

Biennial Report Research Network 35

2015-2017

1. Name and number of RN

Research Network 35, Sociology of Migration

2. Coordinators and board members

2.1 Outgoing coordinators and board members

Coordinator	Karin Peters	Wageningen University	karin.peters@wu.nl
Vice-coordinator	Elise Pape	EHESS Paris	elise.pape@ehess.fr
Vice-coordinator	Kenneth Horvath	University of Education Karlsruhe	horvath@ph-karlsruhe.de
Board member	Muriel Dudt	University of Strasbourg	muriel.dudt@misha.fr
Board member	Beata Sokolowska	Trinity College Dublin	sokolowb@trinity.ie

2.2 Incoming coordinators and board members

Coordinator	Kenneth Horvath	University of Lucerne	kenneth.horvath@unilu.ch
Vice-coordinator	Elise Pape	University of Strasbourg	e.pape@unistra.fr
Vice-coordinator	Maria Xenitidou	University of Surrey	m.xenitidou@surrey.ac.uk
Board member	Catherine Delcroix	University of Strasbourg	cadelcroix@wanadoo.fr
Board member	Dilek Cindoglu	Abdullah Gül University	dilekcindoglu@gmail.com

2.3 Scientific board

RN 35 has a policy of actively involving the members of its scientific board in drafting its CfPs as well as in running its conferences. The current scientific board members are:

- Berta Álvarez-Miranda (Spain)
- Valerie Amiraux (Canada)
- Joaquín Arango (Spain)
- David Bartram (UK)
- Ayse Caglar (Austria)
- Catherine Delcroix (France)
- Thomas Faist (Germany)
- Katrine Fangen (Norway)
- Nina Glick Schiller (UK)
- Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez (UK)
- Marco Martiniello (Belgium)
- Mirjana Morokvasic-Müller (France)

- Cristiana Paladini (Italy)
- Lucinda Platt (UK)
- Ludger Pries (Germany)
- Christoph Reinprecht (Austria)
- Sergeij Ryazantsev (Russia)
- Monica Serban (Romania)
- Claire Wallace (UK)
- Catherine de Wenden (France)
- Andreas Wimmer (USA)
- Nira Yuval-Davis (UK)

3. Activities

3.1 Midterm conference

ESA RN 35 held its midterm conference for the period 2015-2017 from 1-2 September 2016 at the University of Bucharest. The conference was titled „Facing a New "Age of Migration"? Methodological Challenges, Conceptual Questions, Political Entanglements” and organized into three thematic streams. The conference was co-organized with the Research Institute for Quality of Life of the Romanian Academy and the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work of Bucharest University. With Bridget Anderson, University of Oxford/Director of COMPAS, and Michael Collyer, University of Sussex, two highly distinguished keynote speakers took part in the conference. 52 papers were presented, covering a broad range of topics. The conference included papers by scholars at different levels (PhD students, confirmed researchers) and aimed to hold a good balance of thematic concentration, inclusiveness, and quality of presentations.

3.2 RN activities at ESA congress in Athens

RN 35 organized 23 sessions plus 3 joined sessions at the 2017 conference in Athens. A total of 94 papers were presented. One of the themes that stood out in the paper proposals submitted and presented during the conference was the one concerning the current situation of refugees in Europe, thereby grasping a topical issue and trying to shed light on it from different perspectives. The conference in Athens also aimed at strengthening the cooperation of the RN 35 with other RNs. A joined session was organized with RN08 Sociology of Disaster, Conflict and Social Crisis on “The European Refugee Crisis: Information Needs and Information Systems, with four papers presentations, a second joint session with RN28 Society and Sports on “Sport and Refugees: First Steps Towards Integration?”, four paper presentations, and a third joined session with RN16 Sociology of Health and Illness on “Migrations and Health Inequalities in Europe”, again with four paper presentations.

3.3 Publications

Our policy is to link our midterm conferences to publication projects. A first successful start has been done following our 2014 midterm conference in Frankfurt. A selection of papers from this conference has recently been published as special issue of Migration Studies (vol. 5, no. 3), titled “Migration regimes in the spotlight: The politics of migration in an age of uncertainty”. A similar project is planned following our upcoming midterm conference in Strasbourg. A workshop will be organized ahead of the mid-term conference in order to plan this publication in a most timely manner.

3.4 Newsletter

We circulate a newsletter which includes information on conferences and workshops on migration, job adverts, as well as ‘reflections’, for example reflections of PhD students on the conferences we hold. The newsletter is emailed to the members of our research network, usually once a month. Furthermore we circulate information around through a mailinglist that includes 560 persons, most of them scholars in the field of migration studies that are not members of our RN, but who are interested in our activities. Scholars regularly contact the members of the board in order to be added to the list or share information on conferences in the European and non-European areas in the field of migration.

3.5 Outreach of RN35

PhD students: We have had PhD students on the outgoing board and we regularly invite PhD students to write on their reflections on RN35 meetings. Furthermore our conferences specifically aim to attract PhD students and early career researchers, in addition to senior researchers. A high number of PhD students participated in our sessions at the ESA conference in Athens, as well as at our midterm conference in Bucharest.

Networking beyond Europe: We have an active policy of reaching out to researchers in Europe and beyond to invite them to participate in our activities. Our Newsletter for example is distributed widely, also to non-members of our RN (we obtain regular demands of persons wishing to join the Mailinglist) and also to researchers outside of Europe. Some of our sessions at the ESA conference were organized by Non-European researchers. During the conferences over the past 4 years, contacts have in particular been established with researchers from North Africa (in the frame of cooperation in the Mediterranean area) and North America.

Collaboration with other ESA Research Networks: We regularly co-organized joint activities. Over the 2015-2017 period, the focus in this context was on organizing joint sessions at the Athens conference. Mirroring the societal relevance and the salience of migration issues, three joint sessions were held (with RN08, RN16, and RN28, see above).

4. Future activities

RN35’s next midterm conference will be held at the University of Strasbourg January 24-25, 2019. The conference is organized in close cooperation with the Institute DynamE, the Institute of Advanced Studies (USIAS) of the University of Strasbourg, and the French-German University (UFA/DFH) and is thematically linked to the international research project MIGREVAL. The conference will focus on the topic of “Belongings and Borders – Biographies, Mobilities, and the Politics of Migration”. Three keynote speakers have confirmed their participation: David Bartram (University of Leicester), Monica Massari (University Féderico II Naples) and Monika Salzbrunn (University of Lausanne). The CfP has been published, the deadline for paper submissions is 15 May 2018.