Towards Reflexivity in Migration Studies
Knowledge Production in Times of Contested Politics and Post-Colonial Dynamics

ESA RN 35 “Sociology of Migration” – Midterm Conference

21-22 January 2021

Online Event

In collaboration with the IMISCOE Standing Committee “Reflexivities in Migration Studies”

PROGRAMME

Mirroring recent trends and debates in the field of migration studies, the conference will focus on the topic of reflexivity in migration research.

The conference is organized in close cooperation with the newly founded IMISCOE Standing Committee on “Reflexivities in Migration Studies” and the „Migration, Conflict and Social Change“ Research Platform at Cottbus Technical University.
# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## Thursday, January 21, 09:00 – 20:00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 09:00 – 10:00 | Opening of the conference  
Keynote 1: Gökce Yurdakul (Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany) |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Break                                                                |
| 10:15 – 12:15 | Parallel sessions  
Session 1 – Positionality in migration research 1  
Session 2 – Questioning international migration in a neocolonial world  
Session 3 – Integration? Moving beyond established notions |
| 12:15 – 13:00 | Break                                                                |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | Parallel sessions  
Session 4 – Border regimes and the political regulation of migration  
Session 5 – Migration categories and their subversion  
Session 6 – Migration, citizenship, and the construction of in-groups and out-groups |
| 14:30 – 14:45 | Break                                                                |
| 14:45 – 16:45 | Parallel sessions  
Session 7 – Positionality in migration research 2  
Session 8 – Reflecting upon power relations and positionality in migration studies  
Session 9 – Critical questions: social theory in migration studies |
| 16:45 – 17:00 | Break                                                                |
| 17:00 – 18:00 | Keynote 2: Pawel Kaczmarczyk (University of Warsaw, Poland)          |
| 18:00 – 19:00 | Break                                                                |
| 19:00 – 20:00 | ESA Research Network 35 Business meeting                             |

## Friday, January 22, 09:00 – 18:00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:00 – 10:00</td>
<td>Keynote 3: Sharam Khosravi (Stockholm University, Sweden)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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| 10:15 – 12:15 | Parallel sessions  
Session 10 – Reconsidering the methodological toolkit of migration research  
Session 11 – Theorizing and researching (in) post-migration societies  
Session 12 – Researching migrant biographies, life strategies, and generational orders |
| 12:15 – 13:00 | Break                                                                |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | Parallel sessions  
Session 13 – Emotions and intimacy in migration  
Session 14 – Migration research in its multiple engagements |
| 14:30 – 14:45 | Break                                                                |
| 14:45 – 16:45 | Parallel sessions  
Session 15 – Doing Migration in Postcolonial and Postsocialist Settings: Towards Reflexivity in Studying Multiple Colonialities  
Session 16 – Fieldwork with refugees and asylum seekers in Portugal: three feminists struggling with activism within and outside academia  
Session 17 – Doing Reflexive Migration Studies in Digital Times |
| 16:45 – 17:00 | Break                                                                |
| 17:00 – 18:00 | Concluding Round Table on Migration, Covid19 and Reflexivity         |
DETAILED PROGRAMME OF SESSIONS

Session 1 – Positionality in migration research 1
Thursday, January 21; 10:15 – 12:15

Presentations

Stateless Standpoint Epistemology and Blurred Researcher’s Positionality
Haqqi Bahram, Linköping University, Sweden

When the researcher becomes “the refugee”: Question of positionality and situated knowledge in reflexivity discussions.
Dilek Karal, Hand in Hand for Women Stockholm, Sweden

“... to neutralize the intrusion effect...”
Karin Jóhanna L. Knudsen

Insider/Outsider Positionality: A Second-Generation Ghanaian Perspective
Kirstie A. Kwarteng, University of London, United Kingdom

Session 2 – Questioning international migration in a neocolonial world
Thursday, January 21; 10:15 – 12:15

Presentations

Challenging the binary: Reflections on multiple and unconventional positionality.
Sayaka Osanami Törngren, Malmö University, Sweden

Dis-Orienting Middle East Studies: Migrants, Mobilities & Other Marginal Epistemologies.
Sophie Richter-Devroe, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar

Caroline Schöpf, Max Weber Foundation/Hong Kong Baptist University

A Coloniality Assessment: Human Migration & Mobility under the Impact of “Colonizer-Induced Climate Crisis”.
Can Sever Banş, Middle East Technical University, Turkey

Distributed paper
“Socialisation”, “Localisation”: a counter-narrative on the analysis of the international migration.
Rina Manuela Contini, University of Chieti-Pescara, Italy

Session 3 – Integration? Moving beyond established notions
Thursday, January 21; 10:15 – 12:15

Presentations

Towards a reflexive migration studies: “Integration” — 12 propositions
Adrian Favell, University of Leeds, United Kingdom
Doing integration.
Angelique van Dam, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands

Data approach via Julian Go’s standpoint theory.
Johannes Kögel, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany

Becoming “Turkish migrant woman” in Germany: Experiences and Spaces of (Non)Integration.
Mantu Pınar Gümüş, University of Giessen, Germany

Distributed Paper
Failing Forward in Integration Research: Reflections and Prospects of a PhD candidate.
Angelina Penner, University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Norway

Session 4 – Border regimes and the political regulation of migration
Thursday, January 21; 13:00 – 14:30

Presentations

The Embodied Identity of Migration: the example of the European dactyloscopic database EUROPAC and its enhancement.
Brigitta Kuster, Vassilis S. Tsianos, Humboldt University Berlin; Kiel University of Applied Sciences, Germany

PINning down Migrants? Subverting Digital Border Regimes Through Mimicry and Opacity.
Stephan Scheel, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Germany

A Reflexive and Decolonial Approach to Studying the Role of the State in Migration Research.
Iva Dodevska, MOVES - Migration and Modernity: Historical and Cultural Challenges, France, Czech Republic

Distributed Papers
Looking at migration control from a regime of bordering perspective: the case of Greek-Turkish borderland.
Zeynep Kaşlı, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands

Technologies, infrastructures and migration: reflecting on material politics shaping migrant subjectivities.
Nina Amelung, Cristiano Gianollo, Joana Sousa Ribeiro, Olga Solovova, University of Minho; University of Cimbra; University of Oslo, Portugal; Norway

Session 5 – Migration categories and their subversion
Thursday, January 21; 13:00 – 14:30

Presentations

Researching Migrant Identities – Three Methodological Questions.
Ulrike Bialas, Princeton University, USA

Reflexivity, feminist ethnographic research, and refugee theatre.
Nuriani Hamdan, DeZIM Institute (Deutsches Institut für Integrations- und Migrationsforschung, Germany

Overcoming structural limitations: Brexit and the missing agency.
Mārtiņš Kaprāns, University of Latvia, Latvia

Distributed Paper
New borders, new positionalities: hierarchies and practices of belonging in the everyday life of British migrants in Berlin.
Christy Kulz, Technical University Berlin, Germany
Session 6 – Migration, citizenship, and the construction of in-groups and out-groups

*Thursday, January 21; 13:00 – 14:30*

**Presentations**

*Conceptualizing populism for migration research: towards communicative ethno-national populism.*  
*Mojca Pajnik*, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

*Reconstruction of German-Muslim processes of subjectivation.*  
*Chistoph Bitzl*, University of Augsburg/University of Applied Sciences Ansbach, Germany

*A Reflexive Approach to the Changing Regimes of Citizenship: Does De-Ethnicization Mean More Inclusiveness?*  
*Ayşe Serdar*, Mid Sweden University, Sweden

**Distributed Paper**

*Turkish national debate of public visibility: The Arabic signboards on the shops if Syrian-refugees.*  
*Alaattin Oğuz*, Middle East Technical University, Turkey

Session 7 – Positionality in migration research 2

*Thursday, January 21; 14:45 – 16:45*

**Presentations**

*Discussing positionality and social markers. Advantages and negotiations around a researcher’s third position.*  
*Magali N. Alloatti*, Hamburg University, Germany

*How to Practice ‘Reflexive Performativity’? Notes from the Ethnographic Fieldwork with Turkish Deportees from Germany in a Tourism Pluriverse.*  
*Nilay Kilinc*, Centre for Advanced Studies - South Eastern Europe, Croatia

*Who Speaks for Refugees? Positionality or Solidarity.*  
*Morgan Etzel*, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany

*Epistemic communities and engaging with Southern knowledge: gender and migration.*  
*Eleonore Kofman*, Middlesex University, United Kingdom:

**Distributed paper**

*Revisiting the Notions of Gender and Diversity in Migration Research: The Case of Syrian Refugee Women in Europe.*  
*Nihan Duran*, Science Po Paris, France

Session 8 – Reflecting upon power relations and positionality in migration studies

*Thursday, January 21; 14:45 – 16:45*

**Presentations**

*Becoming a Returning Guest-Multi-sited ethnography and power dynamics in migration studies.*  
*Hannah Pool*, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne, Germany
The use of reflexivity and self-reflexivity in migration studies: some field-notes on the relationship with immigrant women in Naples.
Rosa Gatti, University of Naples Federico II, Italy

Self-reflexivity, positionality, and access to the field in Lebanon and Germany.
Irene Tuzi, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany

Research in the exceptional times of Brexit.
Saara Koikkalainen, Peter Holley, Nicol Savinetti, University of Eastern Finland; University of Helsinki; University of Copenhagen, Finland, Denmark

Distributed papers
Together with Syrian refugee women. Towards a feminist approach.
Inga Hajdarowicz, Jagiellonian University, Poland

External Migration as an element of political manipulation – The case of Serbia.
Gordana Vuksanović, Novi Sad Business School, Serbia

Session 9 – Critical questions: social theory in migration studies
Thursday, January 21; 14:45 – 16:45

Presentations

Beyond a metaphysical sedentarism with Deleuze’s and Guattari’s nomadology?
Coretta Ehrenfeld, University of Leipzig, Germany

The critical turn of migration studies: a review of current trends.
Thomas Lacroix, Swanie Potot, Camille Schmoll, United Kingdom & Paris

Employing performativity in migration studies.
Caterina Rohde-Abuba, World Vision Deutschland e.V., Germany

Do we still have to ride the post-colonial horse? The reflexive stance and the normative epistemology in migration studies.
Małgorzata Irek

Session 10 – Reconsidering the methodological toolkit of migration research
Friday, January 22; 10:15 – 12:15

Presentations

The pragmatic sociology of critique in migration research.
Olga Gheorghiev, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic

Bourdieu’s Field Theory in Migration Studies: A methodological tool for and reflexive insights on (transnational) conflicts and social inequalities.
Ilka Sommer, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Germany
Studying the powerful instead of those whom the powerful govern: Integrating feminist epistemology to migration studies.
Faten Khazaei, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Tetiana Havlin, Universität Siegen, Germany

Distributed Papers
Leisure as a ‘mediating device’ for reflexive migration studies.
Anna Horolets, University of Warsaw, Poland

Vulnerabilisation – a useful concept for problematizing migrant vulnerability as a descriptive category.
Jacob Lind, Malmö University, Sweden

Session 11 – Theorizing and researching (in) post-migration societies
Friday, January 22; 10:15 – 12:15

Presentations
Prolegomena on a Sociology of Post-migrant Society.
Dimitris Parsanoglou, Vassilis S. Tsianos, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Kiel; University of Applied Sciences, Greece; Germany

Trapped in Eurocentrism? Knowledge production about Europe’s second generation.
Christine Barwick, Centre Marc Bloch e.V., Germany

“New people around town are just different faces”: Exploring narratives of cultural diversity among people living in regional Australia.
Rouven Link, Deakin University, Australia

Negotiating conviviality, community and migrant rights outside urban spaces.
Karin Krifors, Linköping University, Sweden

Session 12 – Researching migrant biographies, life strategies, and generational orders
Friday, January 22; 10:15 – 12:15

Presentations
Mobility and Migration: Young Italians in Berlin. The Challenge of Reflexivity.
Ilenya Camozzi, University of Milan Bicocca, Italy

Conducting research on migration aspiration: Lessons from a mixed-method research design in Turkey in times of “crisis”.
Ayşen Üstübici, Ezgi Elçi, Eda Kirişçioğlu, Koç University Istanbul, University of Amsterdam, Turkey; Netherland

The Gender Dimension of Return Migration.
Meltem Yılmaz Şener, Nord University, Norway

From Europe’s Semi-periphery to the Centre: Transnational Migration in the Context of the Greek Crisis.
Sokratis Koniordos, University of the Peloponnese, Greece
Session 13 – Emotions and intimacy in migration
Friday, January 22; 13:00 – 14:30

Presentations

Researching Emotions: Reflections from Fieldwork with Exiled Activists
Amany Selim, University of Bergen, Norway

(Self)reflexivity, Emotions and the Politics of Research
Monica Massari, University of Milan, Italy

Reflexivity and Responsibility in Research on Intimacies and Sexualities in a Migration Context
Mona Röhm, University of Salzburg, Austria

Session 14 – Migration research in its multiple engagements
Friday, January 22; 13:00 – 14:30

Presentations

Critically engaged scholarship on the backdrop of the Dutch research-policy nexus
Elena Ponzoni, Maria Rast, Halleh Ghorashi, VU Amsterdam, Netherlands

Militant research on refugees’ right to the city and transnational commoning practices in the case of No Border Camp in Thessaloniki.
Charalampos Tsavdaroglou, University of Thessaly, Greece

Ethical Considerations of Expert Interviews in International, Multi-Sited Field Research
Karin A. C. Johnson, University of California, Riverside, USA

Session 15 – Doing Migration in Postcolonial and Postsocialist Settings: Towards Reflexivity in Studying Multiple Colonialities
Friday, January 22; 14:45 – 16:45

Presentations

Migrant Lives in Post-Socialist Cities – the Example of East Germany.
Felicitas Hillmann, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany

Labor and gender between “there” and “here”: discourses of Bosnian-Herzegovinian third-wave migrant women in Germany after 2015.
Danijela Majstorović, University of Banja Luka/Justus Liebig University of Giessen, Germany
Entanglements between postcolonial and postsocialist processes of boundary-making in the mediatizations of migration and conflict in East Germany cities.  
Miriam Friz Trzeciak, Cottbus University, Germany

Where does the east stand in post-migrant Germany? Ossification as a hegemony- (self) critical perspective.  
Kathleen Heft, DEZIM-Institut Berlin, Germany

Session 16 – Fieldwork with refugees and asylum seekers in Portugal: three feminists struggling with activism within and outside academia  
Friday, January 22; 14:45 – 16:45

Presentations

Making sense of knowledge construction and activist research through (my own) return journey to academia.  
Dora Rebelo, ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal

Action Research in/out academia: reflection on practices in a longitudinal field experience.  
Cristina Santinho, ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal

‘Being effected’: conflicted emotions during fieldwork as epistemic standpoint.  
Silvia Cardoso, IGOT-University of Lisbon, Portugal

Three Feminists struggling with activism within and outside Portuguese academia: commonalities, intersections, encounters, in searching of new ground.  
Silvia Cardoso, Dora Rebelo, Cristina Santinho, University of Lisbon, Portugal

Session 17 – Doing Reflexive Migration Studies in Digital Times  
Friday, January 22; 14:45 – 16:45

Presentations

Migration, Racism, and Big Data: Emerging Data Alliances – and a New Role for Social Research?  
Kenneth Horvath, University of Lucerne, Switzerland

What Difference Does the Digital Make? A Comparative Perspective on Statistical and Big-Data- Based Knowledge Production on Migration.  
Inken Bartels, Laura Stielike, IMIS, University of Osnabrück, Germany

Digital Aspects of the Regime of Borders: Driving Deterrence, Identification and Death in the Central Mediterranean.  
Lisa Ann Senecal, University of Lisbon, Portugal

Governing through Opacity. Epistemic Disorienting, Deceitful Subjects and Debit Cards.  
Martina Tazzioli, Goldsmiths, University of London, United Kingdom