalization of migration, refugee victimization, or relations of dependency produced within the humanitarian care paradigm. Inhabitants share the everyday tasks while they participate in the decision making through house assemblies and working groups. Still, certain initiatives and projects take place in conditions marked by harsh inequality, asymmetrical rights and antagonism between members. These contradictions are not easy to overcome as there are no "islands of freedom" within wider structures of relations of exploitation and domination. However between the cracks effected by social struggles, emancipatory moments emerge as strong collective social and political experiences become articulated -for little, or longer.

Vassiliki Bathrelou, Durham University

Fantasies of equilibrium, performances of transformation: Chronically resilient subjects and the dynamics of affective ecologies.

My presentation investigates the resilience as a theoretical concept in the ethnographic analysis of LGBTQ refugee experiences. Examining the challenges faced by LGBTQ asylum seekers in Greece I will demonstrate the role that fantasies of equilibrium play in engendering seemingly resilient hetero-patriarchal systems. The manner in which refugees are produced within the humanitarian care paradigm as a single, homogenous category of persons obscures the superdiversive character of asylum seekers (cf. Vetovec 2007). The regime of invisibility imposed by humanitarian ‘crisis’ and refugee management approaches demonstrates the connections between neoliberal visions of partial citizenship and heteropatriarchy. At the same time, LGBTQ persons can be seen as subjects who face consistently different challenges in an intersectional fashion and prove to be ‘chronically resilient’. Interrogating the relational aspects of resilience, I will call for the need to further study the intricate assemblages that form between affective and political ecologies. Resilience, I argue, can be seen as a technology of
transformation and a potential site of resistance to singular conceptualisations of the subject and reduced forms of citizenship.

Panel: Citizen Initiatives for Global Solidarity

Chair: Hanne Haaland, University of Agder, Norway
Organizers: Hanne Haaland and Hege Wallevik, University of Agder, Norway and Lau Schulpen and Sara Kingsbergen, Radboud University, Netherlands

With reference to the call for panels at IASFM we hereby propose a panel referring to thematic three of the call: Civil society, new humanitarianism and citizens’ mobilization. This proposed panel on Citizen Initiatives for Global Solidarity meets the call’s emphasis on the new forms of citizen mobilization and engagement which we see emerging in development aid and in humanitarian crisis alike, where roles are being reversed and where privatization of aid is evident. It also meets the call for a focus on refugee and migrants’ led activism and citizens’ solidarity with asylum seekers and refugees. For many years researchers have paid attention to the emerging phenomena of private development initiatives - or Citizen Initiatives for Global Solidarity (here CI) - in development aid (Schulpen and Huyse, 2017) However small these initiatives are, the increase in numbers illustrate that citizens who are establishing and running their own development organization is far more than an anecdotal affair within the field of development (Pollet et al. 2014). During later years such initiatives have also emerged in numbers responding to humanitarian crisis across the world, as was the case in Lesvos in 2015. Modern technology has also facilitated for a new type of communication and engagement, opening for the participation of everyone in the production and mediation of humanitarian crisis through their own cultural imagination, rather than only observing them through the media (Pantti 2015.) Chouliaraki (2012) adds to this, pointing to how technology has provided an infrastructure where users are converted into producers rather than consumers in public communication. She refers to what she calls “light touch activism” as part of this, since part of our daily multitasking is to provide a daily donation or sign a petition (Chouliaraki 2012).

These new forms of engagement have contributed to the growth of CIs and clearly also contributed to the steady stream of volunteers and voluntourists going to the Greek islands, for example, either to initiate their own CI or work with others which they had discovered online through their profile and activity in the social media. Furthermore, CIs are also increasingly visible in work on integration of refugees across the world. Modern technology is also evident in this work, however as more and more refugees and migrants are engaging, we also see that much CI work takes place within networks, where both the size and the informality of the work carried out remains more invisible.

This panel will open for a discussion linking research on Citizen Initiatives for Global Solidarity as seen in a development context with research on citizen initiatives emerging in a refugee crisis, emphasising the distinct roles that CI’s take on when responding to a crisis be it abroad or at home.

Sara Kingsbergen and Lau Schulpen, Radboud University, Netherlands
Ordinary citizens or civil society? Questioning the nature of small-scale, voluntary development organizations

Worldwide, the field of international development cooperation is facing an increasing number and diversity of actors taking up an active role in this field. There is a trend of companies, philanthropists, famous stars and ordinary individuals feeling urged to actively contribute to the global fights against poverty. In the Netherlands, we bring these actors together under the heading of the philantreal aid channel. The voluntary character is the most important trademark that binds the different actors in this channel and distinguishes them from other, more traditional development actors. The philantreal channel already consists of a wide and diverse group of actors. The Dutch debate of diversification focuses especially on one vast group of alternative development actors: Private Development Initiatives (PDIs). These organizations are characterized by their small size (i.e. small budget and limited number of staff) and voluntary character (i.e. low percentage of paid staff members). In this contribution, we will analyse the identity and origins of PDIs and question their rootedness in the Dutch civil society. We do so based on a unique dataset collected in 2017 among nearly 800 Dutch PDIs.

Trond S. Mydland and Eugene Guribye, Agder Research, Norway

Escape to the island: International voluntary engagement on Lesvos during the refugee crisis

The traditional pillars of North-South development aid have consisted of specialized development NGOs, governmental donors and multilateral institutions such as the UN. However, during the last decade we have seen the emergence of a “fourth pillar” of development cooperation, including private development aid initiatives and so called “voluntourism” involving small groups of people who bypass traditional development NGOs and provide support in a direct way. Previous research has indicated a need for a better understanding of the interplay between these pillars. This chapter is based on ethnographic fieldwork on the Greek island of Lesvos which has become an international focal point for the current refugee crisis. As hundreds of thousands of Middle-Eastern refugees haphazardly came to cross the strait between Turkey and Lesvos on their way to safety in Europe, thousands of citizens from all over Europe temporarily abandoned their day jobs to be of some sort of assistance for the refugees as they arrive on the beaches of Lesvos. We investigate the developing relationships between these voluntourists, development NGOs, local authorities, local population and the refugees themselves as the crisis unfolded.

Hanne Haaland and Hege Wallevik, University of Agder, Norway

Citizen initiatives for global solidarity: The role of local and international activists in Lesvos

In this paper we explore citizen initiatives (CIs) as they have evolved as a response to the refugee crisis in Europe. The ethnographic context for this study is the island of Lesvos, Greece. The island was radically transformed in 2015 with the arrival of thousands of refugees every day, passing through on their way to Europe. The situation rapidly became a challenge for the local population, and continue to be, even today. As a backdrop to the discussion on CI’s role in the crisis, we discuss how an attempt at a coordinated effort from the local government and established NGO was challenging - both within the CIs themselves coordinating thousands of volunteers and voluntourists, as well as between the different actors. Many of the new crisis actors were not easily “civilized” into a predefined thinking or discourse on crisis management. In this paper we will present and discuss different CIs, emphasizing the activist role they play and how they responded and still respond to the crisis in Lesvos.
Dorian Brown Crosby, Spelman College, USA

Hidden Figures of US Resettlement: A Gendered Analysis of Assistance

This paper focuses on an under-researched sector within the grassroots efforts to resettle refugees in the U.S.: refugee and immigrant women. Resettlement is the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees’ (UNHCR) choice of last resort when integrating refugees into their first host country or repatriating them home does not occur. Although resettling refugees is a State facilitated process, in the United States (US), community involvement is a salient component to successful integration. Given the anti-refugee political climate in the US and the world, directing more resources and attention to refugees already resettled in the US will remain significant in the next three years of President Trump’s administration. That means grassroots entities such as non-profit, civic, and religious organizations will encounter more pressure to address those needs as US and state resources diminish alongside a possible reduction in the number of refugees allowed to enter the US. Refugee and immigrant women working in their own non-profits or for resettlement agencies are resources utilized by refugees based on their ethnic affiliations, or community trust as leaders. Yet, resettlement in the U.S. has not been fully explored from their perspective. This paper fills that gap by elucidating the resettlement breaks refugee and immigrant women seal by serving as resources themselves based on their political, economic, social and psychological networks.
THEME THREE: Changing Durable Solutions

Panel: Cross-regional Dialogues on Refugee Integration – Part One

Organisers: Marcia Vera-Espinoza, University of Sheffield; Jenny Phillimore, University of Birmingham

Tina Magazzin, UNESCO (Harare SHS Unit)/ Human Rights Institute (University of Deusto)

Integration as an essentially contested concept: Zimbabwe’s management of refugees at the margins

Integration is a term that can fittingly be included in what W. B. Gallie labeled as “essentially contested concepts” (Gallie 1956). Essentially contested concepts are those notions “the proper use of which inevitably involves endless disputes about their proper uses on the part of their users” (Gallie, 1956, 169). Gallie warned that the indetermination suffered by this kind of concepts cannot be settled by appeal to linguistics or logic, since it is caused by a dispute, a substantive disagreement on the reasons to attribute any given meaning to the concept. Building on fieldwork in Harare (Migrants at the Margins project and Tongorara refugee camp), this paper analyses how refugee integration is used in radically different ways in the case of Zimbabwe: on the one hand, the Tongorara refugee camp (south from Harare) had gone from hosting 3,000 to approximately 10,000 refugees in 2017 with an influx of Mozambican refugees. On the other hand, an estimated 3.4 millions Zimbabweans have fled the country over the past decades and hold refugee status mostly in South Africa, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Marcia Vera Espinoza, University of Sheffield

Understanding ‘unsettlement’ as part of refugee integration: experiences from Chile and Brazil

Refugee integration has been largely discussed as a multidimensional ‘two-way’ process, placing the dynamics of integration within the nation-state by identifying two main broad actors: ‘them’ (the refugees) and ‘us’ (the receiving society). This paper argues that it is necessary to extend the conceptualisation of integration beyond the multiple dimensions identified by the literature to the multiple scales and spaces - and therefore the multiple actors, structures, negotiations and power relationships - embedded in the integration experience. By expanding our understanding about integration, this can be used to a better effect as an ‘umbrella term’, as suggested by Castles et al (2002), to explore the micro and macro dynamics and the multiplicity of linkages, actors, scales and dimensions that encompasses the refugee experience. In this context, the paper introduces the notion of ‘unsettlement’ to the analysis of refugees’ integration experiences. I suggest that unsettlement can be understood as the condition by which refugees’ feelings of uncertainty and instability extend and normalise, from the displacement, into the settlement experience. Drawing from 80 semi-structured interviews with Colombian and Palestinian resettled refugees in Chile and Brazil, as well as other relevant decision-makers in each country, the paper argues that understanding refugees’ experiences of integration as ‘unsettled’ (as a result of uncertainty, precarity and translocality, as well as agency), it is possible to understand refugee integration as a dynamic and fluid process and as a constant negotiation, and not only as a target or necessarily as the end of the displacement’s consequences.
Panel: Cross-regional Dialogues on Refugee Integration – Part Two

Panel Co-organisers: Marcia Vera-Espinoza, University of Sheffield; Jenny Phillimore, University of Birmingham

Glenda Santana de Andrade, CRESPPA-GTM (Université Paris 8) and Institut Convergences MIGRATIONS

(Non)Fitting-in: Social dynamics of Syrian Refugees in urban spaces in Turkey
Whenever refugees arrive, there are pertinent questions about how they will or not fit to the new society. These processes have been studied before through different examples, primarily as forms of acculturation and assimilation. More recently, notably in the humanitarian field, integration has been used as the key word to describe this process, as programs to promote integration are being developed and implemented by different organisations in the host communities. As the other two terms, « integration » has also been criticized, although yet very used, as unidirectional. Recognizing such weakness of these terms, but without missing the importance of the refugee experience in exile, notably the process of adapting in the new society, this paper proposes to analyse how Syrians are “being made” into people who could fit into the Turkish society (considered to be the biggest host community in the world nowadays); and how by their own agency they are engaging themselves in “making it” a place for themselves in the new location, without neglecting the violence, whether symbolic or not, that they may suffer in this process, and what does it represent to them. The urban refugee experience of (non)fitting-in will be the object of this paper, by analyzing the social dynamics of this process, based on the Turkish example. In order to do so, this paper will be based on a series of semi-directive interviews with Syrian refugees in urban spaces in Turkey. The interviews will be conducted in several cities, with different profiles of Syrians. This methodology will be complemented by a more anthropological / ethnological approach; in particular, accompanying the work of international organizations and local NGOs; observing spaces; making visits to neighborhoods, houses of families; engaging in discussions and conversations around an ordinary tea.

Megan Denise Smith, International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Yara Chehwane, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

Ripe for the picking: social tensions and legal exclusion as enablers for the exploitation of Syrian refugees in Lebanon - a case for the multiagency approach
Despite the 2011 adoption of a law criminalising trafficking in human beings, forced labour and sex trafficking in Lebanon continue to present a serious risk to all vulnerable groups, especially migrants and refugees. Smuggling has been on the rise since the closure of the Syrian–Lebanese border in 2015. Irregular migrants and Syrian refugees are confronted with numerous integration barriers, mainly restricted legal pathways, costly residency procedures, abusive sponsorship systems and a lack of livelihood opportunities. This has had a tangible effect on social cohesion, increasing tension between Lebanese and Syrian communities amidst an already deteriorating social environment and a complicated political relationship. It has also resulted in a rise in negative coping mechanisms, such as child labour and early marriage. This precarity has especially exacerbated the protection environment for unaccompanied and
separated children. Based on primary research findings and protection monitoring data, this presentation evaluates the relationship between legal barriers, displacement and trafficking in Lebanon. Lastly, it will provide recommendations and lessons learned from the OSCE’s ‘Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings along Mixed Migration Routes’ training simulation. This will facilitate a normative and interactive platform for discussion on NGO-state coordination, rights-based approaches and institution building in anti-trafficking efforts.

**Steffen Fischer, Graduate School of Architecture (GSA), University of Johannesburg**

*The Representation of Migrants: An Illustration of Some Uses for Architectural Drawings in the Communication of Relationships in Migratory Communities*

Johannesburg is Southern Africa’s largest city for cross-regional migration; a place of settlement potential where 70,000 asylum seekers arrive annually to find better opportunities. Refugees are integral to the functioning of the city, contributing significantly to local economies. Recently Johannesburg has endured a wave of xenophobic attacks which has compromised refugees freedom within the city. The stance of Johannesburg’s Mayor Herman Mashaba is that “foreigners... are not the responsibility of the city”; this reflects the currently unsuccessful top-down approach to refugee integration. This complexity, coupled with a potential new bill by South African legislature, threatens the treatment and safety of refugees thus exacerbating their volatile presence. In response, this paper proposes an alternative integration of refugees through a medium of architectural representation at a grassroots level. Design acts as a tool for understanding current relationship dynamics and unpacks organisational and social structures. This provides a framework for human interaction, which investigates better integration in the city for refugees through programmes as an alternative solution, whilst defining the principles of social and political identities. The design is a conceptual space for research that generates and proposes new structures for the functioning of society.

**Panel: Reimagining Refugee Response**

Chair: Dorian Brown Crosby, Spelman College

In response to the IASFM 17 call for proposals, this panel addresses Theme 3: Changing Durable Solutions. Both the number of forcibly displaced persons globally and the length of time they are spending in exile follow increasing trends in recent years. This collection of studies in this panel examines the refugee journey from multiple angles: flight, reception, encampment, and resettlement. Each reflects on how response to refugee crises results in enduring impacts to refugees’ ability to attain a durable solution. Through critical examination and dialogue centered around the various stages in the refugee journey, the panel will explore what alternative durable solutions might look like in an environment of increased flows and enduring exile.

Changes to our understanding of durable solutions must occur at the early stages of the refugee journey—flight and reception—in order to recognize that the way in which we initially confront humanitarian crisis deeply informs the pathways available for refugees to pursue any solutions in the future. In this panel, de Kock and van Vuuren propose a model that helps predict where forced migrants will go, considering variability in the types of migrants in a population. They present a method for visualizing the global effects of individuals’ decisions about when and where to flee, focusing on the case of Syrian refugees. Haaland and Wallevik
further this picture by arguing that effective refugee reception requires more attention to the Citizen Initiatives that emerge in response to refugee crisis, as occurred recently in Lesbos, Greece in 2015.

When response leads to containment policies, refugees spend decades waiting in protracted situations. As Frydenlund and Padilla suggest, food insecurity in long-term camp situations can further entrench protraction. Chronic health conditions may ultimately impact refugees’ ability to maintain employment upon return, local integration, or resettlement abroad, challenging the viability of current durable solutions. Bah carries the narrative of the panel into one of the durable solutions: resettlement. In her study, she challenges the prevailing policy understanding that resettlement is the end of the refugee journey. Bah describes the struggles of African refugees attempting to integrate into communities where they must confront historic race relations in the United States and the impact on resources and services that carries.

Comprised of four papers, this panel presents a complementary set of methodological approaches and diversity of geographical representation in terms of home institutions and areas of research. The panel also presents two graduate student-led papers and two established groups of researchers. Through this diversity of participation, we will engage in dialogue—rooted both in the studies and in the interconnectedness between them—by tracing the refugee experience from flight to resettlement in order to reimagine durable solutions in the changing global political climate.

Christa de Kock and BJ van Vuuren, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

*Simulating the geographical flow of refugees using agent-based modeling*

In the past decade, numerous calamities within the international community have led to phrases such as ‘refugee’ and ‘asylum seeker’ becoming commonplace in public discourse. In particular, conflict-induced forced displacement and the various challenges it creates has received notable attention. The challenge posed by the sudden migration of large groups of people lies in the ability to accurately portray and predict the scale and dynamics of such movement, since associated data pertaining to the migration are largely incomplete or untrustworthy. Currently, there exists a significant lack of data required to perform strategic, long-term planning with respect to both current and future crisis situations. One of the specific challenges faced by researchers and humanitarian support organisations addressing forced displacement is predicting the flight patterns of people. The ability to predict refugee movement is a critical input when planning logistics supporting those fleeing violence and persecution. Within this project, an agent-based model which employs real-world data detailing the geographic flow of Syrian refugees has been developed. This model seeks to better understand why, when, and where these displaced individuals may flee. It is anticipated that the model may assist in the planning and logistic strategies pertaining to facilities and resources required to accommodate incoming refugees in different areas, as well as predicting the population fluctuations in affected areas during times of conflict, natural disaster, or other refugee-causing events.

Hanne Haaland and Hege Wallevik, University of Agder

*Beyond emergency management? Understanding the role of Citizen Initiatives during crisis*

During later years, what has been referred to as Citizen Initiatives for Global Solidarity have
grown considerably in numbers across Europe (Pollet et al. 2014). Much research has been carried out on such citizen initiatives in a development context, especially in The Netherlands and Belgium (see for example Kingsbergen and Schulpen, 2011, 2016, Develtere 2012). Lately, CIs have also got attention as they are responding to humanitarian crisis across the world, such as the refugee crisis in 2015. In many European countries, citizens have been involved heavily in catering for incoming refugees, putting up loosely organised voluntary based initiatives such as the Refugee Welcome initiatives. At the same time CIs popped up responding to needs in hot spots, as was the case in Lesvos, Greece. In this paper, we discuss the role of CIs during crisis with examples from Greece and Norway. We argue that to meet the challenges of large scale population movements, a first step would be to understand and acknowledge the key role that CIs play in their immediate response to needs as well as their engagement over time during a crisis. Understanding properly the doings of CIs would facilitate co-operation and proper planning that enables a move from emergency and crisis management to long-term policy responses to large population movements.

Erika Frydenlund and Jose Padilla, Old Dominion University

Health Dynamics in Protracted Refugee Situations

Forced migrants—refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced, and stateless persons—would collectively constitute the 25th largest country in the world, according to UN estimates. Seventy percent of the 22.5 million refugees globally spend on average longer than 20 years without a long-term ‘durable solution’ to their situation. During that protracted time in limbo, reliance on limited food diversity and limited access to economic opportunities contributes to a chronic diseases that follow refugees even if a durable solution becomes available. This project collects primary data among protracted refugee situations in Rwanda (20+ years) and Turkey (5+ years) to develop models & simulations of health consequences of protraction derived from ongoing food insecurity and insufficient medical assistance. We focus specifically on chronic conditions, such as a childhood protein deficiency, kwashiorkor, that have direct implications for the success of the UNHCR’s ‘durable solutions’ strategies to resolve refugee situations. Examining health is one key component for understanding how situations become protracted, specifically how conditions in exile shape options for refugees to engage in and reintegrate into society after forced displacement. The complex nature of many actors and factors related to food distribution, use, and medical assistance lends itself to modeling and simulation as a way to study the dynamics of the process.

Janita Bah, Clark-Atlanta University

African Refugees Resettled in the United States: Is Integration Truly Possible?

This qualitative analysis discusses the challenges that African refugees experience as they integrate into the United States. African refugees resettled in the United States are racially categorized as black alongside African Americans. The article examines the convergence of African-Americans and African refugees resettled in the United States, specifically their living conditions and lived experiences, by examining housing policies that have adversely affected both groups. Results of the study show a correlation between ethnicity and integration difficulties. Qualitative interviews are used to analyze the perspective of African refugees receiving services from the U.S. government and the resettlement agencies, to determine if African refugees in the U.S. saw improvement in their lives, their quality of life, and their opportunities for upward mobility.
Roundtable: “Climate Refugees”: Beyond the Legal Impasse?

Thekli Anastasiou, University of Sheffield; Walter Kälin, Platform for Disaster Displacement; Michel Prieur, CRIDEAU/Université de Limoges; Mariam Traore Chazalnoel, IOM; Jolanda van der Vliet, Hague University of Applied Sciences/Leiden University; Camilla Schlos, Georgetown University, World Bank

Chair: Simon Behrman, Royal Holloway University of London

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) expects migration and displacement to increase due to the rise in the number of extreme weather events and other adverse effects of climate change. Current estimates of the numbers of people who will be forced from their homes in the context of the adverse effects of climate change varies, but even the most optimistic projections envisage unprecedented human mobility (migration, displacement and planned relocation) in the future. And yet attempts to develop legal mechanisms to deal with these impending challenge have reached an impasse that shows little sign of being overcome. This is in spite of the rapidly growing academic study and policy development in the area of climate change generally.

Yet, at the same time, there are reasons to be hopeful. The shift towards recognition of the issue of human mobility within the context of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), particularly as a result of the Paris Agreement in 2015, which has led to the setting up of a Task Force on Displacement is one example. In addition, the 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants commits states to addressing the “drivers that create or exacerbate large movements”, including “combating environmental degradation and ensuring effective responses to natural disasters and the adverse impacts of climate change”. Hopefully, this broad statement will set the stage for the Global Compact to be agreed by the end of 2018. These potentially cap other recent developments such as the endorsement of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda by more than 100 States in 2015, and the increased attention to these issues at regional and sub-regional levels of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration.

Nevertheless, we are still a long way away from any substantive protection mechanisms for people forced to move across borders due to the effects of climate change. The recent decision in the New Zealand case Teitiota v Chief Executive of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment [2015] reinforces the view that the current framework of international refugee law is not accessible for these people. Nor, despite a number of proposals put forward for a new sui generis treaty to extend protection to those fleeing the effects of climate change, or more broadly environmental degradation, have policy makers begun even early stages of drafting such a document.

Indeed, there is not even general agreement about what category of persons we are concerned with, nor even how they should be labelled. While some see climate change as the key driver of displacement that needs addressing, others believe that one cannot isolate this phenomenon from other natural hazards such as earthquakes, or other non-climate change damage to the environment such as pollution of water supplies or damage to agriculture. And then there is the question as to whether people forced to move as a result of these factors are ‘migrants’, ‘refugees’, or ‘displaced persons’.
This roundtable will explore all of these issues, and also put forward a range of suggestions for how the legal impasse can be overcome. The participants include key actors from intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) involved in the UNFCCC Task Force and the Global Compact, leading academics in the field, and emerging scholars. All of them have also contributed to a collected edition “Climate Refugees”: Beyond the Legal Impasse? (Routledge 2018). In this roundtable, we hope to facilitate greater interaction between the various ideas put forward in that book, to stimulate much needed discussion between scholars and the IGO sector, and to engage with others as to how an effective protection agenda can be advanced for people forced to migrate due to the effects of climate change.

Jolanda van der Vliet, Hague University of Applied Sciences/Leiden University

‘Climate Refugees’: A Legal Mapping Exercise

The fragmented system of international law is struggling to protect environmentally forced migrants. The topic is simply too complex to be addressed under just one of the traditional specialisms in law. Human rights law, environmental law, liability law, the rules on state responsibility, rules on transboundary resources and migration law all contribute to solutions. Often only a selection of these rules is used, based on the approach of the problem (rights-based, security or responsibility). Awareness of these approaches can lead to more strategic choices on a legal and policy level.

With a flexible attitude towards the law, there is much more to gain. I propose to combine different approaches. Even though legally challenging, this opens up a whole new world of possibilities. The combinations of approaches can assist policy makers in creating future oriented policies that find their roots in various legal regimes. After all, the law is more than a set of rules that can be enforced. The law can give guidance for policy decisions and can add moral weight. Being aware of the different perceptions and their corresponding regimes allows for a sensitivity towards the perspective of different stakeholders and creates new ways of searching for solutions that fall outside the legal regimes that are introduced within the limited scopes of any individual approach.

Camilla Schloss, Georgetown University

Cross-Border Displacement Due to Environmental Disaster: A Proposal for UN Guiding Principles to Fill the Legal Protection Gap

A legal protection gap exists for cross-border displacement due to environmental disasters. The state-led Nansen Initiative on Disasters and Cross-border Movements represents an important first step towards closing this gap by bringing together states to adopt the Agenda for Protection in 2015. However, there is a need for further action.

Several researchers have suggested hard law approaches such as signing a new convention, extending the refugee definition in the 1951 Refugee Convention, or adding a Protocol to UNFCCC. After scrutinizing the formal question concerning the best structural framework, I propose the adoption of soft guiding principles under the auspices of the UN, which I will call the “UN Guiding Principles on Cross-Border Displacement Due to Environmental Disasters.” This paper fills these UN Guiding Principles on Cross-Border Displacement Due to Environmental Disasters with content. It analyses the Agenda for Protection of the Nansen Initiative and engages in a comparative legal analysis of existing regulations and guidelines on the international, regional and state levels. By resorting to already existing texts, I develop a
legal text that defines a “cross-border disaster displaced person” and establishes the legal conditions and legal consequences of protection. In doing so, I aspire to prove that we are not so far away from developing a legal text.

Simon Behrman, Royal Holloway University of London

Panel: Normative and empirical insights into resettlement – Part One (Normative)

Chairs: Johanna Gördemann, University of Duisburg-Essen; Mariana Nardone, Universidad Nacional de Lanús / Centre for Global Cooperation Research

Resettlement is a relevant tool of protection in seeking “durable solutions” And yet resettlement is a relevant measure only for a very small number of refugees.

This panel combines normative and empirical perspectives on resettlement across Europe and the Global South through inter-disciplinary dialogue by bringing together social scientists, practitioners and normative theorists from various regions. In the course of two sessions, we will discuss empirical research on resettlement, related actors, procedures and practices as well as theoretical perspectives on how to rethink the normative framework of resettlement programmes and other responses to refugees that are implemented by the global refugee regime.

The implementation of resettlement raises profound empirical questions as well as important ethical issues. For instance, on the one hand, the merits of resettlement programmes involve, among others, a commitment to refugee protection, international responsibility sharing, and the relocation of refugees from a first country of asylum to a third country. By contrast, most of the current developments in international refugee protection rather focus on efficient administrative procedures to manage and restrict so-called irregular movements of forced migrants without necessarily considering the particular rights of those concerned. What is highlighted is in many cases exclusively justice between states. Therefore, questions of legitimacy are not asked in a context of global justice but in the light of prosperity, stability and security of states. In addition to that, little attention has been given to the refugees themselves: are there active choices involved and how do they decide whether to apply for resettlement? Refugee resettlement also raises questions at an operational level, for instance about the challenges of integration, the scope of services available to assist the resettlement process, the achievements of the countries’ resettlement commitments, and the UNHCR’s roles in UNHCR’s supported resettlement programmes. Therefore this panel will tackle these issues under complementary perspectives.

Daniel Kersting, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

Refugees are Persons. Towards an integrative understanding of “refugee”

When discussing durable solutions for refugees, we must presume a particular concept of refugee, to whom these solutions apply. Within current political and juridical discussion in Europe the concept of refugee is predominantly determined unilaterally, i.e. entirely from the perspective of the actor providing assistance. The concrete experiences of the affected person is rarely considered or, if it is, is itself overly simplified and one-sided: refugees are considered as mere “victims” and this perspective ignores their agency and autonomous choices.
In this presentation, I will outline a more holistic concept of “refugee” that aims to connect two fundamental dimensions of personhood: persons are existentially dependent and vulnerable as well as autonomous beings, and so are refugees. In order to respect refugees as persons, we need to take into consideration these two fundamental dimensions of personhood when discussing durable solutions and shaping their political implementations. In my presentation, I will finally concretize this idea and explore its critical potential by analyzing a recent example of EU-resettlement.

Naoko Hashimoto, University of Sussex

How Refugee Agent Challenges Japan’s Resettlement Structure?

In International Relations, the ‘agent-structure’ debate has been one of the persistent questions (Wendt 1987). In the context of refugee resettlement, it is often argued that the resettlement structure is so state-driven that there is little room for refugee agent to operate in the process. My presentation challenges this argument, based upon four empirical examples from the refugee resettlement programme to Japan, in which refugees’ agent influenced the Japanese resettlement structure. Firstly, a sudden and physical arrival of nine Indo-Chinese refugees at the Japanese shore was the dawn for the subsequent establishment of refugee protection system in Japan. Secondly, the boycotting of a privately-run integration course for Indo-Chinese refugees in 1979 forced the Japanese Government to establish a state-run integration assistance. Thirdly, the zero application from Myanmar refugees for resettling to Japan in 2012 pushed the Japanese Government to relax the eligibility criteria. Fourthly, some refugees who had come to Japan as asylum-seekers spontaneously came forward and started lending hands to facilitate integration of resettlement refugees. Through applying the normative ‘agent-structure’ debates to the empirical cases, this presentation also aims at ameliorating the inadequacy of research on resettlement through refugees’ lenses.

Johanna Gördemann, University of Duisburg-Essen

What does the Global Compact on Refugees mean for the European Union? Some philosophical thoughts and cosmopolitan ideas on durable solutions

Several, partly interconnected crises have profoundly challenged the European project in recent years. Among them especially the reactions to the arrival of 1.25 million refugees in 2015 called into question the idea(l) of a unified Europe. The EU’s ability to overcome its crises, particularly in the context of migration and integration policies, will not only depend on its provision of material benefits to states and individuals, it must also credibly claim the ability to establish conditions for legitimacy and justice within and beyond Europe. In this paper, I consider some future scenarios of the Common European Asylum System in the light of the Global Compact for Refugees.

Christoph Tometten, attorney-at-law (Berlin)

The shift of European Resettlement policies after the EU-Turkey deal and its impact on protracted refugee situations in the Great Lakes Region

Resettlement is one of the three durable solutions proposed by UNHCR to address refugee situations. It is an instrument that should guarantee effective protection to persons who qualify for refugee status. At the same time, resettlement is a mechanism for responsibility-sharing between first countries of arrival and other countries. As a contribution to international refugee protection, the European Union has launched as Joint Resettlement Programme in
2012. However, following the Agreement between the European Union Member States and Turkey of 18 March 2016, most Member States do not resettle refugees from other countries than Syria. Thus, resettlement has arguably been subverted from an instrument of protection into a tool for containment.

The developments in Europe have a non-negligible impact on other world regions in which protracted refugee situations persist, such as the Great Lakes region. The countries in the region are home to large refugee populations from, inter alia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia. Recent developments in European refugee policy have led the Kenyan government, for instance, to consider withdrawing the protection it offers to Somali refugees. This would have serious implications for the international refugee protection regime. This normative shift in resettlement policies shall be discussed in this panel contribution.

Panel: Normative and empirical insights into resettlement – Part Two (Empirical)

Chairs: Mariana Nardone, Universidad Nacional de Lanús / Centre for Global Cooperation Research; Johanna Gördemann, University of Duisburg-Essen

Tatjana Baraulina, Research Centre on Migration, Integration and Asylum at the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees

*How circumstances of forced migration influence the integration strategies of refugees: the case of refugees resettled to Germany*

Since 2012 Germany started a national resettlement program. Between 2012 and 2016 about 1,800 refugees were granted a special protection status in Germany through the resettlement program.

While there are numerous recent empirical studies on the refugees’ circumstances of life and/or on their integration into the German society, there is little research on the integration strategies of the resettled refugees in Germany. There is also lack of discussion on a theoretical level: Do the circumstances of forced migration influence integration strategies in the receiving countries? This presentation will refer to these essential questions.

The presentation is based on the analysis of the semi-structural biographical interviews with 100 resettled refugees who came to Germany in 2012 and in 2014. The analysis shows that the integration strategies of resettled refugees are strongly influenced by their individual migration histories. For example, some of the interviewees in this study told about years of waiting for a chance to build up a life while staying on temporary and insecure basis in the third countries under protection of the UNHCR. So after arrival in Germany they saw themselves under constraint to get started as soon as possible. Some of them very quickly made choices (e.g. earning money or pursuing further education), which affect their paths of integration significantly.

Irene Tuzi, Sapienza University of Rome

*Resettlement of Syrian Refugees to Italy: Durable Solution or Protracted Temporary Situation?*

The increased number of displaced persons worldwide – more than 65 millions in 2015 – has
shed light on the international protection dilemma. In particular, to respond to the so-called “refugee crisis”, UNHCR implemented the resettlement scheme in Europe. In Italy, resettlement involves mostly Syrian refugees from Lebanon and Turkey. Nonetheless, the programme has several limits in this country because Syrians do not perceive Italy as a desirable country of resettlement (Brekke and Brochman, 2014).

On the one hand, there is little knowledge of Italy as a country of resettlement and refugees do not particularly trust the country for its potential to create labour market inclusion and to deal with refugees’ issues. On the other hand, there is a divide between refugees’ expectations and the opportunities the country has to offer. Apparently, the Italian migration and asylum regime does not seem to be able to decrease refugees vulnerability nor to improve their empowerment due to the lack of follow-up measures from the asylum system to the integration.

Findings show that when conditions applied by Europe are not in line with refugees’ expectations and they do not match with their hopes and outlooks, insecurity towards the future prevails and refugees undertake secondary migration movements within a framework of insecurity. In this sense, the flows in the protection system challenge the purpose of resettlement as durable solution protracting refugees’ conditions of vulnerability.

Izabella Main, Centre for Migration Studies, Adam Mickiewicz University

Considering resettlement of refugees in Poland? Government’s refusal and social actions

The presentation will explore the context of the present-day politics of the Polish government, i.e. refusal to accept refugees for resettlement, despite the legal action from the European Union, taken in December 2017. Since Poland’s 2015 general election the conservative Law and Justice party (PiS) has objected refugee relocation, fuelled nationalist sentiments, manipulated media coverage of “refugee and migration crisis. Even though the previous liberal government committed to taking in 7,000 refugees from Syria, Iraq and Eritrea, when the current conservative government came into power it refused to follow the relocation plan and to accept any refugees (also increasingly breaking Geneva convention in respect to Chechen refugees). First, I will analyse the background of such political decision as well as its international and internal consequences. Second, the wide spectrum of social responses to government’s decisions and statements will be explored. These actions, mostly by the civil society in Poland address refugees in camps as well as Polish society, challenging the state’s decisions and narratives. This presentation offers a more nuanced perspective on state and local dynamics, attitudes towards refugees, and chances of resettlement in Poland. It is based on media coverage, documents and interviews with NGOs activists.

Mariana Nardone, Universidad Nacional de Lanús / Centre for Global Cooperation Research

UNHCR-Government-NGO Inter-Organisational Relations in South American Emerging Resettlement Countries for the Integration of Forcibly Displaced People

This field-level empirical study explores the three-sided interplay between international organisations, governments, and non-governmental organisations within resettlement programmes supported by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in “emerging” resettlement countries of South America. The focus is on the implementation of the Latin American Solidarity Resettlement Programme, which was adopted by some South American
countries to resettled refugees (mostly of Colombian origin) coming from countries of first asylum in the region. In the present work, the importance and challenges of these tripartite relationships within the Programme are analysed. This study offers insights on resettlement by looking at how inter-organisational dynamics worked on the ground, and considering the viewpoints of the three main entities involved. The findings suggest that the efforts in a joint implementation of the Programme resulted often, in practice, in disagreements between them, mainly in selection criteria and the integration process, which constrained possibly broader achievements in protection and integration in these emerging resettlement countries.

Regional Perspectives: Africa

**Naohiko Omata, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford, Noriko Takahashi**

*Refugee protection post-durable solutions: The role of vocational training for economic reintegration of repatriated refugees in Liberia*

Drawing on studies conducted in 2014 and 2016, this presentation examines the impact of vocational training programmes on the economic reintegration of refugees post-repatriation.

The international refugee regime often considers repatriation to signal the end of their role for protection or assistance for now ‘former’ refugees. Nevertheless, a variety of sources indicate that refugees in war-devastated environments face a number of significant challenges during reintegration, with many returnees struggling to survive below the poverty line with few livelihood options. Most conflict-affected states with returning refugee populations also suffer from limited capacities and resources to offer support for formerly displaced and dispossessed returnees.

These daunting challenges have led to calls for continued international assistance to facilitate the economic reintegration of returning refugees. One common form of such support involves the provision of vocational and entrepreneurial training, which is increasingly mainstreamed by aid agencies as an intervention to develop livelihoods skills of returnees and to promote their economic engagement within their country of origin. However, there are relatively few follow-up studies that measure impacts for beneficiaries after the completion of training programmes, particularly over the long-term.

Against this backdrop, using vocational training programmes conducted by United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) for Liberian refugee returnees as a case study, we conducted two studies over a period of two years, tracing the former beneficiaries of the UNIDO’s training programmes.

In this paper, we present our main findings on the employment and livelihood outcomes of these beneficiaries and explore the impact of the training programmes on these returnees. Drawing on empirical evidence, this presentation aims to provide valuable insights into the role of training programmes for supporting economic reintegration and entrepreneurship of repatriated refugees and also offers practical implications for aid practitioners and policymakers.

This is a collaborative research project between UNIDO and academic researchers, which was initiated in 2014 in order to nurture a better understanding of the impact of vocational education for returnees. We believe that the scope of this study would contribute significantly
to the sub-theme of ‘Changing Durable Solutions’ and hope that the findings can stimulate intriguing discussions for both researchers and practitioners working in the field of forced displacement.

Pedro Figueiredo Neto, Instituto de Ciências Sociais - Universidade de Lisboa

From refugees to development-induced-displaced-people. Which ‘durable solutions’ in the Meheba Refugee Camp, Zambia?

The UNHCR together with governments and institutions seek to promote ‘durable solutions’ for refugees. However, as evidence from Meheba Refugee Camp (Zambia) shows, in this new cycle refugees often experience renewed forms of forced displacement.

Created in 1971 as a result of the Angolan conflict (1961-2002), over time Meheba grew in size in order to accommodate further populations fleeing from neighbouring conflicts. In 2012 refugee status ceased for Angola, Rwanda and Burundi nationals — therefore disappearing from official statistics. ‘Durable solutions’ were met not without resistance for the voluntariness of repatriation, as well as local integration eligibility criteria and the conditions offered are worthy of analysis.

Meanwhile, the nearby Lumwana mine expansion reached the gates of Meheba. As miners started to live in the camp, real-estate speculation increased alongside with food prices. Gradually, demographic pressure wiped out the wild game that refugees and local populations depended on and mining activities compromised water supplies and contaminated streams. Furthermore, in 2014, the Zambian government declared the region an economic special zone in which a new city masterplan — involving the appropriation of Meheba’s humanitarian infrastructure — was to be set in place. The consequences for the remaining refugees and those who qualified for local integration are yet to be understood.

Based on extensive fieldwork conducted in Meheba since 2012, in this paper I will present a chronological unfolding of displacement-related events in order to challenge ‘durable solutions’, as well as the humanitarian and development policies involving refugees and refugee camps.

Adetola Elizabeth Oyewo, University of Kwazulu-Natal; Nokwanda Yoliswa Nzuza, University of Kwazulu-Natal

Foreigners’, ‘scapegoat syndrome’ and social exclusion in South Africa

South Africa usually blame supposed migrants also called ‘foreigner’ for their social maladies. Asylum seekers in the undocumented category have had their share of discrimination from few South African. Supposed asylum seekers have the right to ‘work and study’, but new proposed legislation proposal suggests that such right would be removed. To this end, the aim of the paper is to discuss the old and new asylum system and policies in South Africa. As well as how the asylum system is a tool of oppresion and social exclusion on asylum seekers

Based on interview and oral stories with twenty asylum seekers at the Desmond Tutu Refugee Reception centre, the study found out that the asylum system is a means of social exclusion. The rights of asylum seekers exist only on theory. It is a norm to give asylum seekers one month permit and during renewal, arrest them, which contradicts UN law. Despite that South Africa is member state of the United Nations, required to protect the
safety, dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all immigrants, regardless of their migratory status, at all times, this is only in theory in South Africa.

Markus Rudolf, Bonn International Center for Conversion GmbH (BICC)

Beyond care and maintenance – Revising pragmatic approaches towards durable solutions

Currently durable solutions focus on coping strategies. This means projects aim to foster resilience and diminish dependency. It is certainly not false to claim that needs of displaced persons have been misinterpreted and capacities overlooked in the past. Yet displacement is not about the reestablishment of livelihoods alone. It is, by definition, impossible for refugees to not fear persecution and avail protection for themselves. The idea to shift more responsibilities towards displaced persons therefore needs to take certain constraints into account. Resiliencies can only be strengthened step by step. The numerous studies on self-dependent, innovative, and skilled displaced persons, should be carefully distinguished from and framed within a policy discourse of resilience and coping strategies that derived from financial and political needs to pull humanitarian aid out.

International developments of concepts such as the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) have always been shaped and formed by the respective local political economy. In the arena of international humanitarian and development cooperation some political actors are more successful than others in fine-tuning their discourse with donors. Discourses directed at the international community nevertheless vary from those addressed to a national audience. Both, in turn, do not always fully coincide with the reality on the ground. The distinction of all three levels it not a merely analytical exercise. They do – though often in a contradicting way – converge in the everyday life of camp residents and host communities. They do also – as pre-existing frameworks – shape the form of local operation elaborated by the implementing agencies and their local counterparts.

In East Africa displacement has been a large issue for decades. Historically, the region played a major role in shaping responses to refugee crises. Tanzania and Uganda are pilot countries for the currently elaborated CRRF. The approach of local integration – allowing free movement and access to land – attracts attention by international actors. The paper will scrutinize a few cases where discourse and practice diverge to showcase challenges and shortfalls of the current model. But it also will look beyond and presents how actors in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have been taking this into account and already implanted more durable solutions to some extent.

Panel: Daring Steps? Durable Futures? Or Enduring Solutions?
The commodification of migration and pathways to protection

In this panel we seek to explore how different forms of 'durable solutions' - be they legal, social or political - are viewed and pursued by individuals displaced within and from Africa. We are particularly interested in the role of the commodification of the forced migration experience and how it has affected the way that people ‘value’ various legal statuses, as well as the expectations they have of what solutions could and should look like. Focusing on migrants’ experiences and perspectives on the different actors, spaces and opportunities they encounter
on the move, as well as future mobility aspirations, the aim is thus to examine how people decide on and navigate the various durable solutions available to them. This enables the contributors to this panel to explore what 'durability' has come to mean for affected individuals. Ultimately, this will allow for fresh reflection on foundational questions within the forced migration literature, namely what form ‘protection’ and ‘support’ could take in various contexts in order to be both responsive and complementary to desires expressed by those on the move. It also contributes to a burgeoning field of inquiry exploring not only the role of a commodification of (forced) migration, but also what effects this can have on the dynamics and decision-making that governs these movements.

Nora Bardelli, University of Oxford

‘Is being a refugee still worth it?’ Commodification of Malian refugeeness in Burkina Faso

UNHCR’s modus operandi, at its various scales, is increasingly based on market logics and ideals, playing a significant role, I argue, in the commodification of refugeeness. In this paper I explore one specific instance of this commodification. Following the drastic end of the food and cash assistance that Malian urban refugees living in Burkina Faso received for four years, some of the forced migrants started ‘capitalizing’ on their refugee status. They did so by applying for facilitated return, renouncing their refugee status, and collecting the lump sum that was given to them by UNHCR to support their journey back to Mali – while often not actually moving back. This tactic was deployed in particular by the refugees with less means, who were especially affected by the end of the assistance. Yet the picture is more complex than this: in addition to socio-economic class influencing these processes, gender and race also play a role into deciding whether “being a refugee is still worth it.” Ethnographically analysing how forced migrants perceive, negotiate, and value the refugee status allows me to tackle important issues around the 'durable solutions' debate. I will eventually uncover divergences between international organisations’ understandings of durable solutions, and the practices and aspirations of forced migrants.

Agathe Menetrier, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

Between durable solutions: planning the future while surviving in the present as refugees in an urban context

Over the past three decades, displaced persons from all over western- and central Africa have fled to Senegal. 19 different nationalities are today represented among the ‘urban refugees’ whose presence in Dakar ranges from a couple of months for some, to almost three decades for others. The UNHCR struggles to find ‘durable solutions’ for such a heterogeneous population. Refugees who have resided in the country of asylum the longest are expected to be ‘locally integrated’ and therefore deemed less worthy of assistance than asylum seekers who recently fled. Questioning the actual interest of refugees for these ‘solutions’ foreseen by the UNHCR, I followed refugee families of diverse backgrounds in their movements within Dakar, their city of exile. Their daily encounters uncovered a structured refugee-led network providing guidance and assistance to new comers. Long-term refugees discuss UNHCR’s and partner organisations’ programs as well as advise the more recently displaced in their choice of ‘durable solutions’. In this paper I mean to show that acquiring knowledge on qualification criteria for ‘durable solutions’ (as defined by the UNHCR) can be on the one hand constitutive of urban refugees’ collective mobilisation and on the other hand destructive for individual desires of stability. Looking at long-term solutions through the contradictory short-term entanglements they imply for refugees is part of a wider effort to analyse phenomena of protracted refugee situations and urban exile not only through international organisations’
responses but also through coping strategies developed by those who seek protection.

Marthe Achtnich, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology (ISCA), School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, University of Oxford

Commodified Mobility: migrants’ journeys in Libya

This paper examines the relationship between commodification and mobility that shapes sub-Saharan migrants’ and refugees’ journeys in Libya. Building on migrants’ narratives and multisited ethnographic fieldwork tracing movements across the Sahara desert, detention centres and private houses, I show how different forms of value are linked to the mobility of migrants. Emphasising that migrants’ mobility experiences in Libya are shaped by different actors, from state authorities to criminal groups, I show how commodification is often necessary for mobility. I suggest that using the journey as an analytic enables a focus that transcends state-centric understandings of migrants’ mobilities. Ultimately, I argue that studies of migrants’ journeys in a context of crisis might be usefully expanded by focusing on how immobility and associated forms of commodification often become a necessary condition for mobility.

Georgia Cole, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford

Attitudes towards refugee status among Eritreans on the move

Drawing upon research with Eritreans within Eritrea, and with those who are on the move, this paper discusses how their evolving perspectives on various legal statuses and durable solutions mediates the journeys they take. Given the trends towards commodification seen throughout the refugee regime, it questions where the real ‘value’ of refugee status is seen to lie according to these individuals. For those still within Eritrea, it explores their perspectives on friends, family and co-nationals who have sought asylum elsewhere, and how this affects their own attitudes towards migration. Their answers are helpful not only for understanding the patterns of movement exhibited by this population over the past decade, and how and why these are attenuated once people cross the border. They also inform an attempt to reflect back on protection from a much more joined-up, transnational perspective as approaching it from this scale of analysis is argued to align much more with groups’ needs and expectations.

Roundtable: Shaping the struggles of their times: Refugees, peacebuilding and resolving displacement

Megan Bradley, McGill University; Blair Peruniak, University of Oxford; Loren Landau, University of the Witwatersrand; Anna Purkey, University of Waterloo; Christina Clark-Kazak, University of Ottawa

Rising numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the increasingly protracted nature of displacement have generated significant interest in finding new approaches to resolving forced migration situations. On the policy level, the conversation has focused on ways to reinvigorate the three traditional “durable solutions” to displacement – voluntary return, local integration, or resettlement – while also exploring alternative avenues such as labour and educational migration and family reunification. A significant and striking gap in this policy discussion, and in scholarly research, is the absence of a systematic, rigorous, inter-disciplinary examination of the roles that forced migrants themselves can and do play in seeking solutions to their own displacement.

Since the early 1990s, a range of international norms have emerged that call for the active
engagement of refugees and IDPs in peacebuilding and reconstruction processes, and in efforts to resolve displacement, rooting the need for participation and consultation in international human rights principles. Yet in the vast majority of cases, states, humanitarian agencies and other international actors fail to actively incorporate displaced persons in these processes or fully recognize the ways in which these processes are nonetheless distinctively shaped by forced migrants themselves. Instead, institutional actors often employ rhetoric that suggests that refugees and IDPs are simply “provided” a durable solution to their displacement once the conditions that pushed them from their homes have been resolved, and that states and international organizations are the actors best positioned to interpret the appropriateness of different solutions. This approach effaces the active and often significant roles refugees and IDPs play in the complex political processes surrounding efforts to resolve conflict and the predicament of displacement itself.

This roundtable seeks to respond to this important gap. It will bring together contributors to a recent project on this theme to explore the following questions:

1. How have refugees and other displaced persons shaped the pursuit of solutions to their own displacement, and to peace processes more broadly?
2. How can the field of refugee and forced migration studies more effectively and consistently understand and engage with the empirical and normative dimensions of refugees’ roles?
3. How can these contributions be more effectively and consistently incorporated into policy and practice?

While focusing on the processes of peacebuilding and the pursuit of durable solutions to displacement, the contributors will discuss how in many cases the “solutions” crafted by refugees and IDPs themselves may necessitate critical reconsideration of these very constructs. The contributors come from a range of disciplinary perspectives (sociology, anthropology, political science, philosophy, law and anthropology) and will address current and historical cases including the return of refugees to Mozambique in the 1990s, the involvement of Congolese refugees in Uganda and Tanzania in resettlement processes, and the efforts of refugees and other migrants in contemporary Johannesburg to strategically “shun” sedentary, theoretically durable solutions in favour of continued mobility, even in precarious conditions. Roundtable contributors will also explore how refugees leverage legal principles to influence the pursuit of peace, post-conflict repatriation and reconciliation, and some of the complex moral questions associated with the “shared agency” of refugees involved in efforts to resolve displacement.

Regional Perspectives: South America

Ileana Nicolau, European University Institute

National responses to internal displacement: the institutionalisation of IDP protection norm into perspective

While there are more than 40 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) worldwide, internal displacement has raised little interest among practitioners and academia. Unlike refugees, IDPs have not crossed internationally recognised borders and, therefore, in the name of sovereignty,
remain under the responsibility of their state; the same state that was unable to prevent or even, very often, that was directly involved in their forced displacement.

Notwithstanding this tension, at least 32 countries adopted policies and laws at national level on internal displacement before 2016. This being said, and despite the existence of an international framework, the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998), these national responses vary in the framing of the internal displacement problem as well as its solutions and, not least, in their practices.

This paper proposes to explore the variation of national responses to internal displacement across countries, by providing a systematic analysis of policies and laws on IDPs protection worldwide. In addition, based on the comparative analysis of the processes of institutionalisation of the IDP protection norm since the 1990’s in Peru and Colombia, the paper aims to propose explanations to such variation. To do so, it draws from both international norms and policy analysis literatures as well as by using data collected during field work conducted in spring 2017.

Luciana Dias, Centro Universitario de Brasilia

Mud feet: displacement and prejudice after environmental tragedy in Brazil

This presentation is a case study about the internally displaced persons generated by what is considered the greatest socio-environmental disaster in Brazilian history and the largest in the world involving tailings dams. The rupture of the Fundão dam, located in the sub-district of Bento Rodrigues, 35 km distant from the center of the Brazilian municipality of Mariana/Minas Gerais, occurred in the afternoon of November 5th, 2015.

Most of the survivor victims of the disaster lost their homes, which they had to abandon and where they wish to return. Currently, the internally displaced persons of this disaster experience prejudice and mistrust in Mariana, since their children are called "mud feet" in school and the former residents of the sub-district of Bento Rodrigues - decimated in the disaster - are discriminated as if they were the cause of the tragedy that hit the municipality.

Brazilian internal regulation is still incipient when dealing with internal displacements and involuntary resettlements, since the legislative acts are merely punctual and casuistic.

In this scenario, the international disaster response laws, rules and principles (IDRL) - a new area of focus targeting states and humanitarian agencies operating in disaster areas - may not only provide guidance on how to address internally such situations, but can also serve as powerful tools in advocating for, and achieving, the protection of affected civilian populations. The paper aims to analyze the rupture of the ore tailings dam from the look of the various homeless and displaced people resulting from the tragedy.

Roundtable: Refugee Economies | Models for Economic Development & Social Integration

Abigail Blue, UC Hastings College of the Law; Carolyn Stevenson, Purdue University Global
This round table explores innovative models in refugee resettlement through a development lens; promoting the participation of migrants in host countries' economies and labor markets through models of apprenticeship and alternative educational accreditation.

Recession, Brain-drain & Market Opportunity | How refugees could be the answer to Italy's failing economy.

According to Eurostat, Italy's current governmental debt is 134.7% as of August 2017. Unemployment has hovered between 11% -12% since 2012 and global economists see a national banking crisis on the horizon. A generation of Italians (now aging into, or solidly in, retirement) have watched the educated youth of the next generation leave Italy for better wages in other countries of the Schengen area. Add to that, nearly half a million forcibly displaced migrants seeking refuge on Italian shores since 2014 (less than 30% of whom apply for asylum, and fewer still are granted asylum protections - 60% of those who do apply are denied). Italy's economic, social and political structures are bowing under the weight of these cumulative pressures.

But, what if refugees were the greatest asset Italy could have hoped for?

This round-table discussion explores the policies, mechanics and on-the-ground implementation of refugee resettlement programming models that seek to provide development opportunities for host countries with stagnant economies by shifting the focus from foreign aid to integration through meaningful employment and economic participation. Social, linguistic and cultural acclamation are secondary outcomes of a model that prepares immigrants to engage in small group apprenticeships, while offering “local mentors” monthly stipends to instruct and teach their trades and skills to refugee apprentices. Mapping the existing skill sets of migrants to mentors who are masters in their field, offers an opportunity for meaningful engagement and productivity for both host and migrant communities, fosters cooperation and empathy, and creates an exchange that is mutually beneficial, while stimulating the national economy. This round table discussion will explore durable solutions in refugee resettlement through educational and economic models.

Alternatives for Cross-Boundary Accreditation in Higher Education to Promote Economic Mobility for Migrants’ Employment in Host Countries

Studies show that a high percentage of migrants who have the resources to migrate out of their country of origin also have attained some level of higher education and experience in mid and highly skilled professional sectors. While public perceptions tend to characterize refugees and immigrants as low-skilled workers with little or no education, research shows the opposite to be true. Often refugees bring in a wide range of professional skills but may lack access to accreditation or credentialing in their host country. Institutions of higher education need to reach beyond traditional models and provide access and opportunity to marginalized populations such as refugees. The high cost and protracted time required to access accreditation in a field of higher education hinders immigrants with limited financial resources to gain credentialing, training and education in their chosen field. Educational leaders and policy makers, alike, need to consider leveraging non-traditional education models to allow for accreditation in fields where expertise/education is already attained. A focus on prior learning assessment (PLA), and the use of Open Educational Resources (OERs), can reduce barriers to attainment of higher education and credentialing in host countries, and provide an opportunity to earn credit for prior learning/life experiences at a lowered cost and shortened time period.
By enabling students to utilize competency-based learning systems, and complete training at their own pace, students (and foreign aid service organizations) save both time and money. This new approach to higher education can be viewed as a bridge program or initiative to support prior learning, earning credit for knowledge/life experience and is ideal for cross-boundary learners, providing credentialing in a short time period. This approach can also serve as the conduit for linguistic education of refugees in their host language as well as supplementary professional development for sector-specific skill requirements in host countries.

Through use of OERS, prior learning assessment, and credit for life experience, there lies an opportunity to re-frame refugees’ participation in formal economies by providing access to accreditation for higher education and mobilizing refugee labor to fill high-need vacancies across industries (such as healthcare) while stimulating economic growth through meaningful economic participation in their host country.

Hotspots, refoulement, assisted voluntary return: Individual Papers

Timokleia Psallidaki, School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens

The hotspot approach and the extra-territorialisation of the right to asylum

The recent European migration policies persistently call us to seek the border beyond the narrow boundaries of nation-states across a glocal biopolitical terrain; to reconceptualize it through its territorial, de-territorialized and extra-territorial dimensions. Adopting this idea of analyzing borders, I will focus on the recent implementation of the EU-Turkey Deal, which constitutes part of the Europe’s common way of extra-territorializing its control mechanisms and delegating the migration management beyond its geographical boundaries. In this negotiation and externalization of borders, the hotspots -although marginal at the edges of the Greek state- are becoming central for the new European enclosure policies by engaging more efficient mechanisms of detaining, deterring and filtering migration. These liminal places - where the microgeography of the migration body meets variously the hyperstate macrogeographies- are emerging as new forms of governance. In this presentation, I will attempt to depict the multiple interior re-bordering and understandings of the right to asylum that hotspots produce within Europe. More specifically, I will examine how the recent border policies are constantly reconstructing the geographical humanitarian discourses of “safety” and are redefining the “deserving” and “undeserving” bodies of international protection in European territory, by means of targeting the body and instrumentalizing on it the law.

Eleni Koutsouraki, European Centre of Research and Training on Human Rights and Humanitarian Action, Panteion University

The impact of the EU-Turkey deal on refugees and on Greece

Turkey is currently hosting the largest number of refugees in the world (over 3,4 million as of October 2017). On March 18th 2016, the Members of the European Council and their Turkish counterpart agreed that all new irregular migrants crossing from Turkey into Greek islands would be returned to Turkey. Within the following days, the provisions of the Directive 2013/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection concerning the “first country
of asylum” and the “safe third country” concepts were applied for the first time in Greece, in order to reject applications as inadmissible and return asylum seekers to Turkey. This paper aims to focus on violations of asylum seekers’ rights following forced returns to Turkey, with particular emphasis on possible violation of their right to asylum, refoulement, arbitrary detention, non-respect of social rights and ineffective judicial protection, especially after the failed coup attempt of July 2016. Following this analysis, we are going to examine if the Greek Authorities, which must assume this huge responsibility, should consider Turkey as “first country of asylum” and/or “safe third country”. Potential violations of International and European Law shall be also discussed.

Stefanos Spaneas, University of Nicosia; Agamemnon Zachariades, University of Nicosia

Cyprus Assisted Voluntary Return Programme: Developing a Sustainable Pre-Departure Policy

Cyprus Assisted Voluntary Return Programme: Developing a Sustainable Pre-Departure Policy

Cyprus is one of the EU member states with the most significant increases in their foreign population as a percentage of the total population between 2001 and 2012. The foreign population rose by 8.8% to 21.59%, out of which 37.63 per cent are non-European citizens. The pressure from European Union (EU) institutions in combination with the economic recession led the Republic of Cyprus to adopt a systematic effort to tackle the issue of migration, by developing processes to effectively manage legal and illegal migration (Solidarity Funds, 2010). More specifically the recent economic crisis (2013) led to an increase in unemployment and consequently to an increased negative portrait for migrants as competitive labour group and recipients of social welfare beneficiaries.

It is argued that those socio-political and economic conditions led the Cypriot government to adopt measures to facilitate unprecedented inflows of mixed migration (MIPEX, 2014). Regarding illegal migration, the decision was taken to implement relevant national legislation more systematically; deporting irregular migrants. More than 10,000 irregular migrants returned to their countries of origins following forced returned procedures. Only recently (2015), following the adoption of the EU Directive 2008/115/EC on the return of irregular migrants (Cyprus Ombudsman Office, 2013) in the national legislation, Cyprus began to develop and implement Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) actions as an alternative to forced returns.

The presentation draws attention to the Assisted Voluntary Return initiated policy. It is seen as an integral aspect of a wider migration policy which ensures the dignified and humane return of Third Country Nationals who have exhausted all options for legal temporary residence permit. It describes the design and implementation of the first AVR programme in Cyprus and reflects on the experience gained from the frontline. A number of inhibit and enabler factors both at strategic and operational levels have to be understood and procedures to be carefully designed, leading to more effective changes for achieving greater quality of services. A conceptual framework is suggested for setting up and implementing AVR pre-departure processes at national level to escalate multi-disciplinary responsiveness of key agencies taking under consideration three main pillars: (i) Structure—the need to develop a flexible hierarchical structure in collaboration with several organisations and employees; (ii) Assistance—the need to sustain quality professional practices; and (iii) Returnees—the need to understand a number of different. It is anticipated that the construction of such framework will possibly lead to more effective changes in achieving greater quality of services.

Stephen Phillips, Institute for Human Rights, Åbo Akademi University
Europe’s proposed asylum processing ‘hotspots’ in Africa: in the shadows of Australia’s ‘Pacific Solution’

Global movements of individuals seeking asylum are at their highest level since the years immediately following the Second World War, and recent increases in the number of unauthorised arrivals in Europe have seen existing reception and processing systems tested. In this context, extraterritorial measures aimed at deterring asylum seekers have come to be seen as favourable by states that wish to adopt responses to forced migration which are centred on notions of border security. Several European countries, led by France, have recently discussed the possibility of establishing processing ‘hotspots’ in North Africa, a proposal that seemingly draws inspiration from Australia’s ‘Pacific Solution’, which transferred asylum seekers to facilities in Papua New Guinea and Nauru.

This paper examines the extent to which international human rights norms, in their present state, enable the use of harmful extraterritorial deterrence measures towards asylum seekers by states. In addition, it looks at the human rights implications of EU states replicating deterrence measures used by other states, in this case Australia, that seek to punish and harm asylum seekers. The paper questions what current law and practice tells us about what the law does, and how this can be applied to the EU.

Finally, the paper questions the extent to which the relevant international human rights norms are complicit in the capacity of states to inflict harm on asylum seekers, and whether human rights norms provide sufficient limits to state actions.

Panel: Negotiating Mobility – What does protracted displacement in Afghanistan teach us?
Organizers & Chairs: Katja Mielke & Susanne Schmeidl

Afghanistan is a particularly compelling case study of intractable displacement. After four decades of conflict, Afghanistan remains one of the top six refugees and IDP producing countries globally. Especially internal displacement has been on the rise over the past few years with an estimated 1.5 million IDPs to date. This, however, might be simply the tip of the iceberg of displaced people in the country, most meeting up in fast growing urban areas where they compete for limited space and resources. In this panel, we wish to explore how different displacement trajectories lead to diverse categorization of displaced populations, which in turn influences levels of precarity and neglect, but also access to services and assistance. Guiding questions are: How is ‘displacement’ configured and who is deemed worthy to be assisted? Under which conditions can the displaced influence or react to their being categorized into specific target groups for assistance? By focussing on the role of the Afghan state and humanitarian organizations in shaping these decisions and the categorization who officially counts as IDP and why/why not (e.g., refugee returnees, rural-urban migrants, groups with a repeated displacement background), we intend to synthesize lessons learned from protracted displacement in Afghanistan.

Liza Schuster, University of London; Reza Hussaini, Kabul University

The evolution of an Afghan migration policy and the role of the EU

Even though migration has been a key characteristic of Afghan life for centuries, and over the
past decades Afghanistan has witnessed the forced departures of millions of its citizens, the Afghan government has largely been unable or unwilling to control this movement. In recent years, much of the advocacy for and response to the needs of this population has been led by international agencies. The Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation was assigned a coordination role, and has played a rather passive part in the evolution of policy. A sharp spike in the number of Afghans seeking refuge abroad and growing hostility to those forced migrants from host states led to the quest for a comprehensive migration policy. But the initiative for this policy came, not from inside Afghanistan, but from Europe. This paper explores the roots of this initiative, how it has been received by the Afghan government, how much progress has been made and with what implications for Afghan forced migrants.

Susanne Schmeidl, University of New South Wales

Untangling Afghan Displacement Trajectories

Afghans have a long history of using mobility as a survival strategy or as ‘social, economic and political insurance’ for improving livelihoods and to escape conflict and natural disasters. This has made it difficult to fit the different mobility trends into neat categories. The multiple, often overlapping, internal mobility categories in Afghanistan include: recurrent short-term disaster-affected displacement, conflict-affected internal displacement, secondary displacement of refugee returnees, rural-urban migration, rural-rural migration, urban-urban migration, development-induced urban-rural migration, seasonal labour migration, and the movement of migratory people (e.g., the Kuchi, Jogi/Jat). Alessandro Monsutti emphasizes the plurality of migration drivers, which helps to blur the boundary between what constitutes forced or voluntary migration, leaving the door open to classify population to suit different agendas. These agendas include the classification of Afghan refugees as economic migrants, and IDPs as ‘simple’ rural-urban migrants. In this paper, I wish to explore how different displacement trajectories are used to shape the discourse around what displacement signifies, leading to what Ulrich Oselender recently described as ‘banality of displacement’ in the context of Colombia. Are we encountering something similar in Afghanistan and how can we shift how the story of Afghan displacement is told?

Dan Tyler, Will Carter, Norwegian Refugee Council

Yesterday’s refugees, today’s IDPs: Cross-border return to internal displacement?

Following a major campaign in Pakistan to push Afghan refugees back home, more than 600,000 registered and undocumented returnees arrived in eastern Afghanistan between July and December 2016. These large-scale unplanned returns, whether forced, spontaneous or assisted, have prompted humanitarian actors on the ground to warn that secondary displacement of returnees is likely. Undocumented and involuntary returnees are at particular risk because they tend not to be monitored or assisted, but rather fall off humanitarian agencies’ radar. Thus, they are far less likely to reintegrate into their communities. Afghanistan’s national policy on IDPs in clear that refugee returnees should be counted as internally displaced unless they are able to settle sustainably in their places of origin. New research by the Norwegian Refugee Council and partners is seeking to assess the impact of these large scale returns and see if it is possible to record the extent of secondary displacement, as well as determine whether the experience of secondary or multiple displacement upon return presents specific protection and response needs. Drawing on field research focusing on this ‘returnee-IDP’ cohort, we will present recommendations to humanitarian and development actors intended to ensure this group do not fall outside the
Elke Grawert, Katja Mielke, BICC Bonn (Peace and Conflict Research Institute)

Coping with protracted violent conflict: Trajectories of displaced Afghans in Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan

Focusing on agency of Afghans, the paper highlights the forms of interrelationships that have been contributing to securing livelihoods of displaced Afghans within and outside Afghanistan during forty years of armed conflict. Whereas previous analyses often neglected ‘class’ differences of displaced persons, we seek to clarify how displaced from a poor and middle class background cope differently. The analysis of examples of displaced people inside Afghan cities, Iranian rural and urban areas, and in Pakistan questions the distinctions between IDPs, returnees and refugees made in the realm of humanitarian and development agencies. Our analysis of Afghan mobility confirms that trans-local networks form a viable strategy for scattered families to support members, adjusting to ever-changing policy conditions in different countries. The paper argues that providing assistance for communities as a whole will tackle the needs of conflict-affected groups better than particular aid programs to special target groups. Drawing on our empirical insights we conclude that facilitating and supporting trans-local networks in Europe and the region will help families to survive within Afghanistan. This will require new types of policy interventions.

Refugee Healthcare

Hannah Bradby, Uppsala University and Irini Anastassiou, Center for the Advancement of Research & Development in Educational Technology (CARDET)

Challenges and frustrations in providing good quality accessible healthcare for migrants to Europe

Most studies on migrants’ access to healthcare in Europe is fragmented making it difficult to understand the issue and compare across different countries. This qualitative study explored the barriers and facilitators to equal healthcare to migrants in ten European countries and was conducted by the MigHealthCare project’s consortium between the Fall of 2017 and the Spring of 2018, funded by the European Commission. We built on a literature review by devising a common set of questions to interview health care professionals, service providers, policy makers and representatives from Non-Governmental Organisations across ten European countries (Malta, Austria, Italy, Spain, Greece, Germany, France, Cyprus, Sweden, Bulgaria). We identified healthcare providers as offering somewhat more critical assessments of the availability of accessible services for vulnerable migrants as compared with policy makers. Knowledge, language and communication issues were described for both healthcare users and providers, with mental health, with a particular focus on mental health issues. Examples of good practice are described. http://www.mighealthcare.eu/

Daniella Valentine, Coventry University

The experiences of refugees’ and asylum seekers’ accessing mental health services

Despite an increasing number of refugees resettling in the British city of Coventry, coupled with consensus that refugees experience high rates of emotional distress, there has not been an investigation of their experiences of accessing mental health services that are available to
people living in the UK. This paper therefore addresses the experiences of refugees attempting to access, or successfully accessing mental health services in Coventry. A Thematic Analysis of semi-structured interviews with eight refugees of who had fled four different countries (Afghanistan, Cameroon, Syria and Iran) was undertaken. Interviews explored refugees’ understanding of mental health, their experiences of accessing mental health services, and their recommendations for service improvements. The analysis demonstrated that refugees have complex and diverse understandings of mental health. All participants had experienced mental health effects relating to their traumatic experiences, including depression, anxiety and/or physical health problems. Participants gave a varied account of those factors detrimental to their well-being including those that increased barriers to service access. A number of recommendations are made, including fostering a more caring and proactive approach to supporting refugees’ well-being and mental health, a clearer care pathway for refugees into mental health services, increased liaison between General Practitioner’s and mental health services, a more collaborative approach between different agencies regarding referrals to mental health services and greater consistency in the quality of care refugees receive.

Panel: Changing Durable Solutions in the Middle East
This panel considers changing durable solutions in the Middle East amongst refugees and IDPs. It draws on the skills and knowledge of senior scholars with years of experience, as well as young recent graduates, who are working with NGOs in the region. It thus invites deep academic inquiry to intersect with relevant policy and practice on the ever-shifting landscape of durable solutions in the Middle East. The papers demonstrate that durable solutions are far more complex than often discussed, and the interconnectivity between scholars and practitioners. A paper on internal displacement in Iraq examines tools for determining when displacement ends, complexities around solutions for Iraqi IDPs, and the broader approach to long-term solutions. Another paper explores the failure of current western-driven conceptions of asylum, which have presented challenges in the Middle East. Rather, in the view of changing durable solutions, a holistic approach that recognizes and supports the societal duty-based “presentations” (karam) alongside contemporary rights-based mechanisms derived from international law. The third paper considers entrepreneurship as a tool toward social and economic integration as a durable solution. It looks specifically at a new model in Iraq, which draws upon a start-up incubator for displaced entrepreneurs in Erbil. The final paper considers draws on research regarding youth engagement in the Middle East, and examines how to better leverage the potential of young people to serve as active contributors to their communities and take ownership over their own “durable solutions.”

Katharine Donato and Elizabeth Ferris, Georgetown University

The Dynamics of Internal Displacement in Iraq
Internal displacement in northern Iraq is a dynamic process. Although some IDPs find permanent solutions, new displacement often occurs and IDPs often move repeatedly in search of better circumstances. This paper will begin with an examination of two relevant tools that offer guidance for for determining when displacement ends: the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons and IOM’s Framework for the Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations. The paper will then explore the complexities around solutions for Iraqi IDPs by analyzing a unique source of survey and interview data collected in 2016-17 via a joint IOM-Georgetown University research project. Using the survey data collected from
approximately 3,900 Iraqi IDP households in four governorates, and interviews from a subset of persons in these households, we will examine the dynamics of displacement. We will assess the utility of the two relevant frameworks for Iraqi IDP households, especially when, where, and how displacement starts and ends. In addition, we examine shifts in IDPs’ intentions with respect to displacement and long-term solutions. At the end of manuscript, we will consider how well the two relevant frameworks work as assessment tools for determining when displacement ends in the Iraqi case.

Dawn Chatty, Oxford University

"Incorporating duty-based asylum into international rights-based humanitarian solutions"

This paper argues that the template for international humanitarian aid delivery developed over the past 70 years as a set of three durable solutions - 3rd country resettlement local integration, and voluntary return - requires reconfiguration and contextual flexibility. Contemporary refugee asylum has become a rights’ based mechanism for certain categories of people and excludes an unacceptable number of ‘others’. In the context of the Middle East, which currently contains more than 60% of the world’s refugees, many displaced and dispossessed individuals do not want to be categorized as refugees; nor do they want to reveal their personal details for fear of ‘discovery’ by the state from which they fled. On its own, ‘rights-based’ asylum is ‘unfit for purpose’ in the middle income countries of the Eastern Mediterranean where asylum and sanctuary are regarded as a duty despite the conflicted politics of gift and exchange (solidarity and hostility). Using as a case study the refuge which has been afforded displaced Syrians in the neighbouring countries of Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, and the United Arab Emirates, I argue that the way forward – the changing of durable solutions – is a holistic approach which recognizes and supports the continuing existence of societal duty-based ‘presentations’ [karam as elaborated by Marcel Mauss] alongside contemporary rights-based mechanism derived from international law.

Alice Bosley and Patricia Letayf, Five One Labs (Iraq)

Five One Labs

While Durable Solutions create a helpful framework for humanitarian action, the current trend of long-term displacement illustrates the failures of this framework. When the security situation in the place of origin is still too volatile to repatriate, there is no option for local integration, and resettlement is often impossible, how can the humanitarian community ensure refugees a life with dignity?

This paper will seek to explore the use of entrepreneurship as a tool to address the challenges of displacement and reintegration. In doing so, it will answer the following questions: what are the benefits of using entrepreneurship and small business development as a means to facilitate social and economic integration? What are the challenges? What conditions need to be met in order to take advantage of this tool? How does one cultivate a culture of entrepreneurship among displaced communities? And what role do various actors (host governments, humanitarian organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector, and others) play in enabling the use of entrepreneurship as a tool to promote economic integration?

The paper will use the Five One Labs model in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq as a case study. Five One Labs is a recently-launched start-up incubator for displaced entrepreneurs in Erbil and provides training, mentorship and wrap-around support to refugee entrepreneurs seeking to
launch scalable businesses as a means to restart their lives. It will identify lessons learned from the first incubator cohorts that can be applied to other contexts in the region.

Fatima Raza, Columbia University

"Engaging Youth in the Middle East as Partners in Seeking Durable Solutions to Displacement"

Conflicts in the Middle East have prompted mass displacement across the region— a significant proportion of which are young people, who often find themselves deprived of opportunities for education, livelihoods and civic engagement. This reality has contributed to a profound sense of exclusion and disempowerment among displaced youth. At the same time, it is increasingly recognized that youth engagement — increasing youth capacity and agency to make decisions over programs and policies that affect their lives — can have positive impacts on their personal, social and human development. International and local organizations can play a critical role in leveraging the potential of young people to serve as active contributors to their communities and take ownership over their own futures.

This paper is based on graduate research carried out by a team of students at Columbia. It involved a multi-country study across Syria (remotely), Jordan, Lebanon, and Greece, and highlights the priorities and concerns of displaced youth and the challenges they face. While organizations working with displaced youth often recognize the value of youth engagement, many lack effective means to delegate decision-making authority and resources to youth in their programs as relates to durable solutions. Organizational strategies for youth engagement range from tokenistic involvement to meaningful partnership. This study highlights good practices for youth engagement in seeking durable solutions, and provides recommendations for organizations to adapt and design programming that effectively empowers and engages displaced youth as partners in change.

Panel: Probing Private/Community Resettlement for Refugees

Organizer: Jennifer Hyndman; Chair: Susan McGrath, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University

This session will examine the perks, perils and possibilities of private (sometimes called 'community') sponsorship as a unique form of refugee resettlement. A small number of countries are exploring ways of collaborating with private citizens and community groups to host or sponsor refugees. With few of the conventional ‘durable solutions’ actually working to protect the world’s refugees, private-sponsorship as a form of refugee resettlement, in addition to government-assisted refugees, provides permanent legal status, minimum entitlements, and a new home to a select few. How do private sponsorships compare with government ones? Canada has been using this approach widely for almost four decades. Groups of five sponsors contract to finance and provide settlement supports for 12 months to newly arrived refugees who live in the same communities as sponsors. The United Kingdom is exploring a community sponsorship approach where organisations must go through a complicated government permission process before they can support a family. Brazil is exploring a form of private sponsorship in which the private sector would play a major role; it has used humanitarian visas for Haitians, Syrian, and most recently Venezuelans as a protection strategy as well. Such pathways to permanent status provide additional protection space where so much more is needed but concerns about implementation and monitoring have also been raised. Is private sponsorship a sign that resettlement is being privatized? What about the
sponsors? Is this a social movement by citizens to ‘do something’ in the absence of state initiative? These issues and preliminary data from various research projects will be addressed.

Michaela Hynie, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University

*Settling Private Sponsored and Government Sponsored Syrian Refugees in Canada*

Despite its commitment to private sponsorship as a strategy for resettlement, there are few longitudinal studies exploring the integration pathways of private and government sponsored refugees, or that take into account pre-existing differences between those accessing the different sponsorship paths. This paper reports on the first wave of data from SyRIA.lth, a 4-year longitudinal study with 1,932 Syrians who resettled in Canada’s 3 largest immigrant receiving provinces (British Colombia, Ontario, Quebec) between 2015 and 2016. Of these participants, 863 entered Canada through Government Assisted Refugee program and 976 through the Privately Sponsored Refugee program. We will describe the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of participants of these two programs and how these characteristics relate to their early integration outcomes across the three provinces.

Jenny Phillimore, Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS), University of Birmingham

*Establishing a community sponsorship programme in the UK*

While the Community Sponsorship Programme is well established in Canada, it is under development in the UK. Various organisations, generally faith-based, are seeking to apply to sponsor families but must engage in a complicated process in order to gain permission from the UK’s Home Office before they can support a family. Focussing on the Methodist Church in England this paper examines the motivations underpinning organisations and individuals’ engagement with the Community Sponsorship process and the barriers that organisations have faced in trying to establish programmes.

Jennifer Hyndman, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University with Jona Zfyi, Ryerson University and Shauna Labman

(co-authors not present include A. Macklin, K. Barber, L. Goldring, A. Korteweg)

*Situating Private Sponsors as Citizens in Canada’s Syrian Resettlement Program*

Faith-based and ethno-specific organizations have sustained a continual program of private refugee sponsorship in Canada for 40 years. The Syrian refugee exodus sparked a surge in interest among thousands of Canadians with little or no prior experience with refugee sponsorship. There is currently much enthusiasm for private refugee sponsorship in Canada and a move to extend the model for global adoption. Yet a significant knowledge gap concerns the sponsors themselves, their characteristics, motivations, experiences and insights. The research objectives are to: 1) map the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of private sponsors; 2) examine how private sponsors understand their role in the project of making refugees into citizens; 3) analyze sponsorship as a mode of civic engagement that potentially re-makes the citizenship of sponsors; and 4) situate current private sponsorship of refugees in historical, legal and theoretical perspective.

Regional Perspectives: South/Southeast Asia
Carrie Perkins, Southern Methodist University

Rethinking Repatriation on the Thai-Burma Border

This presentation will focus on data gathered during the summer and fall of 2017 while research was conducted inside Mae La Refugee Camp on the Thai-Burma Border. It aims to address the current state of voluntary repatriation programs and suggest alternative models for durable solutions in extremely protracted refugee situations, such as those experienced within the 9 camps along the Thai-Burma border. The researcher lived inside Mae La Refugee Camp for several months, which provides a unique and in-depth analysis that serves to elucidate both the reasons behind resistance to repatriate as well as what factors would actually drive a successful return.

Hugh Tuckfield, University of Sydney

How States Decide: Durable solutions, international norms and protracted refugee situations

This paper investigates the enduring question of how states decide to create and implement durable solutions and to follow or reject the international human rights norms of the international framework of the refugee regime in their decision-making behavior. It does so in the context of how and why the Himalayan states of Nepal, sandwiched between China and India, in 2006-07, decided to agree to a proposal by Washington to resettle the Bhutanese, but did not agree to accept a similar proposal to resettle the Tibetan refugees. To investigate this paradox my research has developed a conceptual framework grounded in international relations (IR) theory and the concept of socialization to ‘explain how state and non-state actors change their behavior and embrace new ideas’ to conform to international norms of the refugee regime. This research contributes to understanding how other states decide on modes of protection and durable solutions, whether to follow or reject international human rights norms, and how their decision-making behavior is shaped by other state (the US, China and India) and non-state actors (UNHCR).

Afghanistan/Afghan refugees

Waseem Ahmad, American University Washington College of Law

The Fate of Durable Solutions in Protracted Refugee Situations

A protracted refugee situation is always critical and challenging in terms of finding durable solutions. The Afghan population in Pakistan is complex and one of the world’s most protracted refugee case load. The response to Afghan refugees has almost always been structured within the framework of “Durable Solutions.” However, such traditional approaches are unable to overcome the specific challenges stemming from a refugee population that has remained in exile for over 37 years. This grave issue needs out-of-the box solutions. The international community has focused largely on refugee emergencies, but the complexity of a protracted situation is that it has moved beyond the emergency phase and no longer requires mere lifesaving protection and humanitarian assistance. Therefore, the political and strategic aspects must also be addressed. The return of Afghan refugees in 2002 was considered the single largest repatriation by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as of that date. Nevertheless, the phenomenon of recycling remains a common practice in Pakistan. In this context, serious questions have been raised over the viability, sustainability, and durability of the return and reintegration of refugees in Afghanistan. The induction of Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) as a regional approach is a constructive step, though the implementation could be challenging and would demand huge efforts. The Afghan case is most
perplexing because of its long duration, and not because of the numbers of refugees involved. Despite the high level of response in terms of humanitarian aid, the issue was, and still is, the victim of power politics, as well as geopolitical and economic interests.

[Link to Article: http://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/sjsj/vol15/iss3/10]

**Mitra Naseh, Florida International University**

*Repatriation to Secondary Displacement: Case of Afghan Refugees in Iran*

Due to more than three decades of conflicts, Afghan refugees have remained the world’s largest long-standing refugee population. According to the UNHCR’s latest global trend report, one in every nine refugees worldwide is from Afghanistan and more than one in every three Afghan refugees lives in Iran. Close to 40 years of hosting Afghans has depleted resources and caused security concerns in Iran. Consequently, in recent years, with an assumption that Afghanistan is safe for refugees’ return, Iran put policies in place to encourage voluntary repatriation and sometimes enforce return of Afghans to their home country. Afghan refugees’ return to Afghanistan has been promoted and facilitated by humanitarian organizations like UNHCR over the past decades with the premise that it will end prolonged displacement for this population. However, return has been far from being a durable solution for displacement for many Afghans. Large number of Afghan returnees have been forced to a secondary displacement due to an array of reasons, including lack of a decent accommodation in Afghanistan. This study reviews the rather stable housing situation of Afghan refugees in Iran and compares it with reported unstable shelter conditions in Afghanistan: over 98% access rate to a private durable covered living space with 80% access rate to minimum standards of shelter compared to 35% access rate to a private shelter with low quality standards. Findings call for reevaluation of voluntary repatriation as a durable solution for Afghans’ displacement in the absence of decent accommodation for returnees in Afghanistan.

**Nithya Rajan, University of Minnesota**

*The Paradox of Livelihood Initiatives: Afghan Refugee Women’s Experiences as Workers in India*

This paper asks how Afghan refugee women labor in the absence of citizenship, class, gender and religious privilege in India. Refugees in India are subject to The Foreigner’s Act, which restricts them from seeking steady and long-term employment, forcing them to labor in a legal grey area. There is also no path to citizenship for Muslim refugees in India. Yet, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has sought to train refugee women to become financially self-reliant through ‘Self-Reliance and Livelihood Initiatives’. Located at the intersection of various structural, legal and discursive impediments, Afghan refugee women in New Delhi labor in extremely hostile conditions with no assurance of achieving economic self-reliance. I take up this paradox of global and state policies within which Afghan refugee women work in India to demonstrate the shortcomings and shortsightedness of such initiatives.

**Panel: Design for Asylum: Architecture, Urban Space and Forced Migration – Part One**

This panel focuses on the role that architecture and urban design play in addressing the forced migration in European cities. We invite contributions which analyze the new spatial phenomena that are emerging to control, deter, and accommodate refugees and asylum seekers arriving to Europe - ‘gated towns’, detention centres, temporary housing, camps,
informal settlements and other. We also welcome papers that examine the ways in which refugees and asylum seekers appropriate, adapt and transform these places in their everyday lives, as well as the dynamics of their interaction with local communities in the city. This panel seeks to contrast the formal security and accommodation architectures and the informal migrant place-making practices in order to understand what the host governments, humanitarian agencies, and professionals at work can learn from the migrant ‘bottom-up’ spatial tactics. We call for proposals for empirical and theoretic papers from academics, architects, urban designers, planners, local government officials, NGOs, military agencies, refugees and other. They should address some of the following questions:

- How have cities responded to and been reshaped by the forced migration to the EU?
- What are the major issues that the design of the existing architectural and urban spaces for migrant occupancy raise?
- What are the major challenges – for instance, socio-spatial integration, inclusion and cohesion of refugees with the host communities, security, health, and other – that the forced migration poses for the city’s urban development?
- What impact do these challenges have on the urban morphology and spatial practices of everyday life in the city?
- How can architectural and urban design, planning and management practice address and respond to these issues and challenges?
- What theoretic concepts and methodologies have been deployed to analyze the ways in which the cities have dealt with the forced migration through architecture and urban space?
- What potential do research and design of spaces for migrant occupancy create for fostering socio-spatial integration, inclusion and cohesion and enriching our cities in the future?

Anoma Pieris, University of Melbourne

**Domesticating Sovereignty: Australian camps for Europeans after the Second World War**

This paper examines the refugee camp as a spatial border phenomenon that recurs throughout experiences of war-related immigration; recalling an earlier history of European refugee mobilisation. Introducing Rushworth, Bonegilla and Greta camps in Australia, it interrogates their military design. Given the circumstances of wartime dislocation, and the camps from which refugees are sent to Australia, it asks if regimented barrack accommodation is appropriate or humane. In raising these questions, this paper contrasts the internment camp and the refugee camp as precursors to current practices of mandatory detention. But it also highlights how refugees humanised their regimented surroundings. For men, the camp was a transient space layered with anxieties of finding labour, and temporary boredom. For women and children, it was a safe space, which due to refugee-run kitchens, simulated a community. Whereas the work of Giorgio Agamben has theorised the camp as an exception to sovereignty, where subjects are rendered stateless, and denied basic rights, this paper offers a different reading. The ethno-linguistic diversity shared by European refugees amplified their cultural complexity, and placed them in an environment more vibrant than the rural towns outside it, and less hostile than the national conflicts they had fled. The camps reflected in microcosm some of the tensions, collaborations and border crossings later politicised through the European Union. Their assimilation into Australia traded this spatially constrained diversity for pre-determined, mono-cultural freedoms. Whereas the camp grid was carceral from the...
outset, so were the suburbs outside.

**Mirjana Ristic, TU Darmstadt**  
*Temporary Urbanism and Forces Migration: Lessons from Belgrade*

The ongoing migration crisis in Europe and beyond is an urban phenomenon. According to the UNHCR data, over half the world’s 10.5 million refugees live in cities rather than in camps, often occupying informal, temporary and liminal spaces. This paper explores the transformation of self-organized migrant spaces in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, since the closure of the Balkan Route in 2016. The event turned Belgrade from a transitory city into a confined city, where thousands of migrants were stuck neither wanting to stay nor being able to leave. In this context, the paper investigates the emergence, transformation and demolition of two migrant squatter settlements in the central Belgrade: “Afghan Park” and “Barracks”.

Through fieldwork, it analyses how and why migrants appropriated, adapted and mobilized these spaces in the struggle for human rights and freedom of movement towards the EU. Through interviews and open source data, it also examines the ways in which the host community of the city perceived these spaces and how the migrants interacted with the local population, authorities and NGOs to negotiate xenophobia, opposition and exclusion. The paper raises lessons about what urban planners and designers can learn from the qualities of the informal migrant spaces about the challenges and opportunities for fostering mutual understanding, integration, and cohesion of the forced migrants with the host communities in cities.

**Anna Marie Steigemann, TU Berlin and Philipp Misselwitz, TU Berlin**  
*Architectures of Asylum. A glocal perspective from Zaatari, Jordan and Berlin, Germany*

Although urban research began to address socio-spatial distribution and architectures of so-called collective accommodations for asylum seekers, their spatial agency within these processes has not been a subject of substantive research yet. Combining research methods from architectural and social sciences, the paper investigates various appropriation processes by Syrian refugees currently housed in humanitarian settings in Jordan and Germany. What spatial knowledge is mobilized at the place of asylum? How does this knowledge hybrizide practices of the place of origin, experiences made during the flight and the arriving and uncertain period of stay at an unfamiliar place of asylum? What is the relationship between these subjective experiences of space? How do hybridization processes change over time and what factors influence these changes? How do spatial appropriation processes collide with humanitarian logics and technocratic emergency management approaches?

The paper argues that arriving refugees mobilize spatial and urban knowledge at the place of asylum which can only be understood as a re-figuration process which is equally at work in the case of other migrants, migration and translocal processes. In particular, we focus on the ways refugees perceive, adapt to, appropriate, and alter their new urban environment physically and socially and on how they thereby draw on existing and evolving stocks of urban knowledge, urban experiences, and relationships. A study of these urban re-figurations explains how migration affects transformation of urban space - physically and socially, and how planning and the existing and evolving social and technical infrastructures affect migrants’ mobility – socially and spatially.
Panel: Design for Asylum: Architecture, Urban Space and Forced Migration – Part Two

Sara Willems, KU Leuven, Henk De Smet, KU Leuven and Ann Heylighen, KU Leuven

Seeking a balance between privacy and connectivity in housing for refugees

After receiving protection from the arrival country, refugees can start settling again. Finding appropriate housing is a difficult process, however. To increase the availability of housing for refugees in Flanders several volunteers developed housing initiatives. We investigated to what extent these initiatives are in line with refugees’ wishes and needs. To grasp the intentions of initiators and the lived experience of refugees semi-structured interviews were conducted, once with initiators of three housing initiatives and twice with nine refugees living there. In the timeframe between the interviews refugees could further document their experiences themselves by using cultural probes. Comparison of intentions and experiences indicates that initiators and refugees search for built environments that support a balance between connectedness with others and privacy. Finding this balance seems to be difficult, however. Both groups mention that interactions are influenced by the living environment, the household structure the dwelling is designed for and the building style. Contact with other refugees and people from different cultures can be stimulated in order to build up and maintain a social network. On the other hand privacy inside dwellings creates the possibility to preserve aspects of one’s own identity and lifestyle, and to personalize the often western houses to make them feel more familiar. Furthermore the support of both aspects by the living environment is mentioned as helpful to deal with traumas. The insights gained in our study can contribute to architectural designs and design processes that support the integration of refugees, and therefore to a more inclusive built environment and society.

Simone Cecilie Grytter, Goldsmiths, University of London and Josefine Sarkez-Knudsen, University of Copenhagen

Living together and side-by-side. A comparative ethnographic study of how the local population in an urban and a rural scenery, received newcomers during the refugee influx in 2015, focusing on the importance of geography and local setting

We examine how the local population in the Danish village Egebæk-Hviding, and locals in Berlin, Germany responded to the newcomers arriving during the refugee influx into Europe in 2015. We believe that the local population is an important, but overseen group of actors in receiving and integrating newcomers. The aim of our research is to examine how locals, in these geographically and demographically different areas of Europe, received the newcomers. In Egebæk-Hviding we investigate how the local population experienced the presence of a large asylum centre. This part of our examination challenges the image, often portrayed in the mass media, that inhabitants in rural areas are often either highly pro or contra asylum centres. We found how the history and architecture of the asylum centre buildings, as well as the village’s infrastructure played an important role in this. In Berlin we focus on locals who, voluntarily and independently, housed newcomers in their own home. These acts of solidarity might be seen as different forms of welcome culture; a politically inspired concept that entered mainstream public discourse in Germany during 2015.

In Egebæk-Hviding the locals experience the asylum centre as a part of the village’s eco-system. However, the situation is not characterized by a strong sense of “living together”, - rather a sense of “living side-by-side”. In Berlin the situation is oppositely characterized by a strong notion of “living together”, and it is uncovered that housing and engaging with newcomers on a
daily basis is complex and multifactorial, and may evolve into tension and conflict. In relation to each other, it becomes clear that the locals’ response to the newcomers in Egebæk-Hviding and Berlin are characterized by being multiple, and the locals’ individual experience can be complex and filled with paradoxes, but still make sense in their individual everyday lives.

**Marianna Nigra, Politecnico di Torino**

*Managing Complexity: The Phenomenon of Migration as a Trigger for Change in Complex Urban Systems*

Cities have been largely described as complex adaptive systems. Complexity theory is generally utilized to describe phenomena that do not respond to linear trajectories; show unique behavioral pattern; are composed by high degree of components and interconnections; and are highly responsive to external and internal input. These system are also characterized by the inner contradiction of fragility and robustness. The more complex the systems are and the more robust. Yet the more complex the systems are and the higher is the probability that a punctual failure could generate the entire systems failure. Yet, every change can represent both an advancement opportunity and a potential threaten to the system. The contemporary phenomenon of increasing migration towards the European Cities represents an input into the complexity of the urban context system, which, consequentially, might vary its behavior patterns, generating opportunities and/or criticalities. These patterns depend upon a number of variable which span from immigration policies, readiness of the urban morphology, availability of built environment, etc. This work is aimed at applying concepts of complexity management to the phenomenon of migration towards European cities, by proposing methods to map cities as complex adaptive systems (characteristics of the existing context), read the characteristics of the external input (migration characteristics), and understand the response of the system (cities strategies and responses). On the basis of this analysis, the critical characteristics of the complex system will be highlighted and provided as a base for the definition of future policies, design strategies, and social responses.

**Panel: Transit migration, state legitimacy and urban impact. Findings from Mexico, Greece and Turkey**

**Panel Organizer: Karen Jacobsen, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University**

This panel addresses two conference themes: both changing durable solutions and civil society, new humanitarianism and citizens’ mobilization, by looking at different ways in which “The current proliferation of inter-state agreements [and] regional mechanisms ... to manage movements across borders and protect refugees calls for an understanding of the emerging dynamics of institutional frameworks [and] renegotiations of modes of protection.” The panel explores new frameworks of protection and governance that emerge in transit countries, particularly the cases of Mexico, Greece and Turkey. We seek to understand the stresses and protection risks placed on migrants and refugees and how they respond, and the consequences for the legitimacy of governing authorities at the municipal, sub-state, and national levels. The panel’s papers are based on both a two-year study being conducted at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy on transit migration, and on the “Refugees in Towns” project based at the Feinstein International Center (both at Tufts University, Boston, USA). The panel presenters come from Tufts and other universities.

**Eileen Babbitt and Marina Travayiakis, Fletcher School, Tufts University**
Do migration flows affect state legitimacy? Data from Mexico and Greece as “Transit” States.

This paper explores the ways in which the legitimacy of transit states changes as a consequence of migration and their citizens’ perceptions of how authorities are handling the refugee challenges. Does citizens’ acceptance of the state’s right to exercise authority increase or decrease in transit settings, and in what ways? What happens to perceptions of legitimacy of governance at the sub-state and local levels? Existing scholarship demonstrates the link between low state legitimacy and negative consequences such as regime instability, state decay, and internal conflict. By contrast, in states where legitimate political authority has been re-established, regimes gain resilience, internal conflict declines and state capacity grows. Therefore, enhanced legitimacy may help to stabilize fragile states or prevent seemingly well-functioning states from beginning a slide to fragility and/or violence. Factors such as transit migration that potentially influence state legitimacy are thus important to identify and explain. The study is based predominantly on findings from Mexico and Greece, as well as existing research in other transit countries.

Katrina Burgess, Fletcher and Noelle Brigden, Marquette University

Permanent Transience and Urban Citizenship at the U.S.-Mexico Frontier

The borders of the Global North are ‘thickening’ as policing extends beyond traditional destinations, migrants seek safe places to regroup, and mass deportation becomes an integral part of the global migratory system. The relationship between globalization and securitization becomes most visible where these flows converge in so-called transit countries in the Global South. In these de-facto destinations, migrants and locals alike come to experience a ‘permanent transience’ in which opportunities for future mobility are uncertain and the social environment is fluid, shaped by the mobility of others and without expectations of settlement. Building on scholarship that increasingly focuses on ‘fragmented journeys’ rather than migrant arrivals, this paper addresses the relationship between permanent transience, thickening borders, and urban governance. Analyzing these dynamics at the level of the city reveals how local politics and practice are both informed by and potentially transform un-bordering and re-bordering processes. How do the nation-state and local actors interface in these spaces of permanent transience, and with what consequences? To answer this question, we draw on a series of workshops that bridged academics, policymakers, and civil society groups engaged with multiple migratory flows intersecting within border cities: deportee flows south, international refugee flows north, and internal migrants drawn to the economically dynamic border zone for work. We put these workshop findings in the larger context of worldwide migration systems and border controls to better understand urban citizenship at the margins of the new global political economy.

Elizabeth H. Prodromou and Vasileia Digidiki, Fletcher School, Tufts University

Social Representations of Religion in Migration Flows in the Eastern Mediterranean: Findings from the Critical Case of Lesvos, Greece

In 2015, the Eastern Mediterranean was the site of unprecedented levels of migration flows from Asia and Africa into Europe, a phenomenon whose intensity, complexity, and composition provoked a highly contested, politicized, mediatized discussion about the impacts of “the migration crisis” on Europe, resulting in many European countries adopting unilateral, anti-migration measures. Yet, massive transcontinental movements of refugees, asylum seekers, and economic migrants across the Mediterranean Sea are nothing new to the region. So what accounted for the unique language that was applied to the 2015 events? Lesvos, a Greek island located within the volatile geopolitical environment of the Levant, has experienced migration...
arrivals disproportionate to the size of the local population, and the local population has demonstrated a unique response to these flows. Therefore, Lesvos presents a critical case for deconstructing and differentiating social representations of religion and, especially, for capturing the social interpretations of the religion-security nexus in explaining responses to the 2015 “European migration crisis.” Our study explored Lesvos as a critical case—a frontline point in a frontline state. In July 2017, we conducted 80 were conducted with locals to examine the dominant public discourse on migrant identity, human security and religion. Based on our research results, our presentation discusses the salience of the religion-security nexus in the Eastern Mediterranean migration phenomenon, explaining how social representations about the religious identity of the migrants construct the dominant discourse and shape different reactions to the migration flows.

**Zeynep Butilgil, Northeastern University and Charles Simpson, Feinstein Center, Tufts**

*How refugees are influencing town governance and civil political action. The Refugees in Towns project and the case of Syrian refugees in Sultanbeylii, Istanbul.*

This presentation explores different aspects of the urban impact of refugees on town governance and refugee political involvement. The presentation discusses findings from the Refugees in Towns project (https://www.refugeesintowns.org), and the case of Syrian refugees in Sultanbeylii, Istanbul. In Turkey refugees do not have the right to vote, however, that does not mean they are politically inactive. For example, Syrians in Sultanbeylii expressed their gratitude to President Erdogan by demonstrating against the attempted coup (July 2016) and in support of Erdogan. The presentation explores different aspects of political mobilization by urban refugees and town governance responses on the part of mayors, municipalities, community action groups and other local political organizations.

**Panel: The Global Compact on Refugees: Can it fix a broken international refugee regime?**

**Alex Aleinikoff, Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility, The New School; Leah Zamore, Center for International Cooperation, NYU; Shahrzad Tadjbakhsh, UNHCR Representative; Susan Martin, Professor Emerita, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University**

As called for by the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (Sept. 2016), UNHCR is drafting a Global Compact on Refugees for consideration by the General Assembly in October 2017. The focus of the Compact will be a “Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework” (CRRF), which is intended to formalize a strategy for bringing together humanitarian, development and other actors in planning and implementing responses to refugee emergencies (and perhaps protracted situations). UNHCR is piloting the CRRF in Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Djibouti, Central America and states hosting Somali refugees and will use the results of those pilots in further developing the CRRF. The panel will discuss the drafting of the Compact and its status under international law, examine the progress of the UNHCR pilots, and evaluate the CRRF. It will also raise other issues that could be included in the Global Compact, such as a global responsibility-sharing platform, the extension of norms of protection to forced migrants not embraced by the Refugee Convention’s definition, structures of accountability, and the role of development in responding to refugee situations. An overriding question will be whether the Compact likely to be proposed is of sufficient ambition to respond
to the significant challenges facing the international refugee regime. The panel will address the issues from academic and policy perspectives; we hope to be able to include a UNHCR or UN representative as well.

Resettlement/Integration of Syrian refugees

Abdullah Yassen, Erbil Polytechnic University

The Right of Syrian Refugees to Local Integration in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

Today, the displacement from Syria constitutes one of the largest refugee populations in the world and risking to become another “protracted displacement” in the Middle East. To alleviate their protracted displacement, analysis of the perceptions of durable solutions among all concerned parties is urgently required. Just like many neighboring and European countries, Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) also host thousands of Syrian Refugees. At the end of 2016, KRI hosted approximately 250,000 Syrians, which constitute 98 percent of all Syrian refugees currently residing in Iraq. This is in addition to the 1.5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) that KRI hosts. Together, they account for 28 percent of the increase in the population of the KRI. For example, One in four people living KRI are either refugee or IDPs and this is higher than Lebanon (1 in 6), Jordan (1 in 11) and Turkey (1 in 28).

The mentioned figure represents a much higher proportional inflow of refugees and IDPs to KRI than other receiving countries mentioned above. This is naturally has caused a dramatic change in the composition of the population and the very fabric of society, bringing with it tremendous challenges of integration of refugees to the local community. The emergence of IDPs in other parts of Iraq, due to ISIS brutalities, meant that international focus such as donations and funds has turned to IDPs on the expense of Syrian refugees who have yet to reach the phase of recovery. In fact, beyond the region, limited reference is made to the case of Syrian refugees in the KRI. Instead, the literature has focused on Syrian refugees in neighboring countries (Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey) and Europe. Hence qualitative and quantitative research on the rights of Syrian refugees is necessary and contributes to the scarce literature.

The research explores the legal status of Syrian refugees in the KRI and examines the current outflow of Syrians to Kurdistan. This research focuses on the local-level perceptions of practitioners, policy-makers, and Syrian refugees in KRI. This research is based on desk research and interviews in the field between January 2017 and May 2017.

The findings show that the preferred method of durable solution is resettlement to third countries among the overall majority of the Syrian refugees who have participated in this research. While both local integration and voluntary repatriation are largely unworkable since Kurdistan as part of Iraq has not signed the Refugee Convention. Therefore, the Refugee Convention and its legal provisions are not applicable to Syrian refugees in the KRI. In fact, the KRI has not incorporated any specific provisions in its domestic legislations to integrate refugees.

Dimitris Skleparis, University of Glasgow; Georgios Karyotis, University of Glasgow

Training Needs, Aspirations and Opportunities for Young Syrian Refugees: A Comparative Study

The protracted nature of the Syrian conflict has directed attention to policies designed to
empower refugees to integrate socially and economically in host societies. Education and skills development for young people are at the heart of these efforts. Comparative research on forced displacement and education, in particular, is very limited; on youth it is almost non-existent. This paper proposes a new interdisciplinary theoretical synthesis to overcome this limitation. Theoretical approaches from education, economics and sociology will be explored for their relevance and utility in identifying and deconstructing young refugees’ past learning and training experiences, their acquisition of new skills, and their transition and integration into new learning and training situations. Empirically, original data are analysed from face-to-face interviews with 500 Syrian refugees aged 18-32 years in each of the following three host states: a neighbouring host state (Lebanon), the main entry point to Europe (Greece), and a north European destination state (the UK). By analysing in a comparative context the aspirations and training needs of young refugees, this paper aims to simultaneously fill a gap in existing knowledge and focus attention on a demographic whose skills are key to economic prosperity. Our comparative approach will allow us to explore whether the currently observed limited impact of Syrian refugees on the labour market, including in culturally similar countries, can be explained by their lack of required skills that would be suited to the opportunities that exist in host countries or by constraints and barriers they face when they get there.

Fatima Raza, Global Programs and Partnerships at Rice University’s Center for Civic Leadership

Engaging Displaced Youth in the Middle East as Partners in Change: Perspectives from Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Greece

(Mercy Corps Capstone Project: Alexander Cox, Susan Din, Akiko Kobayashi, Conor McCormick-Cavanagh, Fatima Raza, Indrani Sarkar, Rafael Schleicher, Kasumi Takahashi)

Conflicts in the Middle East have prompted mass displacement across the region-- a significant proportion of which are young people, who often find themselves deprived of opportunities for education, livelihoods and civic engagement. This reality has contributed to a profound sense of exclusion and disempowerment among displaced youth. At the same time, it is increasingly recognized that youth engagement — increasing youth capacity and agency to make decisions over programs and policies that affect their lives — can have positive impacts on their personal, social and human development. International and local organizations can play a critical role in leveraging the potential of young people to serve as active contributors to their communities and take ownership over their own futures.

This project involved a multi-country study across Syria (remotely), Jordan, Lebanon, and Greece to examine: 1) youth perspectives and ideas on their engagement in existing programs and their own initiatives, and 2) organizational perspectives, strategies, and constraints to engage youth in the various phases of programming.

Although contexts vary from country to country, this study highlights the priorities and concerns of displaced youth and the challenges they face. While organizations working with displaced youth often recognize the value of youth engagement, many lack effective means to delegate decision-making authority and resources to youth in their programs. Organizational strategies for youth engagement range from tokenistic involvement to meaningful partnership. This study highlights good practices for youth engagement, and provides recommendations for organizations to adapt and design programming that effectively empowers and engages displaced youth as partners in change.
Roundtable: The Challenging and Evolving Nature of Methodological Approaches to Research on Forced Migration

Dacia Douhaibi, York University; Rumana Hashem, University of East London; Erika Frydenlund, Old Dominion University; Shailja Sharma, DePaul University; Amadu Wire Khan, Independent researcher and refugee scholar from Sierra Leone; Jaya Dantas, Curtin University; Christa de Kock, Stellenbosch University

This roundtable discussion aims to examine the challenging and evolving nature of methodological approaches to research on forced migration. Scholars and practitioners with expertise in various methods, including traditional interview, focus group, and ethnographic fieldwork as well as more recent technical approaches such as modeling and simulation, will discuss the research needs, data sources, and changing landscape of methodological approaches brought on by current modern innovations, with consideration of the relationship between research and policy. The discussion will increase our knowledge of new methods and tools, as well as discuss the implications, both positive and negative, of certain methods in the context of forced migration research and practice.

One decade ago, researchers cautioned the forced migration community about methodological approaches driven by policymaking. With ever more methodological approaches available to researchers, practitioners, and policymakers, we propose to revisit discussion on the dual imperative. The dual imperative is re-emerging as a central topic in methodological research given the advancements in data collection and availability, carrying with it the potential for both increased insights into forced migration, but also the potential to leave out critical populations and phenomena from inquiry, and in particular, the human face of forced migration.

Data driven research is an important part of both theoretical and policy development related to forced migration. With the increasing availability of remote based data, and the decreasing availability of direct, primary data as access to important research sites is limited, we must be sure to understand the methodological implications, including the limitations of new and innovative methods over more traditional approaches. In some cases, traditional approaches may be the most appropriate way to answer the question or challenge at hand. Only through discussion with researchers and practitioners can we fully understand the scope of the data, methods, and tools available to answer the most pressing forced migration challenges and questions, including to understand the value and limitations of various approaches.

An important goal of the roundtable discussion will be stimulating critical discourse surrounding the rapidly changing technological environment in which refugees, researchers, and practitioners exist. Though it seems we have access to more data than ever, there are still many things we do not understand about fundamental aspects of forced migration, such as push/pull factors of particularly marginalized groups, the impact of intersections between social, political, environmental and economic crises, what constitutes appropriate case specific humanitarian response that avoids contributing to conflict, the varied routes that refugees take to their destination country, or what truly constitutes a ‘durable solution.’ What remains crucial to critically grapple with it whether with access to more of some kinds of data and
advances in methodological tools, we have the ability to increase our understanding of these phenomena, or whether this data obscures important detail. Discussion of traditional and new methods and where these may lead us in the future will help us explore the nuances of this issue.

The questions that we seek to address, and begin to answer, include: What new, innovative methods have emerged in recent forced migration research, literature, and practice? How we can use both traditional and new methods to solve the most imminent forced migration questions of our time? What topics are prioritized by certain methodological approaches? How can we combine some approaches by taking into consideration the limitations and/or complementary nature of those methods? What new ethical dilemmas arise from changing methodological toolkits? How are old ethical dilemmas changed by new approaches?

Areas of methodological discussion may include:

- Responding to challenging research contexts using innovative, mixed, methods
- Emerging visualizations and visual tools
- Social media, web scraping, and “big data”
- Traditional qualitative approaches: ethnography, interviews, focus groups, surveys
- Innovative participatory research methods
- Ethics of various methodological approaches
- Conveying research methods in ways that support practice
- Groups missing from refugee research

Workshop: The Past in the Present: Orienting Forced Migration Scholarship and Practice around History

Rumana Hashem, University of East London, Chair; Amadu Wire Khan, Independent researcher and refugee scholar from Sierra Leone; Marie Godwin, University of Oxford; Shailja Sharma, DePaul University; Julie Young, Department of Geography, University of Lethbridge, Canada

Panel: Transitional Justice and Forced Migration: Critical Perspectives from the Global South

This panel brings together scholars working on the transitional justice and forced migration nexus from four regions/continents: Africa, Middle East, South America and South East Asia. The discussion will highlight the challenges of bridging advocacy and scholarship in the context of ongoing conflicts and peace negotiations and offer a template of guidelines concerning doing work in the Global South.

Nasreen Chowdhory and Shamna Hussein, University of Delhi

The reconciliation and reconstruction in Post conflict Sri Lanka: Question of Agency and Empowerment of the former LTTE female combatants

The reconciliation and reconstruction in Post conflict Sri Lanka will remain an incomplete and
non-inclusive process until the issue of transitional justice to ex-female combatants of LTTE is addressed. This warrants the analysis of socio-political and cultural framework that motivated these women to join LTTE. Were they credited the political agency in their militant actions to achieve the goal of ‘Tamil Eelam’? How did they challenge the socially prescribed gender norms by being part of the conflict? Were they able to claim the promise of empowerment and equality that they would achieve as a part of the liberation struggle? How did these gender relations transform in the aftermath of conflict? Why should they be reintegrated to Sri Lankan state by utilising their expertise so as to ‘re-empower’ them? How does their narrative of Tamil nationalism fit in the larger discourse of nationalism in post war Sri Lanka? It is vital to answer these questions as the transitional justice for these ex-LTTE female cadre rests on deconstructing the transformation of the gender roles that these women underwent. Their consequent rehabilitation and integration into the Tamil society in Sri Lanka also necessitates an attempt to answer the above questions.

Marisa O. Ensor, Georgetown University

IDP Georgian Youth between Reintegration and Radicalization: Forced Displacement and Transitional Justice in the Caucasus

Since Georgia’s independence in 1991, successive governments have struggled to address issues of endemic corruption, organized crime, and various disputes along its borders that resulted in significant displacement. In 2008, the Georgian government attempted to take back South Ossetia. Russia intervened, devastating Georgia’s infrastructure and displacing 192,000 in what is regarded by some as an ethnic cleansing campaign against the Georgians living in the territory. Combined with the up to 300,000 uprooted by the 90s wars, the number of individuals internally displaced (IDPs) by conflict in Georgia total almost 500,000, a population larger than any city in the country outside of the capital. Most of them still lack permanent homes. After the 2012 parliamentary elections, there have been various attempts to address this past. These included a proposed commission on miscarriages of justice, the rehabilitation of victims of torture, and the creation of a unit for land restitution in the Office of the Prosecutor. These measures however proved to be mostly ineffective. The situation of Georgian IDPs came into focus in January 2016, when the International Criminal Court authorized an investigation into war crimes committed during the 2008 war fought in the internationally recognized territory of Georgia. Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in the Republic of Georgia in 2016-17, this paper discusses the nexus between forced displacement and transitional Justice with a focus on the situation of youth. The study tests the hypothesis that insufficient progress effecting the expected restoration of property, guarantees of non-recurrence, and institutional reform may lead displaced disaffected youth to espouse increasingly positive attitudes toward the use of violence for political aims.

Nergis Canefe, York University

Drowning by Numbers/Death and Disappearance in the Mediterranean

This paper discusses the recent surge in the number of death in the Mediterranean and Aegean refugee crossing roots and the normalization of ‘civilian casualties’ as part of a ‘dangerous journey’ scenario. It revisits the literature of states of exception and how what was once considered an outlier became a naturalized part of the denial of the right to move from the Global Southern conflict zones to centres of wealth and accumulation in the North.

Fabio Andres Diaz Pabon, Rhodes University and International Institute of Social
Studies (ISS), Erasmus University Rotterdam

Beyond Agreements, The Necessity of Management Tools to Support Peace Agreements in the Case of Displaced Populations in Colombia

For more than 50 years, Colombia has suffered from internal conflicts between the government and different armed groups (guerillas, paramilitary forces, drug lords, private armies). Since 2014, the negotiation process between the main guerilla group (FARC) and the government has defined a broad 6-topic agenda which hopefully will lead to a peaceful end of war. A key component that must be addressed for the success of this negotiation is the development of public policies regarding the reparation of the victims of this conflict. Pabon’s paper focuses on evaluating possible tools that can be used to support the challenges related to the planning and assessment of the required resources for the implementation of a comprehensive policy towards the displaced population. He argues that the use of simulation tools and methodologies such as system dynamics can be an effective approach to learn about the effectiveness of those policies.

Galya Ben-Arieh, Northwestern University

The Politics of Rescue and the Ethics and Implications of the Rise in State Criminalization of Civil assistance for Refugees

Politics of migrant rescue have been playing out across Europe and in the United States. Individuals and organizations who provide food and shelter that, they say the government should be providing under constitutional and human rights law, are finding themselves in criminal courts across Europe. In the U.S. we see a similar trend in border states such as Texas and Arizona and the Trump administration attempts to criminalize individuals who harboring or facilitating unauthorized migrants. This study examines the ethics and implications of civil assistance for refugees in their passage across state borders and residence without proper documentation. While under international and national refugee law, a refugee ought to be protected for irregular entry and granted an administrative process to determine refugee status, the practices of solidarity are subject to an increasing array of criminal laws legitimized by the international laws to prevent smuggling. Legal ambiguity created by the contradiction between the humanitarian commitment to protect refugees who enter with the assistance of smugglers and the international sanctions against smugglers have necessitated a “humanitarian clause” that creates contestation and, ultimately, threatens to “disappear” civilian assistance through an increasing web of criminal laws. Through the lens of comparative constitutionalism and citizenship, the study examines these crimes of solidarity and state sanctions as acts of citizenship and a questioning of state constitutional authority as part of a broader debate about the limits of liberalism.

Roundtable: Supporting Emerging Migration Scholars and Practitioners

Claire Ellis, Emerging Scholars and Practitioners on Migration Issues (ESPMI) Network; Anthea Vogl, University of Technology Sydney; Julie Young, University of Lethbridge; Loren B. Landau, African Centre for Migration & Society, University of the Witwatersrand; Lisa Hartley, Centre for Human Rights Education, Curtin University; Linda Kirk, The Australian National University; Johanna Reynolds, Managing Editor, Refuge; Linda Oucho, Research and Data Hub, African Migration and Development Policy Centre
This roundtable brings together emerging and established practitioners and scholars of migration, as well as stakeholders, to discuss strategies that support emerging members of the migration studies community. We seek to stimulate dialogue around the challenges and best practices for: creating professional opportunities for those new to the field; encouraging spaces for communication among those with shared interests; and establishing meaningful connections between those early in their career and senior scholars and practitioners.

The topic of the roundtable is of particular importance as we observe increased student interest in migration issues. With over 40 migration-related academic programs globally, there is a growing student population of migration scholars seeking to interrogate the many nuances that impact mobility and migration and foster innovation in research, policy, and practice. These scholar-practitioners join the migration research and practice community with new insights, methods, and experiences to share such as new technologies, alternative sources of data, or emerging initiatives that are not widely known in the migration scholar-practitioner community. Yet often emerging scholars and practitioners have limited knowledge of how to effectively engage with and contribute to the broader community working on migration issues. The ESPMI Network provides online networking and promotional support for these early scholars. The roundtable will serve as an extension of this effort, providing space for dialogue between stakeholders and people with various experience levels to support the growth of meaningful work and professional connections, as well as potential opportunities for collaboration.

Areas of discussion may include:

- Current mentorship, publishing, and employment opportunities available to emerging scholars and practitioners
- Barriers that hinder the inclusion of emerging scholars and practitioners in migration discourses, policy development, and research innovations
- Inclusion strategies for networks and projects for emerging scholars and practitioners with lived experiences of forced migration
- Strategies to connect with stakeholders and/or established scholar-practitioners who have research needs that emerging members can provide
- Ideas about where the field of migration is headed in the next 10 years in terms of research needs, policymakers engagement, data requirements, and public outreach.

Panel: Between Camp and Campus: Mapping the Field of Higher Education in Refugee Protection

Andrea Kölbl, Institute for Innovation and Technology, Co-organiser: Eveliina Lyytinen, Migration Institute of Finland (MIF); Ayla Bonfiglio, Maastricht Graduate School of Governance and UNU-MERIT; Conflict and Education Learning Laboratory (CELL); Nina Weaver, Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU); Moise Dushime, SNHU/Kepler; Eugenie Manirafasha, SNHU/Kepler; Kalenga Mbonyinshuti, SNHU/Kepler; Camila Rios Armas, Universités & Réfugié (UniR); Misty Adoniou, University of Canberra

Discussant: Linda Morrice, University of Sussex
The role of higher education in refugee protection is highly contested. On the one hand, access to higher education is promoted as a tool for refugee protection and integration, and as a way for refugee students and their families to become self-sustained. Various actors, including universities and policymakers, have therefore expressed their commitment to increase participation of asylum seekers and refugees in higher education. On the other hand, asylum seekers and refugees who want to access higher education are regularly confronted with numerous obstacles and forms of exclusion, partly because higher education initiatives and policies do not follow a coherent approach as regards the participation of forced migrants. This panel brings together researchers, practitioners and refugee students to spur a debate about the often divergent strategies, priorities and practices of actors involved in the provision of higher education to forced migrants. The papers discussed will use higher education as a vantage point from which to engage with conceptual debates about refugees’ resilience and choice, transitions and pathways, as well as mobilities and immobilities. In this way, we will outline a research agenda for an under-researched field in studies of forced migration with a view to understanding the role of higher education in refugee protection.

Understanding refugee agency and mobility patterns through higher education

The literature on refugee higher education is dominated by program evaluations, most often of universities within developed, resettlement country contexts. There are, however, a growing number of studies that examine the experiences of refugees who attempt to access and pursue tertiary education. While not the focus of these studies, they nevertheless reveal that higher education can be linked to specific displacement patterns related to educational mobility during displacement, access to resettlement and other durable solutions, as well as greater wellbeing and integration during displacement. These studies also link the attainment of higher education to refugees’ increased agency. This paper examines how refugees’ pursuit of higher education can help us understand how they express their agency in shaping their displacement patterns and accessing protection. Using Emirbayer and Mische’s (1998) concept of agency and Bakewell and Bonfiglio’s (2013) adaptation of their concept to examine mobility in conflict settings, as points of departure, this study analyzes more than 100 semi-structured interviews with Somali and Congolese refugees and migrants who are living in Kenya, Uganda, and South Africa on their education and displacement trajectories. Briefly, this paper finds that respondents expressed their agency through higher education in determining the timing of their displacement, the destination, the channels of movement, and the modes of movement.

The far-reaching higher education in refugee protection

This presentation will explore the role of higher education in protection by focusing on a case study of a higher education program for refugee students and their communities in Kiziba refugee camp, Rwanda. Speakers in this presentation will share findings from a recent impact evaluation that measures the indirect effects of higher education initiatives on primary and secondary educational outcomes, using data collected from surveys and UNHCR’s education partner in Kiziba refugee camp. Often higher education is overlooked in humanitarian responses that tend to prioritise primary and secondary education. This research argues for the inclusion of pathways to higher education as an important part of humanitarian response, highlighting broader indirect effects on protection and educational outcomes. This study finds that increased availability of higher education opportunities and the visibility of the program in Kiziba refugee camp has led to improvement in refugees’ belief in the value of education, thereby increasing enrollment and attendance outcomes at primary and secondary school levels. In addition, higher education and other tertiary education programs can play an
important role in improving quality of teaching at primary and secondary school levels through the inclusion of teachers in higher education programs. Two of the panelists will also offer qualitative insights into the role of higher education for refugee protection and the importance of access to higher education for improved life and employment outcomes, drawing on their experiences both as refugee students in a higher education program and as former secondary school teachers within the camp.

**NGOs filling-in the gap? Blended learning programs: A way to overcome refugees and asylum seekers barriers to access to higher education in Europe**

Only 1% of refugees follow university courses, compared to 34% of young people worldwide, according to UNHCR. While we see a lack of coordinated political efforts in the integration of a rising number of refugees, how are NGOs bringing innovative solutions to this issue? Through education, civil society plays a key role in the integration of refugees in European countries. New forms of learning have appeared to improve the educational experience in refugees, including the blended learning approach, which combines online courses with traditional offline methods. In this paper, I will argue that NGOs-led initiatives to provide higher education to refugees need to be made in cooperation with public policies and state authorities in order to foster long-term solutions that truly empower refugees. I will divide the paper in three parts. Firstly, I will review existing literature on the concept of integration from the state and refugee perspective; secondly, I will show that by using technologies, NGOs can challenge the barriers refugees face when accessing higher education (tuition fees, documentation, language and enrolment capacity, UNHCR); and thirdly, based on my professional experience at Kiron Open Higher Education, I will share some of the difficulties NGOs still have in aligning with national public policies and working in cooperation with state authorities. I will conclude that NGOs innovative solutions are not enough if they are not part of a broader policy making process that include the state's key actors in education.

**The necessary conditions for successful transitions to higher education for refugee background students**

I present the combined work of five Australian academics working across three university campuses who conducted a two year study of young refugee background students transitioning from schools to universities in urban, suburban and rural contexts in Australia. The study was conducted to investigate the low numbers of refugee students completing higher education studies in Australia, despite their high aspiration levels to complete university in their secondary school years. In short, we identified the need for schools and universities to reconceptualise transition as a holistic process which extends beyond classroom walls, and to actively build upon the resilience and assets refugee background students bring to learning. We pursued a narrative methodology enabling us to listen to their voices and thus understand the barriers, challenges and opportunities that faced them. For those who successfully made the transition, we listened to what their experiences had been. Their voices, from Afghanistan, Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, and Sri Lanka provide the context for the presentation. The lessons the researchers learned about the conditions for successful transitions into higher education provide the framework for the presentation. Strategies for actively engaging in an assets-based approach are also shared.

**Panel: Bridging the ‘evidence’ divide: Reflecting on arts and social sciences interventions in Refugee Studies**
Laura Hammond, SOAS University of London; Kavita Datta & Elaine Chase

Panel: Exploring the complexities: the conceptual, methodological and ethical challenges of research with refugee women and refugee students in Australia
Chair: Professor Jenny Phillimore, University of Birmingham

At a time of unprecedented global migration, with over a million people on the move in 2015 and 2016, and with Australia’s recent commitment to resettle an additional 12,000 Syrian humanitarian entrants, contributing robust understandings of the experiences of refugees is vital. Supported by federal funding (through the Australian government’s Office for Learning & Teaching), and Healthway (the health promotion foundation of Western Australia), the research presented in this panel has significant implications for educators and policy-makers globally and across sectors through its impact on, and contributions to, practice, conceptual understandings, research methodologies and resources in the context of Refugee Women and Students from Refugee Backgrounds (SFRBs). The insights offered in this panel have emerged from multi-sited, longitudinal, research projects.

The three objectives for the panel are: firstly, to engage in a theoretical discussion about transition in the context of our participants, seeking to examine how the dominance of linear notions of ‘transition as induction’ poorly reflects the experiences of the participants in our study. Secondly, to offer a methodological discussion of the affordances and challenges of engaging in research with refugees as they transition into new cultural and linguistic spaces, both in terms of living in Australia and engaging in higher education. Thirdly, we will examine the ethical considerations and concerns raised through undertaking research with refugees.

Anita Lumbus, Curtin University

Our images and voices: Using photovoice to explore refugee women perspectives of resettlement in Western Australia.
Researchers: Professor Jaya Dantas, Anita Lumbus, Shelley Gower
Funded by Healthway (The Health Promotion Foundation of Western Australia)
Psychosocial wellbeing and mental health are key concerns in refugee populations. During resettlement, refugee women experience multiple stressors, including discrimination, gender issues, family conflict, changing family roles and lack of language proficiency, requiring extraordinary resilience and coping strategies. The main objective of this study was to use the participatory empowerment tool of photovoice to explore refugee women’s perspectives of resettlement in Perth, Western Australia (WA) and improve health and wellbeing, by discussing facilitators and barriers to successful settlement. The researchers worked in partnership with a multicultural women’s health centre in Perth’s northern suburbs. 43 refugee women took part in photovoice workshops where they presented their images and stories. In-depth interviews with 11 of these women explored their reflections on participating in the project and their settlement experiences. Analysis revealed the need for ongoing and sustained support in the initial two years of resettlement. The need for language support was significant and the importance of programs which support social connectedness was highlighted. Policy recommendations for supporting settlement of refugees especially women will be proposed. Photos selected by the women along with their stories have resulted in an exhibition to
increase community perceptions of refugee lives. This travelling exhibition banners will be displayed during the Panel Session and the ‘Photovoice’ as a participatory empowerment tool will be explored.

Shelley Gower, Curtin University

*Reclaiming Social Capital: Transitions of refugee students into Australian Higher Education - Pathways, Pedagogies, & Practice.*

Researchers: Professor Jaya Dantas, Shelley Gower

Funded by the former Australian Office of Learning and Teaching

Australian universities are receiving increasing numbers of students from refugee backgrounds, whose educational histories vary from considerable schooling to disrupted schooling due to protracted conflict. There is relatively little research that addresses the educational, health and socio-cultural experiences of the refugee students. Students from refugee backgrounds have complex needs that remain unmet. This project aimed to identify the expectations, aspirations and academic preparedness of refugee students seeking to enter undergraduate study from Intensive English Centres (IECs) based in secondary schools in Western Australia (WA), and to highlight effective support and transition pedagogies for this cohort. We will present research findings from an Australian Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT)-funded project with students and key informants from three IECs in WA. Through analysis of focus group discussions and interviews, emergent themes have revealed refugee students are motivated and hold aspirations for further education and career development. However student concerns around lack of personal confidence, and academic language and culture, are salient. Recommendations for further research will be highlighted along with the resilience that refugee students exhibit.

Sally Baker, Newcastle University and University of New South Wales

*Challenging dominant ‘linear’ notions of transition: what can research with students from refugee backgrounds tell us about how transition is experienced?*

Researchers: Sally Baker, Evonne Irwin

Funded by the former Australian Office of Learning and Teaching

Although journeys through higher education can be challenging, students from refugee backgrounds (SfRBs) face additional difficulties, as most SfRBs come from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds, and have experienced instability, trauma and disrupted schooling. Education is fundamental to effective resettlement, leading to better employment and health outcomes; however, schools, colleges and universities often struggle to provide resources to fully support SfRBs, and fail to recognise the rich and diverse languages, cultures, knowledge and practices that refugee students possess. This paper presents findings of an OLT-funded project that explored the pathways taken and experiences of transition of SfRBs into Australian higher education.

Fuelling these challenges are two key issues. Firstly, the dominant discourses—tacit beliefs and assumptions—about the linearity of transition are limiting, meaning that iterative, fluid and circular experiences of transitions into and through higher education are rarely supported. Secondly, there is a critical absence of nuanced, contextualised and detailed accounts of how refugee students make their journeys from pre-university studies into, and through higher education. In particular, there is scant empirical research on how SfRBs experience the cultural and language transitions necessary for (a) adapting to the culture(s) and language(s) of the settlement country, and (b) the expectations and practices of institutions. Viewing SfRBs’
adaptations to academic language exposes inconsistencies that exist at the level of texts, tasks and practices, and in ways that language and culture are experienced by individuals. We present a workable conceptualisation of transition that can account for the trajectories of SfRBs into higher education.

Jaya Dantas, Curtin University

Navigating ethical considerations, implications and challenges in research with refugees.

This paper critically examines the theme of ethics in research with refugees by drawing on our research projects undertaken by three Australian universities. Several key ethical considerations and challenges will be explored, contributing to literature that has addressed ethical issues in refugee research. We will discuss international and national instruments: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, The Helsinki Declaration and the Australian National Health and Medical Research Guidelines on Human Research that frame Institutional Human Research Ethics Approval processes. The need for understanding language, translation and interpreting will be debated.

The four ethical principles of Autonomy (including confidentiality), Beneficence, Non-maleficence and Justice, shared by all individuals regardless of values and beliefs as ‘a common set of moral commitments, moral language, and moral issues’ will be presented. As cross-cultural issues are at the heart of refugee research, we will critique the notion of cultural relativism which holds the premise that different cultures have different codes of morality and challenges the notion that there is universal truth in ethics.

Strategies will be presented, focusing on (a) partnerships with stakeholders across the three research sites that allowed their knowledge of social, cultural and linguistic influences to be incorporated into the research; (b) dissemination of the findings to and with participants and the important implications for participant involvement in future research; and (c) An Ethical Reasoning Model designed to enable researchers to make conscious ethical decisions as an integral part of research and practice.

Panel: Gender, Violence and Psychosocial Well-Being in Humanitarian Settings

Historically, the international humanitarian community has made many assumptions about what gender, violence and psychosocial wellbeing look like in refugee and IDP settings, yet these assumptions are rarely tested against contextual realities. Questions such as, ‘What are the risk factors for negative developmental outcomes in children exposed to conflict?’ and ‘Which interventions are the most promising to prevent violence?’ remain unanswered. Recognizing these gaps, this panel will explore recent empirical evidence on gender, violence and wellbeing from Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Pakistan, Colombia, Haiti, Nigeria, Italy, and the US. The goal is to distill what the data say in each setting and how this challenges practitioners’ approach to design programs and policies for vulnerable populations. The panelists’ expertise spans violence against women, violence against children and mental health and the studies rely on a mix of both qualitative and quantitative methods. A special effort was made to foreground the voices of women and children because these groups are often marginalized in program planning and policy implementation. Successful partnerships between academics and practitioners are also highlighted.
Khudejha Asghar, Family Violence Specialist; Kathryn Falb, Research Advisor, International Rescue Committee

Preventing Violence Against Conflict-Affected Adolescent Girls: Findings from Ethiopia, DRC and Pakistan

Interpersonal violence is a major public health concern in humanitarian contexts, and adolescent girls are uniquely vulnerable. However, there is little evidence on effective violence prevention programs targeting this population. We therefore investigated the efficacy, feasibility and acceptability of a life skills and safe spaces program to reduce violence exposure for conflict-affected adolescent girls in three humanitarian settings: Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Pakistan. In Ethiopia and DRC, the program was evaluated via cluster-randomized controlled trials in refugee camps. The primary outcome was girls’ exposure to sexual violence. Secondary outcomes included girls’ exposure to physical and emotional violence, early marriage, and transactional sex. In Pakistan, a mixed-methods evaluation design focused on feasibility and acceptability. Primary outcomes included perceptions of program content and changes in freedom of movement, safety, self-esteem, and hope. At 12-month follow-up in Ethiopia and DRC, the intervention was not significantly associated with reduction in exposure to sexual violence, physical or emotional violence, or transactional sex. The intervention was significantly associated with improvements in supportive parenting behaviors (DRC) and improvements in girls’ feelings of safety in the home and girls’ social support networks (Ethiopia). In Pakistan, program content was perceived as acceptable and freedom of movement, safety, self-esteem and hope increased over time. While the intervention caused improvements in potential mediators on the pathway to violence reduction in DRC and Ethiopia and was feasible and acceptable in Pakistan, further research and programmatic adaptations are needed to prevent adolescent violence in humanitarian contexts.

Mendy Marsh, The Equality Institute; Beth Rubenstein, Columbia University

Mapping Linkages Between Humanitarian Emergencies and Household Violence in Colombia and Haiti

Humanitarian emergencies, including conflict and natural disasters, may result in changes that exacerbate women’s and children’s exposure to interpersonal violence in the household. However, the relationships between emergencies, household structure and composition, and household violence are not well-understood. In addition, because the household is generally considered a private sphere, violence between family members remains a relatively neglected topic. To address this gap in knowledge, Columbia University, Universidad de los Andes in Colombia and UNICEF conducted a qualitative study on the influence of conflict (in Colombia) and natural disasters (in Haiti) on household structures and relationships. The study was based on a photo elicitation methodology. This approach used participants’ own photos as a tool for facilitating a series of guided interviews on sensitive topics related to family and gender roles, such as household violence. In order to capture a wide range of perspectives, respondents included adult men, adult women, adolescent boys and adolescent girls. Data collection is complete, and results from preliminary analyses are expected by December 2017. Findings from this study will illuminate the extent to which the makeup of, and relationships within, households may have been affected by emergencies, and how these changes may relate to exposure to violence within the household. This learning will inform development of holistic interventions to address household and family violence in emergency settings.
M. Catherine Maternowska, Data, Evidence and Learning, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children; D. Fry, University of Edinburgh, Preventing Violence in Childhood Research work at Moray House School of Education, Co-Lead Safe Inclusive Schools Network

The Drivers of Violence Applied Research Approach: Girls on the move from Nigeria to Italy

Violence affecting children (VAC) manifests differently in every society. Unequal power dynamics operate across gender, age and other status markers creating the circumstances within which violent acts occur. Violent acts are not merely an interaction between a child and one or more other individuals, but rather a socio-ecological phenomenon. The ‘drivers’ of violence, refer to the factors at the institutional and structural levels that create the conditions in which violence is more or less likely to occur. Risk and protective factors reflect the likelihood of violence occurring due to characteristics most often measured at the individual, interpersonal and community levels. Drawing on findings from studies on the drivers of violence in Nigeria (and Italy) and the integrated child-centred framework, this paper will address the complex interactions of drivers and risk factors behind forced migration among children in Nigeria. The presentation will discuss three related research and practice issues: (1) how structural determinants—often invisible forms of harm such as poverty, gender inequality and migration work against children broadly in Nigeria, and particular in the North where Boko Haram is active; (2) how the using the Integrated Child-Centred Framework can help visualize the data and make apparent where multi-stakeholder interventions are needed; (3) how implementation that integrates these findings and addresses INSPIRE strategies (norms and values, education and life skills and safe environments) may bring improved outcomes to children living in conflict or on the boundaries of conflict in Nigeria.

Mark Canavera, CPC Learning Network, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health; Sabine Rakotomalala, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children

INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Reducing Violence Against Children

INSPIRE represents a select group of seven evidence-based strategies to help countries and communities scale up prevention programs and services with the greatest potential to reduce violence against children. WHO initiated preparation of the INSPIRE package, in collaboration with the CDC, the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, PEPFAR, Together for Girls, UNICEF, UNODC, USAID and the World Bank. The seven strategies are: Implementation and enforcement of laws; Norms and values; Safe environments; Parent and caregiver support; Income and economic strengthening; Response and support services; and Education and life skills. All seven INSPIRE strategies could be applied in settings affected by conflict or natural disaster, and the package includes several interventions shown to be effective in such situations. However, the feasibility of successfully implementing the strategies in humanitarian settings will vary. Interventions delivered through self-contained programs can be delivered in any setting. These include, for example, parenting programs, life skills training programs, and services for victims of violence. By contrast, interventions involving the enforcement of laws by functioning police and justice systems will be difficult to implement where conflict or natural disaster have destroyed or severely eroded these structures. What is lacking in humanitarian contexts is robust evidence of impact of interventions to reduce violence against children, but there are solutions and interventions that can and should be built off to end violence against children. This presentation will discuss ways to leverage INSPIRE to expand current multisectoral efforts to prevent and respond to violence against children in humanitarian
Panel: Cooperation between scholars, practitioners and civil society actors for the coproduction of knowledge in forced migration. Five case studies in Colombia, Ecuador, Spain, Morocco and Lebanon

María Fernández, University of London; Claudia Viviana Díaz García, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales- EHESS; Felipe Aliaga, Universidad Santo Tomás; Hafsa Afailal, Institute of Social Sciences - University of Lisbon; Stéphanie López Villamil, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Bogotá, Colombia); Marco Romero, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Bogotá) and Consultoría para los Derechos Humanos y el Desplazamiento-CODHES (Bogotá, Colombia); Farah Salka, Anti-Racism Movement (Lebanon); Abderrahman Tlemsani, Migrants’ Human Rights (Morocco); Cristina Churruca, Institute of Human Rights of the University of Deusto (Bilbao, Spain)

PANEL PRESENTED BY THE WORKING GROUP FOR KNOWLEDGE’S CO-PRODUCTION IN FORCED MIGRATION (http://iasfm.org/working-groups/knowledges-co-production-forced-migration)

This panel seeks to generate a space for reflection and joint construction between scholars, practitioners and civil society actors, based on experiences of cooperation and articulation between academia and non-governmental organizations (including civil society organizations, international cooperation agencies and groups of migrants and refugees) which have been made in Colombia, Ecuador, Morocco and Lebanon. The panel addresses the theme: Civil society, new humanitarianism and citizens’ mobilization.

The discussion will focus on a balance of theoretical, conceptual and methodological approaches and concrete mechanisms and strategies, which have been adopted among scholars and practitioners -in Colombia, Ecuador, Morocco and Lebanon- for the co-production of knowledge in forced migration. The discussion will be enriched by analysis and experiences from scholars, practitioners and civil society actors that will assist at the panel, in order to find out good practices, concrete strategies and tools for a better articulation between academia and practitioners for the co-production of knowledge in forced migration.

The panelists will focus on these two main objectives:

- Analyzing, from a comparative perspective, four case studies in Colombia, Ecuador, Morocco and Lebanon on co-production of knowledge in forced migration.
- Identifying lessons learned, achievements and failures, as well as possibilities, restrictions and resistances around the legal framework, the sovereignty of the States nation and the Humanitarian system, comparing and exchanging experiences from four countries.

Chairs: Wooldy Edson Louidor, Professor at Instituto Pensar-Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Bogotá, Colombia) and María Fernández, University of London (Tripoli, Lebanon)

1. Camila Espitia, Consejería para los Derechos Humanos y el Desplazamiento- CODHES (Colombia) and Marco Romero, Professor at Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Bogotá)
Victims of the armed conflict abroad: Case study in Colombia. The experience of Comisión Migración Forzada, Exilio y Reconciliación (CER)

This paper will present the experience of articulation that has been made in recent years between universities, victims of the armed conflict abroad, returnees, and civil society organizations in Colombia and international cooperation agencies in Colombia, around Comisión Migración Forzada, Exilio y Reconciliación (CER). It will analyze the mechanisms and strategies within and outside Colombian territory, by which CER has become an articulating space for all these actors to produce innovative academic reflections, which has resulted in the realization of an academic Forum in 2016 and the writing of a book (the first on the subject in the country) in 2017.

In this way, the CER has become the first group that has evidenced the multiple faces and edges of the reality of the victims of the Colombian armed conflict abroad, for example:

i. Legal and political difficulties for the recognition of those victims in the architecture of transitional justice and the international protection of victims (particularly in neighboring countries, such as Ecuador, Venezuela, Panama and Costa Rica),

ii. Implications of this lack of recognition for the construction of peace in Colombia;

iii. Experiences, struggles and transnational proposals of groups of victims abroad in favor of a complete peace; such groups cover a wide range of actors: women victims' movements, the Patriotic Union, homosexual groups and refugees, among others.

2. Claudia Viviana Díaz García, PhD Fellow at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris) - EHESS and Felipe Aliaga, Professor at Universidad Santo Tomás (Bogotá)

Defense of Migrants’ rights: Case study in Ecuador on the self-reflection of the NGO’s about their role

This paper will present the experience of articulation between two Colombian universities (Universidad Santo Tomás and Pontificia Universidad Javeriana) and several civil society organizations in Colombia and Ecuador on a joint research project. Scholars of both universities encourage and help those organizations to self-reflect on their role in defending the human rights of the migrant population in both South American countries.

This panel will focus on the specific case of Ecuador. It will analyze the experience of this articulation and its results in terms of co-production of knowledge, specifically on the following aspects:

i) Description of the organizations, in terms of their activities and histories in Ecuador;

ii) Importance of the migratory issue for the organizations;

iii) Advocacy actions in favor of the rights of the migrant population;

iv) Philosophical or political positions on the migration issue;

v) Successes and difficulties in working with the migrant population, other organizations and the Ecuadorian State;

vi) Strategies, Expectations and prospective.

3. María Fernández, Humanitarian worker and student in the MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies at the University of London

Domestic Migrant Workers’ rights: Case study in Lebanon on the strategies of their resistance
This paper will present the experience of the articulation between domestic migrant workers (DMWs) in Lebanon together with international and civil society organizations in the fight to defend their rights. Middle Eastern governments restrict freedom of association, but the limitations increase for DMWs. In addition, reports from local and international organizations on the work and life conditions for DMWs in Lebanon present a disturbing image of their situation, talking about violations on fundamental labour and human rights.

In light of this situation, DMWs in Lebanon established a union in 2015 under the umbrella of a local union, after a process led by the International Labour Organization (ILO) combining the efforts of female DMWs, local NGOs and the International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF), aiming at increasing the participation of DMWs in advocacy campaigns, harmonising the priorities and methods of intervention of all these organisations and adding this initiative to the global domestic workers’ movement and its struggle. Since the constitution of the union, an increasing trend in the deportation of prominent migrant activists is taking place, leading local and international human rights organisations and activists to believe that these DMWs are being deported because of their activism in Lebanon, as no accusation by their employers is found in their records.

The paper will present:

i) An analysis of the existing legal framework for DMWs in Lebanon
ii) Life stories that help contextualise their activism
iii) A description of the main organizations created from the articulation of DMWs, local and international actors
iv) Strategies of resistance, successes and failures
v) The intersectionality of their fight with other fights (refugees, feminist groups, etc.)

4. Hafsa Afailal, Research Fellow at the Institute of Social Sciences - University of Lisbon.

Morocco’s Migration Policy: Between Migrants’ Human Rights and Security considerations

In a regional post-Arab Spring context, after a significant change in the Moroccan Constitution in 2011 as a response to the strong popular mobilisation led by the youth of the 20 of February Movement, in 2013 a new migration policy sees the light as an innovative experience in the region.

The implication of the civil society in the start-up process of the new migratory policy, led to a new phase in its relationship with the authorities, especially for those associations working in a relatively “clandestine” manner. The follow up of this process of inclusion of the CSOs quickly showed its flaws and the limited political willingness from the Moroccan government to establish a real process of agreement at the different stages of the new migration policy.

This paper will analyse the selective implication of the CSOs, the persistence of raids, arbitrary detentions and the continuous negotiations with the European neighbours around the consolidation of control and readmission, as the high-risk elements conditioning the success or failure of a policy that was born after many years of resistance of the civil society.
This paper will analyse:

i) The actual legal framework related to migration and freedom of assembly (related to CSOs working in the field of migration)

ii) The contradiction and the resistance of the Moroccan authorities towards abandoning the security approach on migration management

iii) The trajectory and the role played by Moroccan CSOs, as well as initiatives led by migrants themselves

5. Stéphanie López Villamil, Professor at Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Bogotá) and Wooldy Edson Louidor, Professor at Instituto Pensar-Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Bogotá, Colombia)

Co-production of Knowledge on internally displaced persons (IDP): Case study in Colombia

This paper will contribute to define the concept of “co-production of knowledge”, through the production of a case study on IDP’s in Colombia. The armed conflict in Colombia has produced forced migration, in particular internally forced displacement, since 1960. For example, despite a peace agreement signed last November between the Colombian Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the phenomenon of internal displacement continues at increasing rates.

However, the Colombian State recognised the DIP until 1990 (after 30 years), due to the knowledge some civil society organisations have produced through innovative Methodologies, specialised publications, articulations with academic experts and advocacy actions, in order to make visible, measure, analyse and explain the internal displacement (its causes and effects).

The paper will present:

i) A definition and a characterization of the co-production of knowledge in internally forced displacement.

ii) An analysis of the experience of CODHES, in order to identify lessons learned, achievements and failures for the co-production of knowledge.

Roundtable: Bridging Forced Migration Research to Policy and Practice

Krystyna Wojnarowicz (Chair), Emerging Scholars and Practitioners on Migration Issues (ESPMI) Network; Linda Oucho, Research and Data Hub, African Migration and Development Policy Centre; Kuda Vanyoro, African Centre for Migration & Society, University of the Witwatersrand; Jayantha Ramasubramanyam, Carleton University; Dacia Douhaibi, York University; Petra Molnar, Refugee Lawyer, University of Toronto Faculty of Law

Discussants:

Jay Shastri, Carleton University; Shreya Sen, University of Calcutta, ESPMI Network; Zean Dunbar, ESPMI, Petra Molnar, Refugee Advocate – Toronto; ESPMI Network

The Bridging Forced Migration Research with Policy and Practice roundtable will interrogate how research can be used more robustly to inform policies and practices that improve the conditions of the displaced. If the ethics of forced migration research is to make a positive
contribution in the lives of forced migrants, how can we better achieve this objective?

Although forced migration research has long been concerned with the elements and implications of refugee policy, our understanding of the process that leads to these policies at the global level, and the factors affecting practice at the local level is limited. As such, how can a stronger understanding of the process of policy-making and implementation better help migration researcher effectively engage with policy and policymakers? Furthermore, refugee policy is one among many factors influencing protection outcomes at local, national and global levels. As such, how can we develop more holistic approaches in refugee studies that effectively inform policy and practice? How can we localize and diversify refugee policy studies?

Secondly, the roundtable will revisit the debate between policy-relevant research and academic soundness. Should the goal of our research be activist in orientation and rigorous in knowledge production? Scholars have expressed concern with the unintended consequences of policy relevant research, which privilege the world views, categories and paradigms of policy makers and limits researchers in terms of the questions posed, methodologies used, and analysis adopted. As such, what constitutes relevance to policy? How can policy irrelevant research produce new knowledge on peoples and processes? How can we better bridge the tension between scholarly and practical impact?

Lastly, the roundtable will discuss practical ways in which researchers can engage and affect policy. How can researchers produce knowledge and mobilize it in a way that affects change? How can research be more accessible and understandable for policy-makers and practitioners? Where should scholars direct their activism? What are realistic expectations we should have of research in influencing policy?

Specific areas for discussion:
- The responsibility of researchers to the academic world and world outside university
- Policy relevant research vs. challenging dominant paradigms
- Categories, labelling, stereotypes and exclusion
- Areas for directing advocacy- local and global actors
- Refugee agency in influencing policy and practice

Research & its Dissemination

Edmund Hamann, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Loukia Sarroub, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Educational Work Related to Forced Migration

As the foundational premises of IASFM affirm, there is much scholarly work to be done to better understand the circumstance of forced migrants in sending regions, receiving regions, and in transit. Similarly, it is important to capture the perspectives of those engaged in various practices to support/protect forced migrants. However, it is the claim here that there is a third, less-attended-to task that merits further explication and development: education and
migration. One part of this is a popular education task: How do and how should the findings of the scholars associated with IASFM (and other scholars of migration) get shared with the larger public? How does our collective knowledge as scholars and practitioners circulate and become meaningful? The second part of this task relates to the formal educational services and infrastructures that intersect with forced migration. We can ask how ready are schools for forced migrants? Is enrollment easy or difficult? How do answers vary if we are discussing refugees versus those who are being trafficked? If child migrants move with parents/guardians or are unaccompanied? Ultimately, this paper describes the development of a new course, called ‘Education and Migration’, that assembles information related to these questions. While describing a course may seem modest, we argue that it allows for multiple subthemes to be juxtaposed and a range of readings to be considered, while taking on perhaps the weightiest question our interdisciplinary field faces: How do others learn/apply what we have learned/discovered/know about forced migrants, particularly those who are school age?

Cory Rodgers, Keble College, University of Oxford
The Uses and Abuses of the “Host Community” Label in Kakuma, Kenya

Mona Hossaini, Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University (ACKU), Razia Rezaie, ACKU
The Challenges of Conducting Qualitative Research on Forced Migration in a Country in Conflict: A case study of Afghanistan

Afghanistan has been in conflict for almost forty years, and during that period has been one of the main refugee and IDP producing countries. Inevitably, it has also been the focus of research into forced migration. During these years, there were only a handful of studies conducted inside Afghanistan (Monsutti 2005, 2009; Harpviken 2009), most work was done on Afghan refugees in Pakistan and or Iran.

More recently, there has been a resurgence of research inside Afghanistan, but this is frequently quantitative and applied and carried out by local and international research consultancies for Government departments and or international agencies. These research projects are led by international scholars, who employ Afghans mostly as data collectors. However, given that the security situation is unlikely to improve, it is now more important than ever that research into the situation of Afghan forced migrants is conducted by Afghan researchers with the necessary skills and experiences. We have been engaged in a longitudinal study of 18 families, investigating their plans, hopes and fears for the future, and whether or not those plans include migration.

In this paper, we discuss the challenges facing young, educated women from a particular ethnicity working with families from different ethnic groups, in very insecure conditions, and how to overcome them. We consider the ethical and emotional challenges of working with vulnerable research subjects, our responsibilities to our subjects and ourselves.

Panel: Changes in the Brazilian Refugee and Forced Migrants Law and Policy for the 21st Century
Chair: Andrea Pacheco Pacífico, Paraiba State University; Discussant: Eduardo Faerstein, State University of Rio de Janeiro
Under the Reflective Praxis thematic, this panel aims at discussing Refugee and Environmentally Displaced Persons (EDPs) Law and Policy changes in Brazil as a result of the 2017 New Migration Law, which, along with the 1997 Refugee Law, seems to bring a Human Rights Approach to the protection of refugees and forced migrants in Brazil. On one hand, the former 1980 Foreigner’s Statute (that is, the former Migration Law) was created during the Brazilian dictatorship and saw the immigrant in Brazil as a threat to the State, that is, criminalising migration and going against the 1988 Brazilian Constitution with its Human Rights approach. On the other hand, the 1997 Refugee Law, could fill some gaps in the Brazilian Legal Order to protect refugees in a better way, enlarging the refugee’s definition to include, for instance, those persons fleeing from human rights violations. However, new categories of migrants have arrived in Brazil since then, such as Haitians fleeing from the 2010 Earthquake and being unprotected by both regimes. Hence, this panel will discuss the role of state and non-state actors in assisting refugees and EDPs in different needs in Brazil, particularly after the changes made in the 1997 Refugee Law, which created the Brazilian Refugee Regime, and the new 2017 Migration Law, which provides protection for EDPs and many rights to other migrants in the country.

Andrea Pacheco Pacifico, Paraiba State University; Danielle Annoni, Federal University of Santa Catarina and Federal University of Parana

The Brazilian Hybrid Regime of Refugees and Forced Migrants’ Human Rights Protection

Brazil has had a long history of hosting forced migrants and refugees. Before the military dictatorship, Brazil opened offices in Europe to bring refugees from the WW II and, during it, Caritas assisted many asylum seekers and refugees to the integration process. The 1988 Brazilian Constitution brought a Human Rights approach to foreigners living in the country, no matter their status. In 1997, the Brazilian Refugee Regime was created, becoming an example of protection for the Latin America and the Caribbean Basin. However, the Brazilian Migration Regime dated from the 80s, when the dictatorship was in power and securitisation of migration along with its criminalisation was the order of the day. At the beginning of this 21st Century, new categories of migrants and displaced persons started to come to Brazil, such as Haitians and Venezuelans. In these cases, the National Council of Immigration issued resolutions to give Permanent Visa for Humanitarian Purposes. However, the Brazilian Regime remained obsolete. Only in 2017, after public dialogues among state and non-state actors, a new Migration Law was published, based on a Human Rights Approach. It seems that Brazil will again be an example for Latin American region regarding the protection of refugees, non-convention refugees, and migrants in general, as the new Brazilian Regime has stretching the International Regime to adapt it at local implementation level (BETTS 2009). This article discusses its effects in the protection of refugees and environmentally displaced persons after the 2017 Migration Law and the perspectives for the near future.

Melissa Martins Casagrande, Federal University of Parana and Positivo University

Residency Visa on Humanitarian Grounds: an analysis and critique of the Brazilian practice

Abstract: This paper analyses the implementation, on an exceptional basis, of residency visas in Brazil granted on humanitarian grounds. In October 2012, by means of an executive order, Brazil recognized the right of permanent residency for a period of five years to Haitian nationals. In March 2017, through another executive order of similar nature, Brazil extended the right of permanent residency to Venezuelans for a period of two years. An analysis and critique of the theoretical framework as well as the programmatic resolutions and legal and
political tools that guarantee the protection of vulnerable migrants in Brazil is proposed. The paper argues that the Haitian and Venezuelan migration trends, prompted by protracted humanitarian crises exacerbated by a rapid-onset natural disaster in the Haitian case, and deep political and economic turmoil in the Venezuelan case, have motivated the creation and repeated implementation of a new migration category/status in Brazil: the permanent residency on humanitarian grounds. The pros and cons of a migratory policy implemented on the basis of executive orders and the fragility of protection mechanisms it entails is scrutinized in light of the new Brazilian migration legislative framework enacted in May 2017. The paper also addresses the cause-effect phenomenon of the issuance of executive orders granting residency visas on humanitarian grounds following a spike in refugee status claims from a considerable number of persons of a given nationality that do not fully meet the criteria for refugee status but have, nonetheless, been displaced by circumstances of massive human rights violations.

Roundtable: Lives in the Balance: Conversations on Reflective Research and Practice in Information Provision and Information Needs of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Natalia Bowdoin, University of South Carolina Aiken; Karen Fisher, University of Washington iSchool; Ashanti White Jackson, California Institute of Integral Studies; Julie Robinson, Kansas City Public Library

Refugees and asylum seekers have unique and challenging information needs, whether in the camps, on the move, facing legal bureaucracies, or navigating their new resettlement countries. Simultaneously, information about refugees and asylum seekers is often confusing, misleading, or incorrect, leading to increased political rhetoric, social tensions, and sometimes violence. This roundtable brings together information researchers and practitioners who have worked extensively with refugees or asylum seekers from Syria, Central African Republic (CAR), Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, Burma, and Southeast Asia. We will be discussing the lived experiences of these forced migrants, how they make sense of the information landscape, how they navigate language barriers during resettlement, the role of support networks, the role of libraries and other information providers and services, and the informal social settings that provide “information grounds” for crucial information survival needs. We will also be discussing the role of UN agencies in support of these information needs and practices, and examine the ways gender, race, or ethnicity intersect as they relate to information behavior and practices. Through this roundtable setting, we hope to have a participatory dialogue with audience members about strategies and possibilities for increased information provision and support for refugees and asylum seekers whether in their resettlement countries or their countries of transit. We also seek to explore the ways that information workers can influence the information environment about these populations in ways that promote dialogue rather than denigration or derision.

Roundtable: New Dissemination Practices & Public Engagement in Forced Migration Research

Paul Dudman, Emerging Scholars and Practitioners On Migration Issues (ESPMI) Network Discussants:

Clara Sandelind, Talking Migration, University of Sheffield; Bani Gill, University of Copenhagen, Asha Siad, Documentary filmmaker, Global Affairs Canada; Marie
Godin, Oxford Department of International Development

The purpose of the roundtable on New Dissemination Practices and Public Engagement in Forced Migration Research is to bring together both established and emerging scholars and practitioners interested in interrogating current methods of dissemination and public engagement utilized by migration researchers and practitioners, and discuss new opportunities for effective knowledge transfer. The roundtable will outline new or underutilized methods of dissemination and engagement such as podcasting, social media, art, film, and editorials.

Research has shown the most academic articles go uncited, which raises fundamental questions on the effectiveness of refugee and migration research in engaging with wider discourses. In particular, given ongoing divisive media stereotyping and political rhetoric on these issues, what roles do migration researchers have in challenging inaccurate or biased public discourse on forced migration? Further, this roundtable aims to investigate the ethical implications of disseminating research through new media channels, such as social media platforms, that can distort, amplify or silence the realities of forced migration issues. Other questions that this roundtable seeks to address include: What is the disconnect between current methods of forced migration research dissemination and public awareness of forced migration issues? What are the barriers faced by early career migration researchers in accessing effective dissemination practices? How is new media (websites, mobile apps, social media) currently utilized by migration researchers and what is the potential for innovation? What tools or frameworks can be utilized, both in the academic and policy spheres, to actively and positively engage with the communities and stakeholders they are researching?

Roundtable: Navigating Legal Aid in Asylum Procedures: Comparative Experiences and Practical Challenges in Four European Countries (Germany, Italy, Switzerland and the United Kingdom)

Nula Frei, Institute of European Law, University of Fribourg, Switzerland; Constantin (Tino) Hruschka, Max Planck Institute of Social Law and Social Policy, Munich, Germany; Bonny Ling, Centre for Human Rights Studies, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Law & Policy

Leila Zhdanova, Civic Organisation "DESYATE KVITNYA"

Lost in translation: who is in need of international protection today?

The proposed paper explores the development of the definition of “refugee” and the mandate of the UNHCR, as a response to the recent humanitarian crises and human rights situation in different parts of the world. Today, the word “refugee” has a much wider meaning than the one stipulated by the 1951 Refugee Convention, and those falling within this definition face with much more obstacles than conventional refugees over than 50 years ago. The challenges we meet in 21st century proves that the issue could not be resolved by the same means as before. The research studies the increasing role of governments, local self-governance and civil society actors during the mass influx of refugees or internally displaced persons and prospective for the transformation of the UNHCR and its mandate. It also analyses the
evolution of the international protection instruments enshrined in international and regional treaties, soft law, EU regulations, as well as national legal frameworks and practices and difficulties associated with its understanding by persons of concern, lawyers and state officials. Its findings call for a closer examination of the situation of today’s forced migrants, their legal status and actual situation. It stresses on the importance of promoting good administration, establishing effective referral mechanisms and all-inclusive service providers for ensuring the effective protection of forced migrants.

Nicole Hoellerer, University of Exeter and Daniel Fisher, University of Exeter

“Fair” and “consistent” asylum adjudication? A critical study of legal processes in the Common European Asylum System

In 2013 the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) was launched to standardise the procedures of asylum determination in Europe. In line with the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (Article 47), CEAS aims to guarantee the right to a fair asylum hearing and trial, which should be consistent throughout the EU. But as yet no sustained multi-methodological assessment of the claims of consistency inherent to the CEAS has been carried out. An interdisciplinary team at the University of Exeter have launched ASYFAIR – a project that offers the opportunity to assess progress towards harmonisation of asylum determination processes in Europe, and provides a new conceptual framework with which to approach the dilemmas and risks of inconsistency in bureaucratic and legal practices concerning asylum adjudication.

The paper presents preliminary data of this multi-sited project, to demonstrate that asylum determination processes are fraught with political controversy and uncertainty, and promises to debunk the myths surrounding the possibility of fair and consistent border controls and legal processes in Europe and elsewhere. The presented data is likely to be of interest to academic communities like geographers, legal and border scholars, and social scientists, as well as to policy makers and activists working in border control and asylum adjudication settings, as it provides an innovative lens through which to critique and inform policy and legislation during a crucial period of consolidation of the asylum system and border controls in Europe.

Margarita Fourer, Danube University Krems

Transferability of planned relocation practices: analysis of industry resettlement, environmental relocation and asylum seeker transfer agreements

Three of the fields involved the relocation and/or resettlement of populations are industry (e.g., mining) resettlement, planned relocation due to environmental disasters (e.g., floods) or slow-onset events (e.g., rising sea levels) and transfer agreements (e.g., Australia’s transfer of asylum seekers arriving irregularly by boat for processing and resettlement to Nauru or Papua New Guinea). The process of relocation and/or resettlement involves various actors: the relocating countries and/or companies, intermediaries (e.g., international investment institutions (IFIs), or United Nations organisations) and receiving countries or communities.

All three fields relocate/resettle populations – who are a directly affected group – with varying degrees of consultation or agency (from guaranteed in environmentally-induced relocation to none in transfer agreements). Increased human rights protections of the affected populations are emerging. In industry resettlement, IFIs have introduced guidelines, e.g., the 2012 “Performance Standard 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement”, which are nonetheless facing issues of enforcement, including by the drafting IFIs. In environmentally-
induced relocation, UNHCR published “Toolbox on Planned Relocation” in 2017, and the environmentally affected State of Fiji is developing its own “Relocation Guidelines”. Transfer agreements are limited to the 2013 UNHCR “Guidance Note on bilateral and/or multilateral transfer arrangements of asylum-seekers”.

By using a comparative methodology, putting into perspective recent developments, best practices and challenges, the paper hopes to find areas of commonality and equivalency between the three fields, intending to identify lessons industry resettlement and environmentally-induced relocation can learn from each other, and teach to the field of transfer agreements, for greater protection of the affected populations.

Challenges of Adaptation & Integration

Francisco Martin Ruiz, Complutense University of Madrid

Needed adaptation and inevitable integration of asylum seekers in Switzerland within a context of accelerated bureaucratisation

Switzerland has been testing since 2014 a fast-track asylum system at a new federal asylum centre in Zurich for over 300 applicants, as part of the restructuring of the Swiss asylum system approved by referendum in 2016, which also includes the free allocation of lawyers and legal advisors.

Newly arrived asylum seekers at the centre in Zurich are not only confronted with a turning point in their lives – the decision on their asylum claim will be taken within 140 days – but with the inevitable contradictions of sojourning at a place where strong organisational structures and individual agency interact. They find themselves in a kind of no man’s land: single persons, families and unaccompanied minors from very different cultural and linguistic backgrounds must be guided by the need for adaptation, beginning with coping with their own expectations about the living conditions and house rules. At the same time, the question of integration is, in an official sense, pushed into the background until the decision on the asylum claim is taken and the person is eventually transferred to a canton. However, in practice, it is an ongoing challenge to negate integration under the guise of accelerated bureaucratisation, while daily routines on any asylum centre imply subtle and not so subtle constant readjustments to local norms. In such a not-to-be-resolved contradiction, there are also several criteria to be explored that clearly draw a line between who belongs to Europe and who does not, who is worthy to be integrated and who is not.

Vasiliki Mylona, National Technical University of Athens

The territorialisation of solidarity. Integration of refugees and asylum seekers living in self-organised communities in Athens

Migration and population mobility are fundamental parts of cities’ development worldwide. From the “Black Belt” in Chicago and the ethnic enclaves in the neighborhoods of Manhattan, to the Parisian “banlieues”, the urban environment seems to develop mechanisms that either achieve a regular assimilation of the migrants, or they fail and consequently, they tend to isolate the incoming population. Hence, the spatial and social arrangement of the cities is transformed and rearranged through the high ethnic and cultural diversity along with the difficulties that arise in cities to respond to these challenges (Castles and Miller, 2003). If we consider that space interacts with the society and it includes and is included to the social structure (Poulantzas, 1978, Harvey, 1973, Lefebvre, 1991), then we can assume that spatial
integrations is connected to the composition of the local society, the characteristics of the incoming population and the national and local policies.

Nowadays, Syria’s war has spawned 4.8 million refugees in neighboring countries with hundreds of thousands in Europe. In order to escape the violence of the war and the impacts of the political crisis in the Middle East and Africa, many refugees are crossing the sea to seek asylum. Hence, Europe has and still is receiving the highest influx of refugees since World War II and the old continent confronts not only a shock on moral compasses, but also a hit on the social welfare. After seven years of economic crisis, Europe is under pressure providing effective and qualitative health care, housing or education to its own population. Especially, in the transit countries such as Greece and Italy, the economic crisis appends an extra obstacle to handling the refugees’ vast flows.

Greece, in particular, is the gate of Europe and the first country where the majority of refugees arrives. In addition, the European legislation indicates the transit countries as the responsible Member States for the examination of applications from asylum seekers seeking international protection. These two aspects have created a suffocating situation, mostly in the east and north borders of Greece and in Athens. As a response to this situation, refugees and asylum seekers, alongside with natives, have created self-organised communities in order to fulfill their fundamental needs (accommodation, health care, education, etc.). For the last two years, abandoned building in the center of Athens have been occupied and have been transformed into independent communities with their own approach on functioning and interacting with the local society, based on solidarity and self-organisation. At the same time, many other self-organised communities have been activated in order to support the housing squats by providing either food and medical supplies or any other kind of technical support.

In my research, I look at this network of self-organised communities and I investigate their impact on the city’s formation as well as on the local society. In order to achieve these research goals, the research draws from a wide range of disciplines including urban and human geography, sociology, anthropology and ethnographical approaches, urban planning and housing policy.
THEME FIVE: Politics of representation and changing identities

Roundtable: Ethical considerations of research with people in forced migration

Christina Clark-Kazak, University of Ottawa; Ulrike Krause, Ruhr University Bochum; Michaela Hynie, York University

How do is research with refugees carried out? Which challenges can arise? How can harm be prevented? These are just some of the fundamental, yet crucial questions which arise when reflecting on field research and research ethics in forced migration and refugee studies. Although empirical fieldwork has become an inherent part of this interdisciplinary field of research, ethical debates have thus far not been central. To initiate discussions and further exchange, this workshop sets out the current state of the field, raises questions and invites scholars from diverse fields to contribute. The aim of the workshop is to identify gaps in academic debates as well as resources needed for ‘ethical’ research into forced migration.

Roundtable: Refugee Self-Representation in Practice: Through/Action/Reflection

Anita Fabos, Clark University; Leora Kahn PROOF: Media for Social Justice; Craig Mortley, LGBT Asylum Task Force; Omar Imam, Photographer/Artist

What does refugee-centered representation and advocacy look like? While many of us (practitioners, scholars, and forced migrants) are committed to pursuing a social justice oriented praxis, we often pay lip service to ethical standards in the urgency of the need to help. From ill-fitting ideas of what the advocacy needs of forced migrants are, to advocacy practices that do not completely account for the specific context of forced migrant needs, to advocacy actions that preempt or sidestep a fully considered collaboration with forced migrants themselves—each stage of advocacy (thought/action/reflection) is fraught with small but powerful decisions that shape the politics of representation. This roundtable addresses IASFM’s call “to bring refugees squarely back into academic, policy, non-governmental and citizen debates and praxis” by bringing together a group of practitioners, academics, and forced migrants for a discussion of refugee self-representation and its pitfalls.

This roundtable builds on a series of panels (Situating Refugee and Forced Migration Narratives: Process, Products, and Power) presented at IASFM 16 (Poznan, Poland) sponsored by the Working Group on Refugee and Forced Migration Narratives. The participants in those sessions challenged representations that use generic images or tropes, and laid out a range of critiques that presented the tensions over control of these narratives, and the power relations inherent in the processes of collecting, presenting, and disseminating them. But how to walk the fine line of advocacy that brings together the skills, resources, and access of helpers with the understanding, context, and lived experience of forced migrants? There are a number of ‘best practices’ in human rights-based research (e.g. anti-oppressive social work, participatory action research, and reciprocal research) to draw upon, and many have been applied to advocacy work across a range of fields. We address incorporating refugee self-representation in all stages of an advocacy campaign, and the importance of reflecting on past efforts for continued vigilance around whose decisions shape what we see, read, experience, and witness.
The participants in this roundtable have been working separately and together on refugee-centered representation—visual, via objects, academic writing, and translation—and advocacy. This innovative roundtable will include participant role-play to illustrate some of the pitfalls we have encountered in the process of developing and implementing projects for social justice. Included around the table are voices from the global north and south, people from settled and mobile backgrounds, and include a practitioner of social justice advocacy, a museum curator, an activist from a refugee background, an academic, and a translator in a medical NGO.

Panel: Displaced Narratives: Storytelling in Displacement and Forced Migration – Part One
Cindy Horst, PRIO; Co-chair: Katarzyna Grabska, The Graduate Institute Geneva

Sebnem Koser Akcapar and Umut Kuruuzum, Koç University

*Story sharing through visual ethnography*

In this presentation, we will share our first-hand experiences on our ongoing project of documenting and filming life stories of Syrian refugees living in Turkey coming from different backgrounds. ‘Visual ethnography’ method is important for ensuring that the oral histories of refugees meet the broader society and contribute to the peaceful co-existence of both host and refugee communities through self-disclosure, namely story sharing. In this project, the stories of refugees are recorded in a short video format from their own personal perspectives and positions, in their own styles, and preferred contexts. Each participant tells us a story and share a segment of his/her life – about who they are, migration trajectories and future aspirations – as a medium of communication to the rest of the world, in our current historical, local (Turkish) and global time. Story sharing is one way of humanizing differences, deepening understanding of each other, and a “vital human strategy for sustaining a sense of agency in the face of disempowering circumstances” (Jackson 2002: 15). For this reason, this project is based on the centrality of narrative in human communication (McLeod 1997), formation of social identity (Joyce 1994), and self (McAdams 1993). By giving refugees a voice to talk about their own experiences, evident racism in society and social exclusion as well as their hidden agency in coping with everyday social problems experienced in the urban areas, we, as researchers, were also transformed and questioned well-known concepts such as power, gender, majority-minority relations, and exile through a different lens.

Sébastien Bachelet, Laura Jeffery, University of Edinburgh

*Regards en Mouvement: Sharing Visual Stories of Migration - Process*

These two linked presentations (paper 2 and 3) ask (how) can arts-based methods enhance traditional social research practices in forced displacement contexts, and (how) can participatory methods disrupt power relations and enable creative co-creation? Drawing on creative workshops with Moroccans and Sub-Saharan migrants, we evaluate the capacity of participatory methods and creative outputs to generate disruptive accounts of mobility/immobility and inclusion/exclusion. Part I explores the participatory processes ethnographically, while Part II explores the resulting creative outputs from a cultural studies perspective.

This presentation recounts a 9-day creative workshop in Rabat facilitated by two Moroccan
artists – a theatre practitioner and a visual artist – along with sixteen participants who ranged from young Moroccan students to sub-Saharan migrants from Western and Central Africa with diverse immigration statuses (refugees, asylum seekers, recently regularised, etc.). The theatre practitioner’s exercises focused on bodily presence, expression, sharing, and engagement. Meanwhile, the visual artist facilitated video-making of and by the participants, so participants performed and shared not only with one another but also with a wider imagined public through these ever-present cameras. This presentation explores the implications of stories not simply being elicited from participants by an external camera, but rather emerging from exercises that encouraged participants to engage with one another in deciding what they wanted to share, actively listen, and record themselves.

Regards en Mouvement: Sharing Visual Stories of Migration - Output

Mariangela Palladino, University of Keele

This presentation focuses on the video installation entitled Regards en Mouvement (Rabat, December 2017). Realised by Morocco-based photographer Amine Oulmakki, the installation is composed of a set of nine videos and it articulates both visually and orally a synchrony of stories about displacement. Viewers are subjected to the gaze of those who tell and of those who listen; a sound installation plays voices in several languages. The presentation explores how Oulmakki’s Regards en Mouvement debunks power dynamics, representing mismatched and broken up visual and oral accounts. His work presents voices, faces, speakers, and listeners all out of sync in a dissonant choir which contests the much sought-after coherence of refugee narratives. The visual and oral experience is a challenging one: viewers are invited to navigate a space where bodies trace their own emotional and physical journeys, while the emboldened presences emerging from the screens are unsettled by the displaced temporality and sequencing between frames and sound. Oulmakki’s installation proposes counter-narratives of migration which depart from confessional and ‘authentic’ accounts of victimhood, and offers novel ways to engage with mobility.

Panel: Displaced Narratives: Storytelling in Displacement and Forced Migration – Part Two

Cindy Horst, PRIO; Co-chair: Katarzyna Grabska, The Graduate Institute Geneva

Giorgia Dona, Marie Godin and Crispin Hughes, University of East London, University of Oxford and Independent Researcher

Narratives about, in and beyond displacement: Forced migrants in transit at the France-UK border

The paper examines visual narratives collected in the context of displacement, at the border of France and the United Kingdom, where a group of forced migrants participated in the ‘Displaces’ project, which was part of the Life Stories course offered to residents of the Calais ‘Jungle’. The lives of people in transit across Europe are generally portrayed through the lens of victimhood, criminalisation or political activism. In a different way to these dominant representations, ‘Displaces’ brings to light less visible narratives created by forced migrants that are about, in and beyond displacement. These visual records speak of the politics in and of displacement, portray the ‘beauty’ of everyday life in transit, and are declarations of ‘anything but’ displacement. First, the visual narrative of political displacements - personal and collective –addresses not only the root causes of conflicts and their global responses but also the proximate politics of unfair treatment, border security and the right to move. Second, the
visual pieces offer an artistic portrayal of intimate images of daily life in the camp, celebrations of momentary ‘togetherness’ in transit and snapshots of the beauty that migrants uncovered in the ‘Jungle’ and its landscape. Third, there is the uncovering of a distancing/avoidance narrative, which reveals stories of personal aspirations, develops reassuring pictures that life can be good and displaces the transit camp somewhere else in the distance, spatially and temporally. Overall, the findings support the argument that narratives produced in context of displacements cannot be conceptualised only through the storytelling lens of displacement but that they are better understood as narratives that are about, in and beyond displacement.

Susan Banki and Nicole Phillips, University of Sydney

*Studying the “double diaspora” through non-traditional methods: resettlement and the Nepali-Bhutanese*

Nepali-Bhutanese who have resettled to countries of the Global North are what we might call a ‘double diaspora’. As residents in Bhutan, their collective identities were solidified around their common ethnic Nepalese heritage. Then, expelled from Bhutan because of that ethnicity, they lived in refugee camps in Nepal for 20 years. Following the mass resettlement of Nepali-Bhutanese refugees to countries of the Global North beginning in 2008, the majority of these refugees are reconstructing their identities for the second or third time. This research explores the elements and manifestations of this ‘double diaspora.’ What identities and narratives do they cling to, and which have been discarded? What objects are related to these histories, and do these represent a longing for a Bhutanese homeland, a Nepalese one, or something else entirely? One method of exploring these questions employs a non-traditional method of collecting narratives: adapting the ‘cultural probe’ approach used in design studies, the researchers created a multimedia package that allowed refugee respondents time to share their ideas about their homeland through stories, video, objects, jokes, songs, and other non-traditional commentary. Given the oft-cited problem of imbalance between researchers and respondents, the approach aims not only to gather information from participants, but explicitly to develop a process that is, at its best, enjoyable and/or whimsical. In addition to offering some thoughts on what a ‘double diaspora’ might mean for a construction of homeland, the paper discusses the merits and drawbacks of this non-traditional approach, focusing on, among other elements, design and preparation, the potential for participant involvement, ethical questions (and the only partially related question of ethics review boards), and possibilities for large-scale research of this nature in the context of an approach that is exceptionally resource-intensive.

Rumana Hashem and Paul V Dudman, University of East London

*Using bottom-up oral history approach for archiving hidden refugee narratives*

This paper reflects on the work we have undertaken with the Refugee Council Archive at the University of East London, and examines how a bottom-up approach to oral histories and narrative method can contribute to the documentation and preservation of the genuine voices and testimonies of displaced people. Drawing on a civic engagement and outreach work with documented and undocumented migrants and refugees from non-European countries in London, we argue that a bottom-up approach to traditional life history method enables researchers to understand the differential acculturation and diverse trajectories of displaced population of different ethnicities e.g. migrants and refugees from the global south and non-EU states in the UK. The paper also discusses the major challenges in applying oral history approach to forced-migration and refugee research. The paper demonstrate that despite the challenges, the power of oral history is irrefutable, especially in the context of refugee
research, because life narrative of the displaced person does not only help to recognise the hidden agency but also enables archiving and [re]construction of ‘moving memories’ of the displaced. By way of illustrations we also show how the voices of refugees and migrants of different ethnicities and ‘race’ are often marginalised or left un-heard within the Archive, and even deliberately overlooked in favour of the dominant narratives of the nation, and how these people themselves resist and continue to debunk the dominant notion of nation through the making of or giving meanings to their temporal and spatial aspects of displacement.

Katarzyna Grabska, The Graduate Institute

Visual and literary story-telling about war, displacement and exile: research method or collective creation?

In this paper, I propose to look at film and short stories (novels) as methods to study experiences of war, displacement, inclusion and exclusion by refugees and conflict-induced displaced populations. In what ways do these methods reveal different understandings of the temporal and spatial aspects of displacement and refugee experience? What are the challenges in designing such research, and what type of insights can we develop from it as researchers? What are the limits of using a story-telling approach? How is this approach a way of excavating both hidden agency and power hierarchies in displacement? I ask to what extent can film and writing by refugees and displaced and with them be tools to research and analyse refugee and displaced populations’ own experiences of war and exile. In what ways do these methods reveal different understandings of the temporal and spatial aspects of displacement? I will analyse a recent film by a Cambodian filmmaker Rithy Pahn entitled ‘Exile’, his installation under the same title in Geneva, and an interview with the filmmaker to tell a ‘story’ of exile. I juxtapose this against the analysis of short-story writings by an acclaimed Sudanese-South Sudanese writer, Stella Gaitano, who is inbetween the status of refugee and citizen in Khartoum. By analysing the personal experiences of choosing film and writing as methods opens up a space for alternative narratives and research methods, alternative ways of ‘telling stories’ about and by exiles. In this way, as bell hooks argues, theorizing about personal experience not only posits the personal as critical to understanding socio-political social boundaries; but makes it possible to consider how the personal provides room to create alternative narratives.

Panel: Auto-ethnography, ethics and exile: the new film-makers

The panel comprises three papers, each engaging with the combined problematic of auto-ethnography, collaborative film-making and the cinematic representation of contemporary refugee experience. Panellists include academics (a social scientist, an historian and a film scholar), film-makers who are themselves people of refugee background, and a student who works with film. Through the papers presented, we will collectively debate the challenges of collaboration, the impacts on the film text, and the value of talking back to victim narratives, and of questioning story structures that exclude or deny the subject from telling her or his story directly through film.

Stephanie Hemelrijk Donald, University of Lincoln

Tenderness and Intimacy in Chauka

The UNHCR Special Rapporteur described the Australian detention facilities on Manus and Nauru as ‘a punitive approach to maritime arrivals’ (2017). Behrouz Boochani, an Iranian Kurdish journalist, had been detained on Manus for three years when he started shooting the
footage for ‘Chauka Please Tell Us the Time’ (2017) on a mobile phone. His co-director Arash Kamali Sarvestani is based in Amsterdam. The film is a work of record and work of activism, but it is also an aesthetic irruption into the discourse of detention. This paper explores Boochani’s auto-ethnography as a poigniant example of what the anthropologist Christopher Pinney describes as Benjaminian ‘vitality’ in the power of the visual image (2016: 73). Here, the image is not simply a record of deeds done, but a ‘critical image on the side of a necessary and desirable crisis’. Chauka breaks down the door of the ‘waiting room of history’ (Chakrabarty, quoted in Pinney) and thereby recasts a crisis as a matter of conscience and reciprocity, where it has previously been cast as a question of control, border management and national security. Boochani shares the auto-ethnography with his fellow inmates and subjects, producing an aesthetic of tenderness and intimacy. I also refer to ‘Chasing Asylum’ (Orner, 2016), arguing that the film-maker’s exteriority—she used whistle-blowers to film inside the camp and did not use interviews with detainees—produces a valuable auto-ethnography of support workers, but not of the refugee.

Jolyon Hoff, Independent film-maker; with Muzafar Ali, Independent film-maker

The Staging Post – auto-ethnography and everyday activism

This presentation recounts how a creative connection and the use of films and social media allowed two Afghan Hazara refugees, Muzafar and Khadim, and an Australian filmmaker, Jolyon, to bring together refugees in transit to build a community, develop that community’s sense of worth, and then connect them with the outside world. Muzafar started documenting the beauty of his hometown Bamyan in Central Afghanistan. He posted images online and quickly became well known. Khadim started making a film about a bomb blast in Pakistan that destroyed his school and killed his best friend. A voice in his head said ‘I have to raise my voice. I have to let people know what is happening here’, but he was smuggled out of Quetta before he could finish it. After a chance encounter outside UNHCR Jakarta, Muzafar encouraged Khadim to start making films on his mobile phone. Jolyon, Muzafar and Khadim then collaborated on the development of a school for Afghans in Indonesia, and at the same time made The Staging Post, a feature documentary which follows their story. The film was released in July 2017. The presenters will reflect on their collaboration in filmmaking, visual communication and community building, and how their exploration of each other’s perspective created the unified but un-conventional refugee narrative of The Staging Post.

Panel: Images of the refugee in the age of populism: the role of the academia, NGOs and social media

This panel brings together perspectives from a variety of research contexts in order to offer a critical analysis of the imaginaries of refugees and immigrants shaped through policies and practices. To this end, we will be discussing how policies and practices affect the well-being of newcomers in relation to the right to education and good life. Toward this direction, we will problematize the role of academics and how the dominant type of professionalism contributes to civic society. One question that we will be asking, then, concerns the emergent value system in academia and, to what extent, this new value system addresses, for instance, populist fear mongering against refugees. In addition, academic practices of integration will be discussed as well as educational policies and the current discourse in order to understand who is included and who not, who benefits and who loses. This whole issue is not separated from the need to understand the psychosocial dimensions of being a refugee. Another question, therefore, that we will be addressing concerns uncertainties and how these are negotiated by practitioners in the field in relation to day-to-day work in the current waves of humanitarian emergency.
Finally, the role of the social media will be analyzed and how refugees are represented in digital discourses and visual material online.

**Anna-Leena Riitaoja, The Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki**

*Critical analysis of higher education policies and practices on refugee and immigrant inclusion in Finland and beyond: Lip-service or sustained changes?*

In autumn 2015, Finland received larger numbers of asylum seekers compared to previous years. Other European countries receive far greater number of immigrants and refugees, but the increase in the Finnish numbers changed the discourse about immigration throughout the country. As a result, the focus of mainstream political elite quickly shifted toward hostility and deportation from a “welcome asylum seekers” politics. Also, Finnish universities expressed their interest in “welcoming” asylum seekers, with various events, such as seminars and law clinics. In spring 2016, the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture launched the SIMHE-project aiming to steer and support the HEIs effort to integrate those immigrants who are eligible to apply to HE or with a previous HE degree. Universities’ and educational policy makers’ interest toward asylum seekers’ academic educational success is interesting because very few people from previous refugee populations in Finland have entered academic education and scholarly positions. Also, the number of international scholars in Finnish universities is small and international degrees are rarely recognized or accredited as equivalent to Finnish ones.

This presentation focuses on the following questions: Who is the imaginary asylum seeker/refugee/immigrant in current discourses? Who is included and who benefits? What concrete changes have taken place in HE structures and “welcoming” practices and how has strong conservative political pressure influenced them? The presentation contrasts discourses, histories, societal realities and universities’ actions in Finland, Kenya and US-Arizona. The data include policy documents, statistics and interviews of university representatives volunteering with or being responsible for SIMHE initiatives.

**D. Anagnostopoulou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; A. Baka, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, I. Bibou-Nakou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; E. Figgou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; M. Rapti & M. Sourvinou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki;**

*Temporality as a contested issue of the psychosocial role of NGOs in responding to refugees in Greece*

The increasing confusion regarding the psychosocial well-being of refugee population draws on the humanitarian policies and the political decisions about refugees and asylum seekers in Greece and in Europe (Fassin 2005, Watters 2017). This study analyses 10 focus group interviews with 30 professionals (e.g. NGO’s and refugee advocates) working in refugee camps. The paper is based on the European Project S.U.C.R.E (Supporting University Community Pathways for REfugees-Migrants ) that addresses the response of Universities to the academic and psychosocial needs of refugees (students and scholars). The current presentation examines the ways field practitioners understand and negotiate temporality in day-to-day work with refugee populations under the current rise of declared humanitarian emergencies. According to the thematic analysis, variations of temporality (e.g. life course mental health trajectories, normative development, cultural conceptualizations of time, chronic uncertainties regarding legal status and integration, time as being stuck, etc.) represent a shared pattern of inability/
unwillingness to consider contingency plans to move on: practices desist from clinical and professionalized approaches to mental health to community-based practices. In addition, the politics of compassion (or pity) contest with politics of order (or repression). The implications of the study are discussed in terms of intervention within the moral ethics of the humanitarian system.

Marianna Vivitsou, University of Helsinki

Social media, networks and social movements: digital discourses and representations of the ‘refugee’

Nowadays the social media have a share in social action, as social movement activists use them to mobilize participants and spread the message, validate the relevance and enlarge the scope through a wider coverage of activities. More than organizing and spreading mechanisms, the new media encompass the expectation to democratize communications. And so, they do. But they also invite unsupported opinions, and spread out hate speech and fake news. It is therefore timely to open up the discussion about the role of the media, whether they fight untruth and injustice and in what ways.

One way to answer these questions is by looking into how digital discourses construct the imaginary refugee/immigrant. For one thing, there is confusion in the ways terms are used to eventually equalize notional variations and the ways we conceptualize the phenomenon. One area of investigation therefore is to examine how terms are used and what metaphors they generate. Another concern is the monolithic image projected in visual material, pushing to a normative understanding of the refugee as dressed, acting and imploring in a particular way. As a result, the refugee appears to us as a monomorphic character deprived from a multidimensional identity. And yet, the refugee can be queer, transgender and even a scholar! Unfortunately, these dimensions seem to be ignored in social media outlets affiliated with academic institutions and, even, pro-immigration movements. The third area of investigation here is to examine the representations of these ‘weirdo’ types of refugees online. Do they actually exist?

Alexandros Triantafyllidis & S.U.C.RE Consortium

The S.U.C.RE project: Supporting university community pathways for refugees-migrants

The S.U.C.RE. project focuses on the response of Universities to the academic needs of refugees/migrants students and scholars and to the formation of Manuals of Field Testing (Handbook of Good Practices), through the development of training modules addressed to voluntary sector working in the field with the specific population.

Specifically, it focuses on the admissions criteria, processes and preparatory programs (i.e., linguistic support, knowledge level, resource identification) currently established by European universities, that can serve as intermediary solutions for refugees on the road to integration in university degree programs (Intellectual Output 1), as well as on the academic support of refugee students (IO 2) and Scholars (IO 3) after their acceptance into a university. In addition, the programme focuses on psychosocial integration/support of refugees/migrants (IO4) and their proper information on legal and medical issues of interest to them (IO5) through creating open source digital educational/training material to be properly used by trainers for the above stated purposes. A detailed presentation of the project will be given as well focus on some of its achievements.
No ‘Sisu’ no glory: Production-oriented obedient professionalism in the academia

In this age of blatant class war, fascism and neoliberal capitalism, universities and their graduates are evaluated as commodities, and university teachers and researchers are stripped of the intellectual basis of their work for the sake of a production-oriented practice. Cost effectiveness, and profit, are what matter. Using Said’s (1996) concepts, in this presentation we argue that civic society requires academics who rather than ‘professionals’ identify with ‘amateurs’; public intellectuals who educate the civic society to go beyond the self-evident in the present.

Academics, for instance, need to consider ways to ensure funding opportunities. While budgets shrink, and systems become more layered, tenured and fixed-term, social missions are abandoned. Research, for example, favours narrow-scope, highly specialised and formalist studies at the expense of studies raising ontological, epistemological and ethical discussions. Thus, changes impact, among others, the need to act on a sense of mission, how supervision is performed, how a publication-machinery is set up, what role the students have in it and how the reward structure evolves. The killing question is, whose values will we serve? Fascist values? The banks’ values? Corporate voluntarism? While fascism spreads globally, as democracy dissolves into an historical footnote, as we move closer to nuclear annihilation, as hatred toward Muslims lights up religious wars, as social programs to help marginalised groups of people explode, we academics, even those of us on the left, are ineffective bystanders. No matter how excellent our methodological tools permit, we are left with no tools, no vision, no courage.

Panel: Representing refugees and legitimating responses to the refugee ‘crisis’: Comparative perspectives on political discourse

This panel explores how refugees have been represented in political and media discourses in the context of the refugee ‘crisis’. Strategies of labelling and attribution of positive and negative qualities to social groups such as refugees are key in shaping representations of social and political issues, and instrumental in legitimating policy and societal responses. At the same time, discourses are highly dependent on the historical, societal and institutional contexts within which it is articulated. Papers in this panel address three interlinked questions in different contexts. How refugees were labelled and represented in political discourses in each of the case studies – as victims, threatening Others, entrepreneurial and resilient individuals? How are these representations shaped by the historical and socio-political contexts in which they are articulated? In what way have they shaped policy responses and contemporary debates on asylum and migration?
Representations of Syrian refugees and policy legitimation in the political discourse of the European Union

This paper explores strategies of labelling and representation of Syrian refugees in official European Union documents and considers their role in legitimating EU policy responses to the ‘refugee crisis’. Drawing on the Critical Discourse Analysis of policy and press documents issued between January 2012 and December 2017, I argue that labelling and representation strategies reflect shifting policy priorities and responses. Between 2012 and 2014, displacement occurred predominantly in countries neighbouring Syria and EU policies prioritised humanitarian responses in hosting countries. During this period, the use of ‘refugee’ label is dominant, while discursive representations construct refugees as victims of violent conflict in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. At the same time, themes of entrepreneurship and resilience are employed to legitimate policies focusing on education and access to labour markets.

Since 2015, labelling and representation strategies become more ambivalent. Constructions of threats to the security of European states and the stability of the European Union posed by unauthorised migratory movements are employed alongside representations emphasising the humanitarian and protection needs of refugees. At the same time, claims to refugee protection are delegitimated through the increasing use of the label ‘migrant’, even though this co-exist with rather than replaces the refugee label. The growing ambivalence of labelling and representational strategies reflects the increasing prioritisation of the securitarian objectives of controlling borders and preventing refugee arrivals over commitments to refugee protection and human rights.

From failing human rights to failing border control: Securitization and the construction of “Greek failures” in the face of the refugee crisis

Since the 1990’s Greece has received harsh criticism for its failure to uphold the basic human rights of asylum seekers entering the country. Countless reports from human rights organizations as well as statements by representatives of EU institutions and member states have highlighted the inadequacies of the Greek asylum system. This critique culminated in 2011 when the European Court of Human Rights found the Greek asylum system to be both “degrading” and “inhumane”.

In the face of the 2015 refugee crisis the focus of the critique has, however, shifted towards an emphasis on the country’s failure to uphold the EU’s external border. Through public statements from the European Commission as well as leaders of EU member states, Greece has been criticized for seriously neglecting its duty to stop refugees and migrants from entering the Schengen Area and for allowing them to move freely through Greek territory towards the borders with F.Y.R.O.M.

Using securitization theory as a framework for analysis the following study examines the shifts in the discursive construction of “Greek failures” as a migration/border actor. Through analysis of public documents and media sources the paper traces how such discourses have become heavily securitized – resulting in the downplaying of human rights concern in favor of security concerns related to breaches in the protection of EU’s external border.
Responses to ‘refugee crisis’ in Poland and the UK: comparative analysis of discursive representations and policies

Bernadetta Siara, University of Suffolk, England

This paper focuses on discursive representations of refugees and asylum seekers used by government representatives and politicians in Poland and the UK in debates on hosting those seeking refuge. The current right-wing Polish Government (led by Beata Szydlo), in power since October 2015, refused to honour commitments made by the previous centrist government (led by Donald Tusk), which promised to host a number of refugees fleeing war in Syria. Securitising discourses deployed by the current government representatives tend to attribute negative characteristics to refugees, frequently referring to the issue of terrorism and constructing refugees as security threats, consistently with the policy responses referred to above.

The current British Government (led by Theresa May), also right-wing, has continued to some extent to honour the promises made by the previous right-wing government (led by David Cameron) that agreed to accept 20,000 refugees over a number of years, but the process of admitting refugees is slow. In the UK, the mixture of characteristics, both positive (e.g. deserving recipients of protection) and negative (security threats) characteristics have been attributed to refugees. This is closely aligned with ambivalent policy responses concerning hosting refugees.

This paper situates these discursive representations and their active use to justify asylum policy responses in the wider historical and socio-political context of the two countries, and considers how they have reshaped the politics of international protection.

Panel: From physical barriers to social exclusion: “closing” of Europe to forced migrants: different dimensions and contexts – PART ONE

Moderator: Marta Pachocka, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw, Polish European Community Studies Association

Recent events in Europe, referred to as the migration, refugee or humanitarian crisis, have contributed to an increasing interest in the issues of forced migration, refuge, asylum and international protection in European countries. Unfortunately, one negative aspect of this is an intensifying phenomenon of closing to any migrants, including forced ones, in various dimensions:

- some countries are building physical barriers at their borders (e.g. Hungary, Greece), while the others are temporarily restoring and even strengthening controls at their internal borders (e.g. France, Austria);
- the European Union is working to reduce the influx of migrants into its territory and to provide a greater selection and transparency of incoming people from the outside through the instruments and the agencies at its disposal under the EU migration, asylum and border management policies (see e.g.: European Agenda on Migration, Frontex, EU-Turkey statement, relocation and resettlement, returns);
• some governments and European societies are increasingly reluctant to accept migrants and refugees, which is reflected in the results of public opinion polls, national media narratives and political discourse (e.g. Poland, UK);
• even the beneficiaries of international protection granted a refugee status or a subsidiary protection are facing a number of difficulties with integration in receiving countries (e.g. limited access to the labour market, poor knowledge of the host country language, cultural differences, social exclusion);
• finally, language can also be a (non)intentional tool that can “build” barriers in the public attitude and perception of migrants, primarily as a result of its politicisation and mediatisation.

Taking the above-mentioned aspects into consideration, the aim of our panel is to address the problem of the closing of Europe to (forced) migrants at different levels (EU, state, society, migrants etc.) and on various examples from a comparative, interdisciplinary and cross-sector perspectives. To this end, we propose 8 papers by experts – both researchers and practitioners – from Poland, Greece and the UK.

Simon Goodman, Coventry University
“Take back control of our borders”: The role of arguments about controlling immigration in the Brexit debate

Witold Klaus, Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences
Closing gates to refugees in the CEE countries – creating physical and mental barriers against refugees and asylum seeker

Christos Iliadis, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences; University of the Aegean
Reaction of Greek society to forced migrants in the context of refugee crisis: closeness or openness, hostility or hospitality?

Karolina Sobczak-Szelc, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw
From international to internal migration – different choices in face of changing EU migration policy – the case study of environmental migrations from Dades Valley (southern Morocco)

Panel: From physical barriers to social exclusion: “closing” of Europe to forced migrants: different dimensions and contexts – PART TWO
Moderator: Christos Iliadis, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences; University of the Aegean

Marta Pachocka, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw, Polish European Community Studies Association
Rethinking EU approach to forced migrants in the context of the refugee crisis – between legal framework, moral obligation, self-interest and practical capacities

Dominik Wach, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw, Warsaw
Family Support Center

Refugees not really welcome – forced migrants’ integration system in Poland and its effectiveness

Karolina Podgór ska, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw

Virtual borders in forced migration: new technologies as a tool of control or empowerment of “digital” migrants?

Panel: Understanding Forced Migrants as Connected Migrants

This panel considers how different media technologies play important social and subjective roles in the lives of forced migrants. Research situated in Forced Migration Studies tends to foreground the practical usage of ICTs and humanitarian innovation, whereas valuable research in Media and Communication Studies has shown how that mediated practices go beyond functional use alone and interact with migrants’ localized experiences of uncertainty around social and legal belonging. However, little attention has been given however to mediated experiences of forced migrants, for whom uncertainty is often the norm (Horst & Grabska, 2015).

The panel addresses this knowledge gap. Through its interdisciplinary character - connecting Media and Communication Studies with Refugee Studies and Anthropology - this panel explores how everyday and affective media use influence experiences of living in displacement, what roles media technologies play in the lives of forced migrants and reactions to dominant media representation and challenges to dominant media representation.

We draw upon in-depth research across different geographical locations - Jordan, Turkey, Greece and Belgium. In each presentation we highlight different key aspects such as sense-making processes of the humanitarian regime, spatial dimensions, identity constructions and transnational social and political participation. We do not aim to celebrate connectivity or romanticize resilience. Instead, we consider how dominant representations play an important role in different difficult experiences of legal and social uncertainty, and how human beings in living in different difficult contextual circumstances can be simultaneously resourceful and vulnerable.

Mirjam Twigt, University of Leicester

Communicative Practices around the Humanitarian Regime and Experiences of ‘Stuckedness’ among Iraqi Refugee Households in Jordan

In “prolonged condition of displacement” (Doná, 2015) many forced migrant populations worldwide tend to get ‘stuck’ in the humanitarian system. In line with Brun (2016) however I argue that forced migrants are never entirely stuck. Even if people do not move physically, times change and subjectivities are altered through mediated and situated interactions. In this paper I consider how mediated technologies play an important role in how making sense of,
negotiating and, only sometimes, physically overcoming one’s experiences of ‘stuckedness’ (Hage, 2004; 2015).

I draw upon ethnographic research among Iraqi nationals who self-identify as refugees in Jordan. The everyday lives of the Iraqi refugees in this study are marked out by uncertainty, a deeply affective terrain, and much of the hope of the Iraqi refugees is projected upon UNHCR. UNHCR’s main message to ‘wait’ seems to suggest there is something to wait for. The experience of life in ‘waiting’ is far from passive. There is an ongoing anxious assessment of UNHCR’s policies and one’s changes for third country resettlement. Through online and offline interactions information is continuously sought and double-checked. Through different, often contradictory, messages Iraqi refugees continuously try to make sense of their (in)security, to addressing the humanitarian regime and to imagine and potentially plan onwards journeys.

İlke Şanlıer Yüksel, Çukurova University

Building a Diaspora: Mediascape of Syrian Refugees in Turkey

After six years of flight, Syrian refugees form the largest diasporic community in Turkey. A big majority of them are living under a temporary protection status, which grants limited rights regarding employment and access to health care, education, and other social services. Alongside these precarious conditions, Syrian refugees also face information precarity. In response, refugees resort to both new and traditional media practices. In this paper I try to understand the role of traditional media practices in the experience of transnational diasporic lives of Syrian refugees in Turkey. Earlier studies on transnational or diasporic media have shown that the establishment of diasporic media outlets requires longer periods of time. But in the case of Syrian refugees of Turkey, the pace and the volume of newly founded diasporic / transnational media is startling. To grasp the media environment of Syrian refugees, I draw upon interviews with representatives of media outlets. In the case of Syrian refugees as a contemporary diaspora, the multitude of different outlets including radio channels and newspapers demonstrate how diasporic mediated communication becomes a social and political form of expression. To grasp the picture of mediascape, I have identified three major roles diasporic media plays for Syrian diaspora: Linking the voices of refugees inside Turkey to the outside world including “home”, trying to get their messages through to more mainstreams Turkish media outlets and shaping the “homeland” politics.

Maria Nerina Boursinou, University of Leicester

On Smartphones and Cardphones and Life in Transit: The Appropriation of ICTs by (Forced) Migrants in Greece

In response to what was framed as Europe’s refugee/migrant crisis, while Greece announced the construction of refugee camps and detention centres in the name of security, protection and humanitarianism. In my PhD-project I seek to understand how people living inside immigration detention centers, refugee camps and squatted houses organize their temporary everydayness. I consider if, how and why access and use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) matters inside these different places they inhabit. I draw upon multi-sited ethnography. Preliminary findings suggests that the politics of space influence the access and ways Internet and ICTs are used. In this paper I show how ownership of a (smart)phone is far from a given for all forced migrants and discuss what alternatives there are in case of digital exclusion. Moreover, I wish to elaborate on the multiplicity of purposes, from using ICTs to pass the time and maintain affective relationships, to raise one’s voice and intensify one’s struggle for freedom and rights.
Integration and Resilience

Filyra Vlastou-Dimopoulou, School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens

Do we all speak the same language? A genealogy of integration and its use nowadays

The ongoing global migratory flows, the closure of the borders and the increasing constraints of movement within Europe, give the migrants’ stay in the countries of arrival, more permanent features. In this context, the issue of immigrant integration is an important and complex challenge for both Europe as a whole and for each country in particular. Over the course of the century, but especially in 2015 to date, following the so-called "refugee crisis", the notion of integration, has been widely used by academics, policy makers, social actors working in the field of immigration and the media. Moreover, in the last few months, more and more European-funded programs concern the integration of migrants. However, the term integration has been and still is, a very difficult concept to define and usually acquires its meaning according to the epistemological, political, and temporal context in which it is placed. This research suggests exploring the concept of integration through two approaches: one historical and one contemporary. The first concerns the historical exploration of integration, that focus on the European historical moments where the predominant integration ideologies were born, while the second is about identifying the way integration is nowadays perceived. As far as the second approach is concerned, interviews with social actors active in the field of migration will take place. This research considers that it is critical to see this term again, on the one hand in the light of the contemporary situation and on the other hand within history, because integration ideologies are after all those, that produce the real and symbolic borders within in cities and therefore form new identities.

Maria Psoinos, Canterbury Christ Church University; Eleni Hatzidimitriadou, Canterbury Christ Church University

Developing the representation of the resilient refugee: moving from coping to psychosocial activism

This paper discusses the development of the concept of refugee resilience and critically considers the context where the representation of the ‘resilient refugee’ unfolds.

There has been increasing research on refugees’ strength and coping skills which allow them to overcome migration-related adversity. Studies come from: psychology (Papadopoulos, 2007), social psychology (Psoinos, 2010), public health and community development (Pahud et al., 2009) and transcultural psychiatry (Porter, 2007).

This literature indicates a move from conceptualising refugee resilience as a rather static psychological trait, to approaching it as an increasingly dynamic process, where risk and protective factors interact at various levels (individual refugee, sending and receiving community, society) (Prilleltensky, 2008).

However, despite the above conceptual shift, refugees’ agency to overcome adversity and help their community develop, unfolds in a representational context which underemphasizes important socio-political dimensions.
Today’s refugees differ from those of previous decades because they are diverse in terms of country of origin, profile and motivation (OECD, 2015). This means that the ways in which they mobilise themselves and their communities for better integration are new and these ways should be included in their representations.

The paper draws on the authors’ empirical research, which explores issues of empowerment and community activism in migrants and refugees (Hatzidimitriadou & Çakir, 2013; Hatzidimitriadou & Psinoos, 2014; 2017). By drawing on the above, the paper suggests that representing refugees not simply as resilient individuals but as psychosocial activists can also prompt well-informed policies for promoting refugees’ integration and their communities’ well-being in the best possible way.

Shailja Sharma, DePaul University

Evaluating Integration courses in Germany

My paper studies German integration courses taught in Berlin, Germany in order to evaluate whether the structure of the courses actually impacts better integration outcomes with regard to citizenship and social integration.

Under German law, resettled refugees are required to attend the national German Integration Course, equivalent to 100 hours. Attendance is obligatory for all refugees.

The content for the integration course is developed federally and different organizations across Germany are certified to deliver it. Unlike language courses, which are also mandatory, the integration course focuses on German history and culture, the German legal system, social values (including freedom of worship and equal rights) and rights and obligations in Germany. There is a final integration test after two years.

Using a study of curricula for the integration courses, combined with interviews with instructors and students, my paper argues that integration courses do not often achieve their stated objective: better integration into German society. In built biases about other cultures, and values, often skew the course content so that the courses offer at best a normative view of German society, rather than a practical, welcoming road map for the refugees.

Ayar Ata, London South Bank University

Transnational Migration, Integration, and Identity; a study of Kurdish diaspora in London

To understand the Kurdish diaspora in London requires answering two interrelated questions of Kurdish forced migration history and Kurdish cultural identity. Thus, this study firstly examines the history of Kurdish forced migration and displacement, exploring a common historical argument which positions the Kurds as powerless victims of the First World War (WW1). To this end it looks critically at the post-WW1 era and the development of the modern nation state in the Middle East, namely Turkey, Iraq and Syria. This first part sets out the context for explaining and gaining a better understanding of the systematic sociopolitical marginalisation which led to the forced migration of the Kurds from the 1920s onwards.

Secondly, this study evaluates the integration experiences of some members of the Kurdish diaspora in London, who have settled in this city since the 1990s. Furthermore, this part attempts to describe the shifting position of the Kurds from victims in the Middle East, with
trends in ethnic integration, and their negotiations of multiculturalism in London. This capital city has historically held a promise and attraction for many migrants of becoming Londoners, and this now includes Kurdish-Londoners.

Moreover, the comparison is made between the positions and perspectives of the first generation that came to Britain in the 1990s and the second generation Kurds born in Britain in this period. This allows an exploration of the notion of identity and ideas of home and belonging in light of contemporary changes and concomitant theories of diaspora and refugee studies, and, where necessary, challenges those ideas. Therefore, with the dual questions of history and identity in mind, this study attempts to innovate in terms of its methodology.

**Syrian Refugees (2)**

**Dina Taha, York University**

“Shadow of a man is better than a shadow of a wall” – On Syrian refugee women, marriage, politics and economics – Critical reflections on Fieldwork in Egypt

This paper is part of a broader study that I conducted for my fieldwork in Egypt during the summer of 2017 where I interviewed thirty-three Syrian refugee women who escaped the conflict in Syria and married Egyptian men post 2011 once they settled in Egypt. By utilizing an anticolonial analytical framework, I seek to understand those women’s subjectivities and experiences in ways that go beyond Eurocentric and Orientalist modes of representation. The objective of this paper, thus, is to contrast this practice with the current global human rights and feminist discourses that often stigmatize similar forms of marriage under notions such as exploitation, forced marriage and sex trafficking. Through some critical reflections, I aim to highlight interesting themes that emerged during my conversation with those women regarding how they interpret their decision to marry Egyptian nationals? How their understanding of marriage dynamics and gender relations vary from Egyptian women? Where do their narratives and interpretations intersect with or diverge from their families’ as well as those of humanitarian and refugee service providers? And how some of them strategically adopt “traditional gender roles” associated with the private sphere, for empowerment and survival?

**Tulay Yildirim Mat, İstanbul Medeniyet University**

Social Integration of Syrian Refugees in Turkey

As a result of the massive influx of Syrian immigrants which continues since April 2011 and the civil war that did not cease or could not be ceased, Turkey and Europe had to confront a huge wave of immigration movements. Approximately 4 million Syrian refugees are now living in Turkey, where they were granted the legal status of provisional protection. This provisional protection status is not the same as the refugee status, not to mention that the rights and opportunities that come with it are limited. Moreover, security-based EU approach and bilateral agreements concluded with Turkey do not leave any other choice for Syrians but to stay in Turkey. The subject matter of this research is how this legal status based on provisionality affects, in the mid and long term, the social integration of a large number of Syrians who will be apparently residing in Turkey and the possible consequences of this situation.

**Alizée Zapparoli-Manzoni-Bodson, Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced**
**Migration Studies (CARSFM)**

*Education and Integration for Syrian Refugees in Turkey*

With the ongoing war in Syria since 2011 over 3.2 million Syrians have sought refuge in Turkey. Half of this population consists of school age children under the age of 18 but due to various obstructions, currently only 54% (Turkish Ministry of Education, September, 2017) are receiving an education in Turkey. Integration is the most promising of the 3 durable solutions for the future of Syrians in Turkey and education plays a pivotal role in shaping integration. My paper explores the evolving education framework and policies for Syrians in Turkey and the various challenges they face in accessing education. Weaving together a policy discourse analysis with ethnographic fieldwork this paper engages with the concept of governmentally through humanitarianism and the factors shaping Turkey’s evolving approach to integration.

*Wa’ed Alshouabaki, Tennessee State University; Michel Harris, Tennessee State University*

*The impact of Syrian refugees on Jordan: A framework for analysis*

The civil war in Syria has caused a mass influx of Syrian refugees all over the world. As a neighboring country, Jordan has received a large share of Syrian refugees, now reaching an alarming number. The presence of Syrian refugees drains the Jordan as a vulnerable state with limited resources. In an effort to better understand the impact of the humanitarian crisis and the challenge to the Jordanian government, this study attempts to develop a comprehensive analytical framework to explore impact of refugees on receiving states.

The analytical framework has been constructed to determine refugees’ impact through four contextual factors: political, economic, sociocultural, and environmental. Particularly, it goes on to provide evidence from Jordan to describe the political, economic, sociocultural, and environmental effect of Syrian refugees’ presence on Jordan as a receiving state. Systematic review of grey literature and refugees’ reports has been utilized to assemble the scientific evidence and integrate the analytical facts.

This analysis has resulted in a better capacity to discover the potential consequences of a massive refugee influx, including vital factors that contribute to shaping refugees’ burden and formulating policies based on specific critical arenas that need more attention and resources in response to the influx of the refugee crisis.

Theoretically speaking, this comprehensive analytical framework can be considered an exploratory framework that is applicable on an ontological basis. It is a new paradigmatic trend to analyze the impact of Syrian refugees’ inflow on Jordan as a receiving state, which has been created based on systems thinking approach.

**Representation & Self-Representation**

*Alice Bloch, University of Manchester*

*Changing identities and attachments: Inter-generational transnationalism*

Drawing on data from qualitative interviews with the UK born second generation from three refugee backgrounds - Tamils from Sri Lanka, Kurds from Turkey and Vietnamese - this paper sets out to fill a gap in the literature by taking a comparative and inter-generational approach.
to changing identities and attachments through the lens of transnationalism. The paper explores the activities, experiences and connections of the second generation to the ancestral home by understanding their transnational social, cultural, economic and political engagement. By comparing second generation from different backgrounds the paper is able to examine the significance of their parent’s histories on their everyday practices. While the focus of this paper is on the views and experiences of the second generation, their reflections and interpretations of the histories and actions of their parents are significant in understanding how they frame their own narratives. For this reason the paper takes an inter-generational perspective that sheds light on the affects of history and generational changes on transnationalism.

Natalie Slade, Massey University
Contesting ‘refugeeness’: Exploring the paradoxes between discourses of hospitality and refugee (self)representation in New Zealand

Discourses of hospitality – the welcoming of refugees – are largely driven by humanitarian concern and a sense of moral duty towards refugees. However, they also risk encouraging a regime of compassion and charity that may speak more about ourselves as humanitarian actors than the very people we purport to help. Refugees are thus framed as objects of ‘our’ humanitarian concern and moral responsibility, stereotyped as helpless vulnerable victims without agency who are reliant on others to speak on their behalf. These discourses consequently produce a generic type of refugee – an imagining of ‘refugeeness’ – that consigns individuals to an anonymous presence, stripping them of their history and humanity, and rendering them ‘speechless’. Therefore, there is a need for more stories told from the perspective of those seeking refuge, rather than from the perspective of humanitarian agencies or civil society movements. Personal narratives give voice to the individual experiences of displacement and resettlement, and help host societies to understand the complexities of what it means to be a refugee. Drawing on media analysis from New Zealand’s response to the current refugee crisis and interviews with former refugees in New Zealand, this presentation reflects on the relationship between discourses of hospitality and the politics of representation, and the various ways people from refugee background contest and create spaces for the construction of their own identity.

Belgheis Jafari, Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University (ACKU)
Migration and Migrants in Afghan Oral Culture: Always Forced, Always Painful

Given the long history of migration from Afghanistan, it is unsurprising that oral culture is replete with poems and songs in the national languages that address this phenomenon. Scholars have noted the usefulness of poetry and songs as a window into particular cultures, and with this in mind, we collected more than 400 short poems and 100 songs that speak of migration in order to see what they could tell us about the place of migration and migrants in Afghan culture.

Although Afghans have migrated for many different reasons in different periods, the poems and songs that form the basis of our study appear to focus exclusively on the reluctance of Afghans to leave their homeland, the agonies of separation, and the longing to return. Most (but not all) of them date from the past 40 years, years marked by conflict and war so perhaps this emphasis is unsurprising, but it becomes clear that the representation of homeland and of the receiving country changes over time (but the receiving country never becomes or replaces home). Our analysis explores the emotions and images contained in this demotic art form and how the different stages of forced migration (departure, transit, exile, return) are represented.
Carrie Dawson, Dalhousie University

Fiction and Fraud: Telling Refugee Stories

“Liars and frauds.” That’s how the two young African men at the heart of Dinaw Mengestu’s 2014 novel, All Our Names, describe themselves. And they are not wrong. Indeed, this is a reasonable — if unsympathetic — description of many of Mengestu’s characters. For example, it’s true of the narrator of Mengestu’s 2010 novel, How to Read the Air. While working in a refugee resettlement center, he helps clients falsify the personal narratives at the heart of their refugee claims. A co-worker justifies this practice, arguing, “It’s all really the same story. All we’re doing is changing around the names of the countries...but after that there’s not much difference.” His argument is dehumanizing and familiar, because the idea that “there’s not much difference” among similarly persecuted peoples is a sentiment that undergirds most visual and written representations of displaced peoples as a nameless, undifferentiated mass, an unsolvable problem often called “Africa.”

By necessity, refugees are storytellers. Much rests on their ability to tell stories that satisfy the state. And those lucky enough to get refugee status often get asked to repeat their stories of past trauma and enduring gratitude. In contrast, Mengestu resolves to leave “speakers in control of their story” and his refugee storytellers refuse to use a confessional mode. Instead, they tell imaginative stories full of occlusions and omissions. Paying close attention to questions of truth, expediency, and readerly expectations, this paper uses Mengestu’s fiction to contemplate what non-refugees ask of “refugee stories.”

The Politics of Representation

Umoh Samuel Uwem, University of Kwazulu-Natal; Gbadebo Gbemisola, Independent Researcher, Brainstorm Consults

Politicization of Migration in South Africa and management of international migration in South Africa

Concerns have been raised about illegal immigrant, in South Africa. One of the Mayor’s in the municipality of South Africa was quoted as saying illegal foreigners are the cause of problems in South Africa, wanting to take permission from the court to uproot illegal migrants. This indicates that anti-migration sentiment is also becoming a tactic gain popular support during elections.

This has brought about many policies and laws to address this such as operation fiela, and one-stop border post amongst other. One of the other means South Africa is also managing migration is embracing the African Union’s Agenda 2063. As well as putting in place interventions that controlled migration, such as border management. The AU 2063 agenda is focused on integrating and politically uniting Africa while ensuring the free movement of people, capital, goods and services.

Based on round table discussion at a roundtable discussion on the application of the South African legal framework on arrest and detention and its impact on Migrants.

The paper discuss the role of state actors in management of migration and how effective migration issues are been tackled in South Africa. What are the effects of the AU agenda on migration. Findings reveal that migration issues in South Africa is becoming highly politicised,
because of votes, scarce resources and the government is at cross road on tackling this issues.

Shakoor Wani, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Refugees, Census and the Politics of Minoritisation in Pakistan: An Appraisal of Ethnic Assertion in Balochistan

Since its inception in the colonial period censuses in South Asia continue to remain a subject of contestations and controversies. Colonial censuses infused a distinctive communal consciousness that was later instrumental in polarizing the subcontinent. In the newly independent states, census continued to spawn controversies, more so in Pakistan where it remains a highly politicised subject. All the results of previous censuses from 1951 to 1998 were disputed by one or more provinces for either overstating or understating their population figures. The sixth census commenced in March 2017 after a gap of 19 years. It was initially to be held in March 2016 but later postponed indefinitely after protests in Balochistan where opposition to census is most trenchant and widespread. The presence of Afghan refugees in the province has emerged as a highly contentious issue. Around 80 percent of Afghan refugees are Pashtuns which considerably augmented the province’s already powerful Pashtun population. Pashtuns along with the Baloch are the province’s two major ethnic groups. The Baloch are anxious that census might relegate them to a minority status. Historically, the Baloch have developed an aggressive awareness of their distinct ethnicity, the presence of refugees accentuated this consciousness. The perception of an ‘impending’ shift in the province’s demographic structure engendered a pervasive discourse of an ‘imminent minoritisation’, which has in turn provided a renewed fillip to Baloch ethnic assertion. This paper while underlining the highly politicised nature of census in Balochistan analyses how the discourse of minoritisation is impinging on Baloch ethnicity.

Jiaqi Liu, University of California, San Diego

Compatriots or Foreigners? The Rise and Fall of Ethno-Nationalist Narratives in China’s Refugee Politics

While most of the current discourse analyses of refugee politics focus on the representation of refugees in Western democracies, there is little research into the discursive framework of refugee politics in non-democratic countries in the Global South where there is little freedom of the press and strong governmental control over the media. This article attempts to make a concrete contribution to the emerging field of sociology of forced migration by conducting a critical examination of the shifting narratives of China’s policies towards ethnic Chinese refugees from Southeast Asia (SEA). It analyzes the representation of SEA refugees in Chinese official documents and state media in four major refugee inflows from the 1950s to present. It finds that the end of the Cold War marked a significant watershed: before the 1990s, ethnic Chinese refugees from SEA were framed as "return refugees" whose flight to China was portrayed as a patriotic return to the ancestral homeland; from the 1990s onwards, ethnic Chinese refugees have been depicted as "border residents" or "illegal migrants" and the ethno-nationalist discourse has been replaced with a discursive framework characterized mainly by economic pragmatism. Drawing upon the world system theory, this study sheds light on how global geopolitical transformations reshape the discourse of refugee politics in the Global South.

Raul Felix Barbosa, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul
Emotions in motion: the construction of the 'good' and 'evil' refugee in the mainstream Brazilian media

The recent flow of refugees to Brazil has made the public aware of the plight of asylum seekers and refugees. It may seem obvious that people who have fled violence or persecution in their home countries, who have often traveled on a long and dangerous journey and are in a new country whose language they do not speak and where they are alone, without friends or family, suffer with strong emotions. The image in the mainstream media about refugees from feelings of sadness and fear makes us think of these individuals as vulnerable and incapable, but in fact, in many cases these people hide their real emotions like anger, hatred, shame and humiliation. Hiding the emotions is necessary, because in the eyes of the West the 'good' refugee, deserving of protection and the right of residence in that continent, must be submissive and in a situation of social dependence. Emotional issues are further aggravated by gender issues. This research questions how the need to be recognized as a 'real' refugee imposes restrictions on the expression of these people's emotions, and sometimes leads to the repression of perceived 'inadequate' emotions in some situations. To do this, we conducted oral history interviews with asylum seekers and refugees during their stays in Brazil, more precisely in the city of Rio de Janeiro.

Fortress Europe

Hasan Saliu, AAB College

The role of media on refugee issues

Person who emigrates to a new society can be filled with intolerance about the society or culture in the country where he emigrates. This hatred he may have received from many stereotypes that are served in the country of origin through the educational system, traditional teachings, or online forums. This novice immigrant filled with memories of his origin can also be a potential risk for the country that he goes.

The paper will address the channels of communication and contents of message that encourage intolerance towards other cultures, spread more through online forums, where communication actors are often Muslim clerics.

As the wave of Asian and Africans immigrants to Europe is increasing, the host authorities are unable to identify, to manage or to neutralize the anger with which certain immigrants come. Having in consideration the dimension of memory of origin that immigrants have, the paper recommends the increase of commitment and serious cooperation by the authorities of the countries of origin where the immigrants come from, in order to reduce the inflammatory language against others and especially in public religious preaching, particularly a global cooperation in the "global public sphere" - internet. In other words, a global cyber police against inflammatory messages and against intercultural and interreligious hate speech, in the era of "global migrant".

Piro Rexhepi, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

The Racial Hierarchies of Fortress Europe: Refugees, Race and Radical Muslims on the Balkan Route

This presentation explores the racial hierarchies of the European Union ‘integration’ and
bordering regimes in the Balkans. It examines how the production of Balkan Muslims as white and European has relied on the racialization of Black and Brown Muslim and migrant Others. From populations marked for death and displacement in the 1990s, in the last decade, Muslims in the Balkans have been designated as the model European Muslims whose tentative Europeaness is premised and promised on their ability to become the guardians of the EU frontiers in the face of intensified racial anxieties over Black and Brown refugees along the Balkan Route. Specifically, I look at how the representation and racial categorization of Muslims in the Balkans as moderate, secular, white and European over and against the darker, radical and religious Arab and African Other coincide with EU spatialization and legitimation of its geopolitical border regimes. The discursive analysis of Balkan Islam in this presentation are structured around academic, media and policy debates that come together to mediate and produce Balkan Islam in the larger (post)socialist debates around EU integration, counter-terrorist assemblages and more recently the refugee crisis whereby local Balkan Muslims are produced as victims under threat by Black and Brown Muslims. Bringing them together allows for the identification of European cross-field racist regularities and governmentalities despite European claims of colorblindness.

Maysa Ayoub, American University Cairo

The Social Construction of ‘refugeeeness’: How Syrian Refugees are perceived in two European Countries

The theory of the Social Construction of the targeted population, as developed by Helen Ingram and Anne Schneider, argues that policies have target populations and the extent by which policy design would benefit or burdens the target population of the policy depends on how the target population is perceived. According to theory, the extent by which policy design allocates benefit or burden to a target population depends upon two factors: the political power of the target population and their positive or negative social construct (Ingram, Schneider, & deLeon, 2007:94-101).

Focusing on Germany and France as case studies, this paper will analyze comparatively the results of public opinion polls and media coverage to understand how refugees are socially constructed in the two countries. The findings of the paper will feed into a larger research on the determinants of asylum policies and the relation between the making of asylum policy and its social construction.

Salomi Boukala, Panteion University Athens

From European solidarity to national sovereignty: Analysing Greek political and media discourses on the ‘refugee crisis’

Refugees/ IDPs in South/Southeast Asia

Farhana Rahman, University of Cambridge

Stories of Survival: Violence, Migration, and Memories of Rohingya Refugee Women

Until very recently, Rohingyas making the perilous trek across the Andaman Sea to Southeast Asia were predominantly male, as they were not only denied citizenship and legal rights in Myanmar but they also lacked economic opportunities within the country to support their families and community. The 2012 attacks in Rakhine state resulted in a drastic increase in
women and girls undertaking the boat journeys to escape intense violence in Myanmar - including mass sexual violence - targeted against the Muslim Rohingya community. The journeys of these women to Malaysia through Thailand entail not only violence and hardship but also accounts of trafficking and rape, as well as regular incidents of forced marriage. Based on narrative interviews and oral histories of two Rohingya refugee women presently living in an urban squatter settlement on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur, this paper traces the impact of women's memories - of violence and conflict in Myanmar as well as their dangerous journeys through Thailand to Malaysia - on their everyday lives as refugees. Studying the increased displacement of Rohingya women to Southeast Asia can help reveal the gendered impacts of forced migration on the Rohingya community, and the ways in which Rohingya women - as targets of abuse, exploitation, and sexual violence during times of conflict - learn to negotiate and navigate new environments by employing "strategies of survival". Rohingya refugee women's narratives reveal the construction of new gendered identities in displacement, and evidence women's incredible resilience in spite of profound trauma and suffering.

Ashvina Patel, Southern Methodist University

*Negotiating Rohingya Identities in Urban Spaces*

In 2012, thousands of Rohingya fled en masse to India following escalating violence in Rakhine state. Currently ten to thirteen thousand live in New Delhi, officially registered as refugees under the protection of the UNHCR. The United Nations’ human security framework identifies political human insecurity as unrest, disappearances of individuals, and abuses of government control over information. However, this paper expands the concept of a person-centered political security by adding lack of state identity as a constituent element. Ethnographic data collected over an eleven-month period explores how state identity is as vital an element of political security. Rohingya refugees in India negotiate these identities daily to build resilience. India’s lack of national refugee laws has implications not only for local integration, but also for their holistic identity, because the state, along with its media outlets, teaches citizens how to view, and thus behave towards ‘illegal foreigners’. Labels such as asylum seeker, refugee, foreigner, migrant, and Bengali are founded in legal precedents, painful national histories, and variations of Islamaphobia. The broader impacts of this study reframes the political dimension of human in/security, explores the challenges of a modern democracy, and recognizes the role state level identity plays on displaced populations in urban spaces.

Bitopi Dutta, Dublin City University

*Defining processes of Gender Restructuring: The case of the Displaced Tribal communities of Northeast India*

Development Induced Displacement (DID) has been an issue of intense debate in India. While many existing research have studied the general impact of DID on subaltern groups, the role of displacement in reordering gender relations has not yet been systematically researched. Few of the research that have tried to understand the gendered aspects of displacement has limited itself to an impact analysis framework alone, which fail to capture the nuances of “what” are the processes that lead to these transformation and “how” do they operate. In the light of new questions and an alternative framework, this paper not only problematizes the existing findings on the impacts of displacement in tribal indigenous women but also attempts to locate the cracks in traditional social systems that the discourse of displacement manipulates for its own benefit. The context of the paper will be Meghalaya in North East India which is predominantly inhabited by a tribal population following a matrilineal tradition and frequently quoted as a relatively gender equal society as compared to the other parts of India. This analysis will be...
based on but not limited to the acquisition of Common Property Resources (CPRs) for mining purposes which has devastating consequences for the tribal women since CPRs forms the basis of their high status, identity and autonomy. DID in this sense will not only be understood as only physical displacement, but also as social and cultural displacement.

Mrutuyanjaya Sahu, Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani Dubai Campus,

Neoliberal Urban Development and Involuntary Resettlement: Experiences from Sabarmati Riverfront Development Project, India

Since the 1990’s, large Indian metropolises have experienced a restructuring of their urban space in line with the requirements of globalizing cities. There is a sense of jubilation on the part of authorities and the dominant class living in cities with the direction of the urban development policy and the remarkable gains scored thus far. What remains unnoticed is that thousands of slum people have been displaced and adversely affected by the process of urban redevelopment projects especially infrastructure expansion, urban renewal and beautification projects. Besides disrupting the family life of the displaced and the social fabric of communities, it has also led to further geographical and social exclusion by increasing spatial segregation and denied their right to the opportunity to live in the city. The paper seeks to address the processes of forced eviction of slum people around the major urban redevelopment initiatives in India in general and specifically focuses on Sabarmati Riverfront Development Project in Ahmadabad, India. It examines the socio-economic impact of the urban development policy and practice on displaced slum households, and argues that the nature and process of implementation of urban development projects needs to create more opportunities that can accommodate diverse interests of the society and not appropriated or monopolised by few sections of the society.
MULTI-MEDIA & ARTS-BASED PRESENTATIONS

Mariana Smith, (Germany/Greece)

*International Student Art Exhibition*

Proposed International student art exhibition is based on Stockton University 2017 symposium “Metamorphosis. The Human Stories”—a broader multicultural project, which began in 2016 in Germany and Armenia and concludes in 2017 in Dresden, Germany.

This traveling exhibition showcases the mixed media works on paper: drawing, printmaking, collage, photography. Included students from Germany: Dresden Fine Art Academy, Armenia: Gyumri city Fine Art Academy, and USA: Stockton University, Columbus College of Art and Design, University of Central Oklahoma, California State University, Northridge, CA. Included student art underscores the refugee crisis not only as an economic or political matter, but as a global challenge to our very sense of humanity. Students approached the subject matter as either telling artist’s own story or story of their families, students facilitated voice of those who do not have the opportunity to share their story and experience. Also, students reflected on their own responsibility to address the ongoing global crisis. The works present an opportunity to see the the metamorphosis of identities and disappearing borders in relation to the plight of unique individuals, who become dehumanized as they are cast using such generalizations as “refugee,” “exile,” “alien”, “migrant”.

Additional works will be created during the spring academic semester at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. The exhibition venue and corresponding activities will be organized with Mariana Smith, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Professor Xenophon Sachinis, and co-presenter Myrto-Helena Pertsinidi.

Nergis Canefe, York University

*Traces*

(art installation)

Richard Lusakumunu, Momo Pembi, Zahra Vazifehshenas, SOLIDARITY NOW

#ArtIsMyLife

(art installation)

Samia Lyamouri, Médecins du Monde Switzerland/Greece; Sarah Neusy, Médecins du Monde; Corina Kanistra, Médecins du Monde; Alik Panagiotidou, Médecins du monde; Maritina Papamitrou, Co-ordinator of Médecins du Monde Greece

*Resilience, Integration and Advocacy through Art - Expressive Art Exhibition Project*

Mariana Smith, Stockton University; Elizabeth Gerdeman, Academy of Fine Arts, Leipzig; Michael Hahn, exhibitor preparator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Leipzig

*Zine workshop “International Recipes and Migration Stories”*

Proposed zine workshop will facilitate a space where conference participants, students, instructors form USA, Greece, Germany, and local refugee community members come together to challenge the preconceived image of the threatening refugee, entrepreneurial or victimized aliens or indifferent local community, to emphasize that that indifference in the face of
refugee crisis is a challenge to our very sense of humanity. Workshop participants will use recipes and images based on cuisines from different cultures to construct a series of Zines: small, hand assembled books. The “recipes” range from family desserts to the recipe for survival in a new community. Then, in the spirit of Zine tradition, participants share and exchange the books.

This workshop was first held at the Stockton University during the February 2017 symposium “Metamorphosis. The Human Stories”—a broader multicultural project, which began in 2016 in Germany and Armenia and concludes on November 10th, 2017 at the Academy of Fine Art in Dresden, Germany. This projects focused on the global immigrant and refugee crisis through a series of lectures, exhibitions, workshops, student and community outreach projects. There, participating scholars and artists connected the fields of history, literature, holocaust studies, global studies, sociology, and art.

This workshop is open to all students and citizens. Previous art making experience is not a prerequisite. Materials and instructions will be provided. Optional: exhibition space for the collection of previous and newly made zines.

MULTI-MEDIA PRESENTATION/ROUNDTABLE
From (un)Hominess to (Dis) Placement
Chair: Eleni Sideri, University of Macedonia

Sasa Rajsic, University of the Arts Helsinki
To Un-Become
(SEE: https://www.sasarajsic.com/to-un-become )

To Un-Become - Lurching Between Historic Reminder and Hallucination, Geographical Document and Childhood Memory, Collective Tragedy and Personal Healing is an artistic research project, which explores the concept of un-becoming through revisiting Operation Storm in Yugoslavia and its consequences over two decades later.

My interest in the concept of un-becoming was sparked by a court case in which General Ante Gotovina, a former Croatian military officer, was found guilty of organizing and implementing a permanent and forcible removal of the Serbian people in a 1995 military action entitled Operation Storm. Not long after, Gotovina’s convictions for crimes against humanity were reversed by the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. Gotovina then returned to Croatia where many considered him a national hero. Furthermore, the Appeals Chamber also disputed the existence of a criminal enterprise whose purpose was the permanent and forcible removal of Serb civilians entirely.

I wonder if this allowed Gotovina to successfully un-become a criminal, and also ask whether the same un-becoming process is possible for the survivors of his actions?

To research this question, in April 2017 I retraced the journey of over 650 km from my first refugee house in Niš, Serbia to my former home in Karlovac, Croatia. For over two weeks, dawn to dusk I walked following the same route hundreds of thousands of other people were forced to take two decades ago during Operation Storm. This experience merged the evidence of war with my own memories, both actual and constructed, creating a visual noise that became my truth during the walk.
Preethi Nallu, Founding Editor, *Refugees Deeply*, writer and visual storyteller; Nassim Majidi, Samuel Hall; Jeff Crisp, Chatham House Fellow and Research Associate at the Refugees Studies Centre

Panel: The Cycle of Displacement and the Need to Contextualise Durable Solutions - The Afghan Context

(ONE COMPONENT FILM-PHOTO-INTERACTIVE based)

Panel with Multimedia Presentation

Nassim Majidi, Co-Founder of Samuel Hall/ Migration Expert

Jeff Crisp, Chatham House Fellow and Research Associate at RSC

Preethi Nallu, Founding Editor - Refugees Deeply/ Comms Lead at Samuel Hall

Dan Tyler, Regional Protection and Advocacy Advisor at NRC

At a time when "returns and reintegration" are high on government and donor agendas, the realities in countries of conflict, like Afghanistan, are a long way from being able to re-absorb returnees amid renewed conflict and growing internal displacement. It is high time that we assess how terms related to displacement are used in specific contexts and to explore changes to the "durable solutions" framework with renewed introspection and wisdom gathered from past and on-going experiences.

Afghanistan is a leading and urgent case that must be viewed through contextual lenses. Our research shows a widespread pattern of multiple waves of displacement that span generations, with refugees becoming returnees, and returnees turning into internally displaced persons. The cycle has been relentless.

The panel presentation will be based on Samuel Hall’s latest research for NRC on internal displacement and post-return realities in Afghanistan. The report will be launched in Geneva and Brussels in December 2017, with findings that showcase the ground realities for civilians experiencing forced migration - how repeated displacement is impacting their protection needs and rights, and reducing their ability to cope. With special attention towards returnee-IDP case studies, we will focus on the challenges of children and youth that are bearing the brunt of inherited displacement that has engulfed generations of Afghans.

Approach:

The success of such research is based on a combination of contextualised understanding among niche stakeholders, especially humanitarian practitioners and nuanced exposure among wider audiences through media coverage - which should ultimately result in changes in policies. With these goals in mind, Samuel Hall has collaborated with agencies such as NRC with vast field experience in order to amplify the messages and journalism platforms such as Refugees Deeply to place individual narratives at the centre of the discourse. Along the same vein, our panel will relay a comprehensive picture of the specific realities in Afghanistan to fellow actors, policy makers and their constituents.

Format:

With the four speakers representing different facets of the academia-policy-practice-media nexus, the panel will illustrate how the different fields can draw from each others’ skills and experiences to deepen the understanding and particularities of a displacement context.
RESEARCH
Ms. Majidi will present the latest findings of the report with an overview of displacement in Afghanistan, specific protection priorities, challenges and responses/coordination.

MEDIA
Ms. Nallu will present the human-centric narratives, via films, photos and interactive that illustrate specific trends and analyses of the report.

PRACTICE
Mr. Tyler will draw from his timely experience of working in Greece during the migration influxes of 2016 and his current role as regional advisor for NRC to link the drivers along the migration trail - from the origin to the destination.

POLICY
Jeff Crisp will use his vast field experience for the UNHCR, Refugees International and other humanitarian agencies to explore how international conventions are being applied and how they filter down to the regional and local levels in serving the needs of displaced populations and protecting their rights.

Snezana Ratkovic, Brock University; Dragana Kovačević, Brock University; Courtney Brewer, Nipissing University; Neelofar Ahmed, Brock University; Janelle Brady, University of Toronto

Holistic Approaches to Refugee Student Education: A Video Series for Teachers and Policymakers (EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS)
In the last two years, 40,081 Syrian refugees have settled in Canada (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, 2017, January 29), invoking increased media attention and public debate on the nation’s refugee resettlement and Canadian education systems. However, empirical research studies focusing on refugee children from war-torn countries and their transition to Canadian K-12 schools remain limited. Using a scoping review approach, we explored Canadian literature and policy in the last 20 years and addressed the following research questions: How are global migration and the legal status of refugees having an impact on the Canadian education system? How do refugee students experience transition to the Canadian K-12 education system? How do teachers educate and support refugee students in their schools? How do education policies guide and support refugee students’ education, resettlement, and well-being? How do resettlement agencies support refugee students’ education, resettlement, and well-being? Based on our findings, we created a video series entitled Holistic Approaches to Refugee Student Education. The video series includes three 5-min videos (“Social Inclusion,” “Health and Wellbeing,” and “Academic Success”), video transcripts, and discussion questions for teachers, teacher candidates, teacher educators, service providers, and policymakers. Each video addresses refugee students’ challenges and strategies, as well as implications and recommendations for theory, practice, and policy. In our presentation, we will present the videos and facilitate discussion about critical educational and settlement issues in Canada and beyond.

Natalie Tines Villarraga, Independent Researcher

Cross-border displacement and its invisibility: an introduction to the Colombian-Panamanian case (FILM/ ETHNOGRAPHY)
The Darien Gap, a southern jungle border region between Colombia and Panama, is a remote impoverished part of Panama that is largely inaccessible, except by boat or plane. It is a place
where the lives of hundreds of Colombians intersect: a space of opportunity for some, a place of refuge for others, and a home away from home for the Colombian migrants. This is a multi-layered site where Colombian migrants, as rural refugees, renegotiate their cultural practices in a foreign context; where spaces and customs that were left behind are recreated in the daily life of the neighborhood. Using film and an ethnographic approach, this is a collaborative project between research and documentary filmmaking. Participatory visual and narrative research approaches – as part of mixed method study designs – that examine the lived experiences of migrants can provide important insights that move beyond polarized and simplistic arguments. This methodological approach makes important and necessary contributions to national and international discourses on migration and resettlement solutions. In addition, these methods provide a unique platform where the normative discourses that portray migrants as a homogenous vulnerable and apolitical group of people can be contested. The project takes an intimate look at the everyday life of Colombian migrants, where collective stories of migration and survival interweave with individual desires and hopes of seeking a better life outside a country shattered by decades of internal conflict.

THEME: Crises, Precarity and Refugeeness

FILMS

THEME I - DIGITAL STORIES, CITY AND REFUGEES

Geoge Tsitiridis-ANTIGONE, EUFORIA & 16ο Lyceum-Thessaloniki
SONDER (13.13)

FILM SCHOOL -AUTH, UNHCR, ARSAKEIA-TOSITSEIA SCHOOLS
Digital Stories, Life through the eyes of the other (30’)

Minas-Marios Kontis UOM Dept of Applied Informatics, Maroudi Georgakopoulou-Architecture-Engineering-AUTH, Styliani Akritidou- Architecture -Engineering-AUTH,
In the Framework of Homebody.gr
ART IN METRO

THEME II - FILM-ETHNOGRAPHY-REFUGEES (SCREENING+DISCUSSION)

Chris Dolan, Refugee Law Project
Disembodied ‘Self-Reliance’: Adding Insult to Injury in Refugee Settings

Georgios Katsagelos, School of Visual&Applied Arts-AUTH
Relics to Eternity (64’)
Discussant: Eleni Hodolidou, School of Philosophy and Education-AUTH

Morteza Jafari, Director
DREAMING OF LIFE (66’)

Tanya Müller, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester
Refugee stories – participatory filmmaking as a methodological tool to challenge knowledge inequalities and the politics of NGO-domination

Documentary film shot in Thessaloniki (2014) + Discussion