



## Conference Program

### **The coming of age of migration studies Debating the evolution and impact of a research field**

**University of Lisbon, IGOT, 5-6 February 2020**  
Rua Branca Edmée Marques, 1600-276, Lisboa, Portugal

Migration studies has grown significantly over the past decades as an interdisciplinary research field. What has the coming of age of migration studies brought us in terms of conceptual and theoretical development? And what has been the impact of migration studies on how societal stakeholders and (local, regional, national, EU) governments deal with issues of migration and migration-related diversity?

These questions will be at the heart of this conference. Concerning the field's academic development, the conference examines how the growth of migration studies has come with a trend towards knowledge fragmentation but also a need for systematic knowledge accumulation. Based on new research and an innovative portal to create oversight over the research field, it engages in dialogue with scholars, societal stakeholders and policymakers on how to promote knowledge accumulation.

Concerning the field's societal impact, the conference examines how the development of migration studies has been shaped by its interaction with broader society. By inciting a dialogue between scholars, stakeholders and policymakers, the conference will provide a platform for new ideas on how migration studies can help addressing key knowledge questions that societies face around migration and diversity.

This conference marks the integration of the H2020 projects CrossMigration and RESOMA into the IMISCOE Research Network. It presents the key outcomes of these projects, maps future developments within IMISCOE, and most importantly, provides a moment to reflect on how the migration research community can contribute to impact on one of today's most complex issues as well as contribute to the further academic evolution of migration studies as a research field.

To engage in these dialogues on migration studies, its impact and its academic evolution, participation is invited from migration scholars (from IMISCOE as well as beyond), societal stakeholders from various types of organisations, and from governments at various levels. The outcomes of the conference will live on within the IMISCOE Research Network.

## Conference Program

### 5 February

13:00 Opening Plenary (Auditório Orlando Ribeiro)-----

#### **Roundtable on the coming of age of migration studies: Past, present, future**

(Chair: Jørgen Carling, PRIO)

- Welcome and introduction by Peter Scholten, Coordinator of IMISCOE and PI of the CrossMigration project from Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Presentation of the IMISCOE Migration Research Hub, by Fiona Seiger from Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Mapping the Coming of Age of Migration Studies (Asya Pisarevskaya, Nathan Levy from Erasmus University Rotterdam): Article presentation, followed by a roundtable discussion.

#### Roundtable participants:

- Yuk Wah Chan (Series editor, Routledge Series on Asian Migration)
- Josh DeWind (director, Migration Program, Social Science Research Council, New York)
- James Hollifield (director, Tower Centre, Southern Methodist University, Dallas)
- Eleonore Kofman (co-director, Social Policy Research Centre and Migration Law and Policy Unit, Middlesex University)
- Luca Lixi (DG Research and Innovation, Brussels)
- Steven Vertovec (chair, Max-Planck-Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen)

14:45 Break

#### 15:00 Parallel workshops round 1

- **Workshop 1 on key knowledge questions for migration studies** (Liam Patuzzi, MPI-Europe; Catarina Reis Oliveira, Observatory for Migration, Portugal; Lambert Obermann, Advisory Committee on Migration Affairs; Thomas Huddleston, MPG)
- Room: Sala 2.03

Building on insights from migration experts working at the intersection between research and policy, the workshop explores how to strengthen the feedback loop between these two ‘circles’, leading to more effective migration policies. Drawing from the example of recent research projects—for example, on labour migration—questions will include: What channels and formats are most promising for migration researchers to communicate new knowledge to policymakers? How to ensure that new research undertakings reflect questions the policy community considers particularly urgent? What are the benefits and possible risks of making research findings more ‘palatable’ for migration policymakers?

*(Workshop 2 info on next page)*

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- **Workshop 2 on policy indicators and scenarios** (Giacomo Solano, MPG; Helga de Valk, NIDI; Jasper Tjaden, IOM-GMDAC)
- Room: Sala 2.04

The workshop discusses the topic of policy indicators and scenarios as tools to better understand past, present and future migration dynamics. The aim of the workshop is to summarise the existing knowledge on these two topics and discuss how to combine them in order to obtain a comprehensive view of migration phenomena. The workshop's goal is also to foster dialogue among the academic community and between researchers and policy makers/stakeholders. The workshop will involve interactive discussion on three presentations, 'Indicators to comparatively analyse migration policies: state-of-the-art and future developments' (Solano), 'Expert opinion on future migration flows to Europe - a Delphi survey' (Tjaden), and 'Studying the future of migration to Europe - a systematic literature review' (de Valk).

*16:15 Break*

### 16:30 Parallel workshops round 2

- **Workshop 3 on the Research Social Platform on Migration and Asylum, ReSOMA** (Alexander Wolffhardt, MPG; Michele LeVoy, PICUM; Catherine Woollard, ECRE; Katharina Bamberg, Eurocities)
- Room: Sala 2.03

The Research Social Platform on Migration and Asylum (ReSOMA) will meet every year under IMISCOE, bringing together researchers, think-tanks and the major NGO stakeholders. This meeting will identify what are the most likely and impactful policy decisions that will be taken that year on asylum, migration and integration in order to facilitate evidence-gathering and collaboration between researchers and stakeholders who want to contribute and bring their evidence into the policy debate. This workshop will review the process and topics undertaken in 2018 and 2019, agree the new proposed asylum, migration and integration topics for 2020 and identify potentially interesting researchers, stakeholders and opportunities for collaboration.

- **Workshop 4 on systematic knowledge accumulation in migration studies** (Mathias Czaika, Danube University Krems; Franck Düvell, DEZIM)
- Room: Sala 2.04

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Based on the findings of the CrossMigration knowledge synthesis reports, this workshop will critically interrogate state-of-the-art, highlight some key biases and identify pertinent research gaps. It aims to explore new demands for pushing the research frontier on the complex dynamics and interactions of political, economic and social processes, their impacts on migration and the study of migration policy and governance.

*17:45 End*

19:30 Conference dinner

**Restaurant: ISO Lisboa**

**Address: Calçada Livramento, 17**

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**6 February**

9:00 Parallel workshops round 3

- **Workshop 5 on dialogues between research and societal stakeholders** (Thomas Huddleston, MPG; Guia Gilardoni, ISMU; Shannon Pfohman, Social Platform; Ricard Zapata, UPF)
- Room: Sala 2.03

Researchers and societal stakeholders are very well-integrated within their own communities at EU and national level but are not always well-networked with one another. This workshop aims at bringing together experts from different communities with mutual thematic interests in migration to explore potential synergies and complementarities.

- **Workshop 6 on connecting migration studies to the EU's strategic research agenda** (Riccardo Pozzo, Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata)
- Room: Sala 2.04

The panel addresses: (a) the need for a strategic research agenda on migration to be in line with policy needs and research gaps (considering the two very different short-term/longitudinal needs/perspectives); (b) the need to respond to more EU-centred or globalised research priorities (not necessarily in comparative terms); (c) the need to build a consensus regarding research lines (priorities/strategies/vision) in cooperation with non-research stakeholders (non-policy end-users of research results).

*10:15 Break*



## Conference Program

10:30 Concluding plenary (Auditório Orlando Ribeiro)-----  
**Roundtable on innovative science-society dialogues on migration** (chair: Guia Gilardoni, ISMU).

Roundtable participants:

- Laurent Aujean (European Commission, DG Home, Legal Migration and Integration unit)
- Sarah Spencer (COMPAS Oxford University)
- Andrew Geddes (EUI, MPC)
- Michele Levoy (PICUM)
- Silvia Ganzerla (Eurocities)
- Catherine Woollard (ECRE)

*12:00 Lunch*

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13:00 IMISCOE BD Meeting (closed)      17:00 Opening of IMISCOE Spring Conference