



MACIMIDE

Annual Work Conference 2024

Program | Abstracts

MACIMIDE is Maastricht University's interdisciplinary research center for interfaculty collaboration in the fields of migration, mobility, citizenship, development, and family life. Each year MACIMIDE organizes an Annual Work Conference where researchers present and discuss their work around diverse research themes cutting across the disciplinary fields represented by the faculties and schools of Maastricht University. This year, the Conference is organised with support from Studio Europa Maastricht. In line with the mission of Studio Europa Maastricht, this year's conference has a particular focus on Europe and on the societal impact of research.

Monday 23 September 2024
Belvédère, Fenikshof 1, 6211AX Maastricht

Note on the venue: Please come to the Belvedere building by walking around the right-hand side of the UNU-MERIT building – i.e., turn right after UNU-MERIT (between UNU MERIT and the Pathé Cinema). Then on the lefthand side you will see the Belvedere building, set back from the road.

This conference has received funding from Studio Europa Maastricht, The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Law and the School of Business and Economics of Maastricht University.

Program

8.30 – 9.00	REGISTRATION/COFFEE	
9.00 – 09.30	WELCOME and OPENING REMARKS Introductions to MACIMIDE and Studio Europa Maastricht	
09.30 – 11.00	<p>PANEL SESSION 1a Migration attitudes, experiences and decision-making</p> <p>Tobias Hillenbrand Let's talk about migration - or better not? How media exposure to refugee migration shapes attitudes towards refugees</p> <p>Lalaine Siruno 'Irregular migration and Filipino migrants in the Netherlands'</p> <p>Julia Reinold 'Migration vs. non-migration policies: examining deterrent effects on high-skilled migrants' intentions to remain in the Netherlands'</p> <p>Matilde Perotti 'Forming Intentions to Leave the Parental Nest: A Cross-National Comparative Study of Migrant Youths in Europe'</p> <p>Chair: Onallia Osei Discussant: Karlien Strijbosch</p>	<p>PANEL SESSION 1b Multi-scalar migrant integration</p> <p>Obaa Akua Konadu-Osei & Onallia Esther Osei 'Cultural and religious influences on parenting for desirable child development outcomes by migrants of African descent in The Netherlands'</p> <p>Ngoc Hân Nguyen 'Migrants' integration in the workplace and their innovative work behaviors'</p> <p>Ruben Tans 'Civic integration trajectories in Flanders and the Netherlands compared'</p> <p>Chair: Talitha Dubow Discussant: Karlijn Haagsman</p>
11.00 – 11.15	COFFEE BREAK	
11.15-12.30	<p>KEYNOTE: Professor Tineke Strik, Member of the European Parliament for GroenLinks, Professor of Citizenship and Migration Law at Radboud University, chair of the complaints committee of the Refugee Council East Netherlands</p> <p>Discussant: Dr. Lilian Tsourdi, Associate Professor and Jean Monnet Chair in EU Migration Law and Governance</p>	
12.30 – 13.30	LUNCH	
13.30 – 15.00	<p>PANEL SESSION 2a Law and governance across European borders</p> <p>Susanne Sivonen 'Forgotten category of cross-border workers: third-country nationals'</p> <p>Havva Yesil 'Safeguarding Syrian Refugees: Turkey's Role under the EU-Turkey Statement'</p>	<p>PANEL SESSION 2b Migration, development and sustainability</p> <p>Ana Filipa Cândido 'Recalling Migration Transition Theory: The Portuguese case'</p> <p>Ana Isabel Lopez Garcia 'How Migrant Remittances Influence Support for Contentious Action in Latin America and the Caribbean'</p>

	<p>Katarzyna Strąk ‘The substance of rights arising from the EU citizenship – an (important) factor extending the legal status of third-country nationals?’</p> <p>Huub L.M. Mudde, Stefano Locatelli & Rahwa Yemane ‘Opportunities and challenges of international labour mobility’</p> <p>Chair: Ruben Tans Discussant: Hildegard Schneider</p>	<p>Manisha Mukherjee ‘Climate change, female migration, and Gender inequality: Evidence from rural India’</p> <p>Amirhossein Chitsazzadeh ‘Green Remittances: Alleviating Energy Poverty in Developing Countries Through Utilization of Diaspora Finances in Renewable Energy Projects’</p> <p>Chair: Julia Reinold Discussant: Melissa Siegel</p>
15.00 – 15.30	COFFEE BREAK	
15.30 – 17.00	<p>INTERACTIVE LECTURE: A practical guide to science communication in 2024</p> <p>Dieudonné van de Willige Deputy director of the Faculty of Science and Engineering at Maastricht University; and Board member (general secretary) of SciCom NL, Dutch association for science and technology communication</p> <p>Science communication (or public engagement, or outreach, or research communication, or...) is rapidly gaining interest from researchers, policy makers and the public alike. But what's the field about in 2024? How did we get there? And perhaps most importantly: how do you know you're on the right track to achieving actual, tangible impact? This interactive lecture challenges you to reflect on strategic science communication.</p>	<p>PANEL SESSION 3 Migration and education</p> <p>Marrit Westerweel ‘Opportunities and challenges in educational systems for minor asylum seekers and minor status holders in Belgium and the Netherlands’</p> <p>Tijana Breuer, Bohdana Kurylo, Cecile Magnée & Stan Vermeulen ‘Do migrant students affect performance of natives?’</p> <p>Jasmin Lilian Diab ‘Bordering Belonging: A Qualitative Exploration of Educational Integration for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon across Perceived Value and Impact’</p> <p>Stanislav Avdeev ‘University as a Melting Pot: Long-term Effects of International Peers’</p> <p>Chair: Ruben Tans Discussant: Maha Naami</p>
17.00 – 19.00	<p>CLOSING RECEPTION – Please join us for drinks, music and canapés</p> <p>Closing remarks Music by FF Standards Duo</p>	

Tobias Hillenbrand

'Let's talk about migration – or better not? How media exposure to refugee migration shapes attitudes towards refugees'

Immigration is among the most divisive issues in most European countries including Germany, with public attitudes, particularly towards refugee immigration, at a low point. Besides real-life implications of largescale immigration, the public discourse is an influential driver in shaping immigration attitudes. To date, it is largely unclear though to what degree mere exposure to the context of refugee immigration- in the absence of specific frames or statistical information for example on immigration numbers or the economic performance of migrants- can shape attitudes towards refugees. In our research, we analyze data from an original survey experiment conducted in Germany in May 2023. Our treatment consists of a professionally produced video providing basic background information on Syrian refugees living in Turkish refugee camps and is kept in a very neutral tone. We find that exposure to the video reduces various forms of humanitarian concerns for the refugees while, at the same time, increasing the perception that refugee immigration is detrimental to the security situation in Germany. These findings are driven by West rather than East German respondents. Further, we merge our survey data with administrative data on the population of foreigners in the respondents' counties. Larger increases in the populations of non-Germans are in part associated with more negative responses to the treatment. Our research suggests that it not only matters how we talk about refugee migration but that the mere act of speaking about it can already have implications for the way people think and feel about refugees.

Lalaine Siruno

'Irregular migration and Filipino migrants in the Netherlands'

While the majority of cross-border movements are through authorised channels, there is a persistent and significant number of irregular migrations as well – those that take place outside the laws, regulations, or international agreements governing the entry into or exit from the country of origin, transit or destination. The dominant view frames irregular migration as a problem, and it is unwanted because it poses a threat to state sovereignty, national identity, and human security. In recent years, discourse on migration, particularly irregular migration, has been an integral contestation point. In the Netherlands, the sudden influx of asylum seekers in the 1990s was pivotal in the shift from a relatively open and liberal to more selective and restrictive approach to migration, and the large-scale arrivals of migrants in 2015 heightened the politicisation of irregular migration. Preventing irregular migration is a priority - the first pillar among six - in the Dutch comprehensive migration agenda.

According to the Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics, there are over 26,000 individuals of Filipino nationality officially registered as residents in the Netherlands in 2022. There are no precise figures, but a migrant organisation estimates that the number of Filipinos with irregular status is between 3,000 and 8,000. The majority arrive with a tourist or an *au pair* visa; many with the explicit intention to overstay. They work as domestic workers, child-minders, or carers for the elderly. It makes for an interesting case because given arguably ample opportunities to migrate through proper channels (through licensed recruitment agencies, for example), the ongoing presence and arrival of seemingly voluntary irregular Filipino migrants in European countries like the Netherlands opens up questions related to migration aspirations on the part of the migrants, and to policy-making and governance on the part of the Dutch and Philippine governments.

This paper discusses the lived experiences of Filipino irregular migrants in the Netherlands and how they navigate Dutch migration policies. It first presents a historical overview of Filipino migration to the Netherlands. Then, it outlines the evolution of Dutch policies related to irregular migration. Drawing on participant observation and interview data with migrants, it then discusses their motivations, aspirations, and everyday realities. Finally, it illustrates how migrant agency interplays with macro-structures and identifies gaps in the Dutch approach to irregular migration governance.

Julia Reinold

'Migration vs. non-migration policies: examining deterrent effects on high-skilled migrants' intentions to remain in the Netherlands'

Countries around the world are competing for high-skilled individuals and have introduced selective policies to attract this highly sought after group. It is unclear, however, to what extent migration policies are effective in shaping high-skilled migration decisions. Critiques argue that non-migration policies, for example, in the area of labour, taxation, education and culture, are more important in influencing migration more generally and high-skilled migration specifically. This article tests a framework developed by Reinold and Czaika (forthcoming) that conceptualises policy-driver interactions by bringing together migration-relevant policy configurations and their potential impact on decision-making factors of high-skilled migrants. It addresses the following research questions: 1) How do changes in migration-relevant policies influence intentions of high-skilled migrants to remain living in the Netherlands? 2) Are migration or non-migration policies more influential in shaping intentions of high-skilled migrants to remain living in the Netherlands? The current Dutch context with electoral successes of the nationalist right and discussions about curbing the inflow of international students lends itself to studying possible deterrent effects of changes in migration and non-migration policies on high-skilled migration using experimental methods. This article contributes to the literature on high-skilled migration, specifically the role of policy and political turbulences on migrant retention. In addition, it contributes to the migration decision-making literature methodologically by applying experiments, which is especially innovative and has rarely been used in migration research despite its huge potential for disentangling decision-making factors, testing theories and examining policy effectiveness.

Matilde Perotti

'Forming Intentions to Leave the Parental Nest: A Cross-National Comparative Study of Migrant Youths in Europe'

Introduction: The transition to adulthood is a pivotal phase in life, deeply intertwined with broader societal structures of family diversity and social inequality. This study focuses on this critical period, exploring the intentions of young adults, particularly young migrants, to leave their parental homes across Europe. In doing so, it illuminates how these intentions reflect and are shaped by the intricate dynamics of socioeconomic status and cultural norms.

Objectives: This research aims to dissect the structural and cultural influences on the homeleaving intentions of young adults, highlighting the nuanced experiences of migrants. By examining these intentions, the study seeks to uncover the implications for social inequality, focusing on how different backgrounds intersect to affect this milestone in the transition to adulthood.

Methodology: Drawing on the Generations and Gender Survey (GGS), the study employs ordinal logistic regression and mediation analysis to examine the interplay between economic stability, cultural diversity, and intentions to leave the parental home. This comparative analysis across

European countries offers insights into the diverse strategies young adults employ to navigate their transition to independence in the context of family diversity and social inequality.

Theoretical Framework: Grounded in the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB), the research explores the role of attitudes towards independence, subjective social norms, and perceived behavioral control in shaping young adults' intentions. This framework highlights the importance of understanding the socio-cultural and economic determinants that influence young adults' decisions in the broader context of their transition to adulthood.

Significance: By focusing on migrant youths, this study contributes to the critical discussion on family diversity and social inequality, providing empirical evidence on the challenges and disparities faced during the transition to adulthood. It addresses insights into how socioeconomic factors, cultural norms, and policies intersect with family dynamics to perpetuate social inequality.

Contribution: This research offers a valuable perspective on the specific aspect of transitioning to adulthood and it aims to inform policies and interventions that support equitable transitions to independence for young adults, thereby addressing key facets of social inequality and enhancing our understanding of family diversity in a European context.

PANEL SESSION 1b: Multi-scalar migrant integration

Obaa Akua Konadu-Osei & Onallia Esther Osei

'Cultural and religious influences on parenting for desirable child development outcomes by migrants of African descent in The Netherlands'

Values, norms, and practices around parenting are carried into destination countries when individuals migrate. The practices can be misunderstood due to their divergence from mainstream norms within destination countries. As such, there have been significant attempts to study parenting practices in non-Western contexts and, also, among immigrant families in destination countries. This study aims to contribute to the literature on immigrant parenting by a) exploring how the interplay of religion and culture of migrant families shapes parenting in destination countries, and b) examining how African descent parents integrate preferred religious and cultural practices to cope with changing parenting concerns in their destination countries, and c) providing insights into parenting practices among African immigrant families residing in The Netherlands (Europe), by highlighting their non-Western practices. With 15 households in The Netherlands (mostly Maastricht) where one or both parents are of an African descent and Christian, this study examines how cultural backgrounds and religious beliefs influence immigrant parenting for desirable child development outcomes.

Ngoc Hân Nguyen

'Migrants' integration in the workplace and their innovative work behaviors'

Under the increasing globalization of world trade, high-skilled migration has become a significant phenomenon (Docquier and Rapoport, 2012), impacting the geographical distribution of knowledge across countries and adding to the diversity of human capital within them (Poot et al., 2009, Storper and Scott, 2009). On the one hand, firms welcome this development, given that a culturally diverse workforce can excel in the performance of complex and innovative tasks (Page, 2007). This leads to hiring migrants becoming a strategic decision of firms to increase innovation performance (Laursen et al., 2020). On the other hand, the process of integrating newly hired migrants into the workplace entails risks due to the obstacles migrants tend to experience when relocating to a new country. Managing a multicultural workforce is challenging because diversity may give rise to misunderstandings among employees as a result of cultural dissimilarities, leading to more communication and coordination costs (Cramton, 2001), as well as learning costs (Myers, 2018). These costs may negatively impact migrants' mental state and their interpersonal relations, which can consequently hinder their innovative work behaviors (Adler et al., 2006). Therefore, the innovation-related benefits of hiring migrants are contingent upon the degree to which they are well integrated into a firm's social environment (Breschi and Lissoni, 2009, Laursen et al., 2020).

As firms are integral to the success of migrants' integration, they need to provide support in migrants' integration processes. One way to do this is by inclusiveness, or enhancing the degree to which people of all identities feel valued, respected, and supported in their workplace (e.g. Panicker et al. (2018)). Accordingly, such environments aid in removing obstacles to optimize the participation and contribution of migrants in firms so that migrants are more engaged in firms' core activities (e.g. Roberson (2006)).

When highly skilled migrants are integrated effectively into the workplace, they are more likely to exhibit innovative work behaviors. Well-integrated migrants tend to feel a strong sense of belonging, which allows them to feel confident expressing their ideas and viewing themselves as a valuable part of the organization. As a result, these migrants tend to be more engaged in their work and committed

to the organization, which leads to better individual innovation performance by taking advantages of opportunities for development and generating more innovative work behaviors (Jason and Geetha, 2019). With this in mind, I aim to shed light on the unique work challenges that highly skilled migrants face, and hence, what human resource policies they desire to aid their smooth integration.

Ruben Tans

'Civic integration trajectories in Flanders and the Netherlands compared'

This comparative analysis examines the civic integration trajectories for newcomers in Flanders and the Netherlands from a legal perspective, focusing on their respective legislative and policy frameworks. Both regions, dealing with increasing immigration numbers, introduced and developed robust civic integration trajectories aimed at facilitating the participation of newcomers into society. However, their approaches differ significantly in terms of legal requirements, administrative practices, and overall objectives.

In Flanders, the civic integration trajectory is governed by the Civic Integration Decree, which provides for a comprehensive trajectory consisting of language courses, socio-economic orientation, and civic education. The legal framework makes participation compulsory, with penalties for noncompliance, including fines and the potential loss of residence permits. This strict approach reflects the commitment of Flanders to treat civic integration as a reciprocal obligation between the government and the newcomer. Furthermore, the Flemish government actively collaborates with local municipalities and social organizations to ensure the effective implementation of integration measures, creating a decentralised yet coherent system.

In contrast, the Dutch civic integration trajectory is governed by the Civic Integration Act, which was significantly reformed in 2013 and 2021. Dutch legislation requires that newcomers pass a civic integration examination, covering Dutch language proficiency and knowledge of Dutch society, within a specified period. The 2021 reform, among others, introduced the 'Z-route,' a civic integration trajectory especially tailored for vulnerable groups. Until 2021, and unlike Flanders, the Netherlands imposed financial responsibility on newcomers for their civic integration trajectories. The Dutch civic integration trajectory also includes sanctions for non-compliance, such as fines and deductions from social benefits. Overall, it places a stronger emphasis on self-reliance and personal responsibility, reflecting a more liberal integration philosophy.

Both Flanders and the Netherlands use coercive measures to enforce compliance. However, the Flemish system is characterized by more direct state intervention and support, while the Dutch approach leans towards individual accountability. The legal nuances between the two systems highlight different philosophical and political underpinnings: the Flemish system is based on a welfare state model prioritising governmental facilitation, while the Dutch approach is based on a liberal market-oriented model emphasizing personal responsibility.

The analysis concludes that, while both trajectories aim to foster integration, the effectiveness of each system is influenced by its legal design and the extent to which it balances governmental facilitation with personal responsibility. The comparative legal examination underscores the importance of aligning civic integration trajectories with broader socio-political contexts and suggests that hybrid models incorporating elements of both approaches may offer a more balanced pathway to successful civic integration. Further research is recommended to assess the outcomes of these frameworks on newcomers' civic integration and social cohesion in Flanders and the Netherlands.

Susanne Sivonen

'Forgotten category of cross-border workers: third-country nationals'

Cross-border labour mobility is at the heart of EU integration with approximately 1.9 million cross-border workers in the EU, most prominent in cross-border regions. Cross-border work, however, brings its challenges due to the question of applicable legislation, and the administrative burden that the worker must consider in relation to homeworking, taxation, health insurance and family benefits. For third-country nationals (TCNs), the situation becomes even more complex. In addition to these common challenges, they must also navigate the requirements for obtaining a valid work and residence permit, as TCNs do not enjoy the same free movement rights as EU nationals.

Obtaining a residence and work permit can be however challenging for TCNs. Despite the several migration Directives, such as the EU Blue Card for highly skilled TCNs, and the Single Permit Directive, Member States are left with a lot of discretion to apply their own labour market restrictions and integration requirements. Countries such as the Netherlands and Belgium enforce labour market tests to regulate access. This means that priority is given to local or EU citizens, and employers must demonstrate that they could not find a suitable candidate before hiring the TCN.

Another complexity arises from the interaction between work and residence permit legislation in cross-border situations. If a TCN holds a residence permit tied to their employment, they might lose their right to reside if they take up work in a neighbouring country. The Single Permit Directive, which was designed to establish a unified procedure for residence and work permits and reduce administrative burdens, has had the opposite effect for TCN cross-border workers. Instead of simplifying the process, it may hinder their access to a separate work (or residence) permit.

Due to labour shortages, many countries such as the Netherlands and particularly Germany is attracting (highly) skilled workers to their labour market. Yet, cross-border work of third-country nationals, in form of cross-border commuting, seems to be absent and perhaps forgotten in the legislative and policy framework on EU and national level. Should this category of potential TCN cross-border (frontier) workers in border regions be better represented in the legal and policy framework, and how?

This article explores the topic of cross-border work of TCNs, in light of research findings of the OECD project 'Mobility and integrated labour market for third-country nationals in Greater Copenhagen – learning from other European cross-border regions.' The aim is to discuss the initial findings and explore possible solutions at the MACIMIDE conference. I suggest starting with a short presentation, followed by a discussion with designated discussants and the audience. Our goal is to publish an article based on these findings.

Havva Yesil

'Safeguarding Syrian Refugees: Turkey's Role under the EU-Turkey Statement'

This article explores the multifaceted and varied aspects of safeguarding refugees in Turkey, focusing on the EU-Turkey Statement and its relation to the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis. This research aims to analyse Turkey's legal obligations under international law, the Temporary Protection Regulation, and its classification as a safe third country for refugee repatriation. The objective is to understand the complexities and challenges associated with offering refuge to individuals escaping from conflict

and persecution.

Through a comprehensive analysis of Turkey's asylum system, case law, and reports from human rights organizations, the paper highlights the shortcomings and implications of Turkey's refugee protection mechanisms. It critically evaluates the country's historical record of asylum practices, its treatment of refugees, and the legal precedents that shape its refugee policies, shedding light on the broader implications for regional stability and international cooperation. By scrutinizing the EU-Turkey agreement, the paper explores the impact of Turkey's classification as a safe haven on the rights of refugees and the efficacy of the EU-Turkey Statement in addressing the refugee crisis. It advocates for a rights-based approach to asylum that upholds the dignity and well-being of all those seeking refuge, emphasizing the importance of safeguarding the rights and welfare of Syrian refugees in Turkey.

In navigating the intricate terrain of refugee protection, legal compliance, and human rights advocacy, this study underscores the need for a comprehensive understanding of Turkey's asylum practices and the imperative to address human rights violations in the context of the refugee crisis. It calls for a re-evaluation of Turkey's role in refugee protection and a commitment to upholding international standards in ensuring the safety and well-being of those in need of sanctuary.

Katarzyna Strąk

'The substance of rights arising from the EU citizenship – an (important) factor extending the legal status of third-country nationals?'

In its judgment (C-420/22 NW and C-528/22 PQ of 24 April 2024) the Court of Justice of the EU once again referred to the concept of “deprivation of the substance of the rights conferred by citizenship of the Union” (para 58) stating that “there are very specific situations in which, despite the fact that secondary EU law on the right of residence of third-country nationals does not apply and the Union citizen concerned has not made use of his or her freedom of movement, a right of residence must nevertheless be granted to a third-country national who is a family member of that Union citizen, since the effectiveness of citizenship of the European Union would otherwise be undermined if, as a consequence of refusal of such a right, that Union citizen were obliged in practice to leave the territory of the European Union as a whole, thus depriving him or her of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred by that status” (para 60).

The paper proposes to look into the legal situation of non-EU citizens through the lens of the concept of the EU citizenship. It aims at the analysis of both already delivered and well elaborated judgments, starting with Zhu and Chen, Ruiz Zambrano, Dereci, Ymeraga, Alokpa, NA, Rendón Marin, CS or Chavez-Vilchez, through recent judgments, such as NW and PQ, XU and QP, EK, X or M.A. and those to be delivered in the near future – Safi. What all of them have in common is that all of the parties in the proceedings before national courts are third-country nationals and parents to children – EU citizens. On the other hand there are differences as for the reasons for the stay to be ended (e.g. divorce, criminal record or any other legal reasons not to grant or prolong the right to stay on the territories of the Member States) and as for whether the freedom of movement has been made use of.

The paper proposes thus to systematize several issues, e.g. the scope of the “essence of rights”, its possible limitations, the consequences for both the EU and non-EU citizens. It is important to determine whether the deprivation of the non-EU citizen of the right to stay equals in every case the deprivation of the EU citizen of his/her substance of rights. It is also important to systematize these issues in the light of whether and when certain situations fall within the scope of the EU law and what is the scope of application of primary (art. 20 and 21 TFEU) and secondary law (directive 2004/38) as well as the scope of application of the return directive (directive 2008/115), in specific situations. Last

but not least, relations between “the substance of rights” as derived from the TFUE and “the essence of rights” as derived from the Charter of Fundamental Rights should be also systematized.

Huub L.M. Mudde, Stefano Locatelli & Rahwa Yemane

‘Opportunities and challenges of international labour mobility’

The objective of this study is to explore the challenges and opportunities for international labour mobility in the agricultural sector between Africa and Europe with a focus on circular mobility.

The agricultural sector is transforming to become more sustainable, which goes hand in hand with a growing need for higher-skilled workers to cater and safely handle smart precision farming systems. Many people will need to be reskilled or upskilled, including attention for transferable, cross-cutting skills for employment and self-employment. For a successful implementation of the Green New Deal, 18 million people will need to be reskilled in the EU (ICMPD, 2024). This labour market demand occurs in the context of an aging population in Europe, reducing the size of the labour pool, in combination with a dire shortage of well-trained workers in Africa. In response to these challenges, international labour mobility and skills development programs have been set-up.

We will use a case study design to deeply understand the intricacies of international labour mobility. The ‘MOBILISE: Circular Talent Development for Climate-Smart Agriculture’ project is a 4-year project financed by the European Commission and implemented by Maastricht School of Management – Maastricht University and Aeres University of Applied Sciences. The main objective of the project is to contribute to the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF) Program of the European Commission by setting-up a scalable, institutionally embedded circular talent development program between the Netherlands and Egypt, Ethiopia, and Tunisia in favour of strengthening climate-smart agriculture, both in Europe and in the participating countries.

A mixed method research will be carried out comprising of qualitative and quantitative methods to allow for triangulation. Data will be collected from the most important stakeholders involved: 200 companies (est.), 120 students (est.) and 80 experts (est.) using structured (online) questionnaires, document review, in-depth interviews, and participatory observations.

The study will be carried out from May 2024 until May 2027 and aims to result in an evidence-based framework for analysing labour mobility and in recommendations on legal migration pathways.

Ana Filipa Cândido

'Recalling Migration Transition Theory: The Portuguese case'

Portuguese emigration has been on the rise since the 1974 revolution, especially after Portugal joined the European Economic Community. The 2008 financial crisis led to a decline in emigration initially, but there was a quickly significant resurgence in the rate of Portuguese emigration along with changes in countries of destination. This pattern challenges the migration transition theory, which suggests that emigration would decrease and immigration increase once a country reaches a certain level of development. Despite Portugal's GDP per capita and Human Development Index surpassing the threshold that typically prompts this shift, emigration remains higher than immigration.

Following the same approach of Rodriguez-Pena (2024) in the Spanish case, this paper studies the evolution of migration patterns adopting a social transformation perspective by analyzing how change in the political, economic, technological, demographic and cultural levels impacts migration patterns (time, volume and direction of Portuguese migration). The aim is to understand Portuguese migration (both international and internal patterns) within the broader context of Portugal's development - how development (re)shapes migration patterns and how migration, in turn, affects development. This analysis seeks to shed light on the mechanisms explaining migration transitions, particularly the causes and factors contributing to the current emigration plateau in which Portugal is stuck. Additionally, a comparative perspective on the migration systems of European countries is employed to better understand the specificities of the Portuguese migration transition.

This paper reviews migration patterns, trends and drivers within and from Portugal from the beginning of the 20th century to the second decade of the 21st century.

The paper is structured as follows. First, it provides a historical overview of the Portuguese migration patterns. Then, it approaches the position of Portugal within the global migration system by comparing migration indicators - immigrant and emigrant stocks, flows and composition - between countries - primarily focusing on European countries - in order to understand the specificities of the Portuguese case. Lastly, it links social transformation processes with migration patterns by analyzing the evolution in Portugal of a set of theoretically relevant development indicators regarding political, economic, technology, demographic and cultural levels, such as GDP per capita, Human Development Index, urbanization, etc. Additionally, using data from the World Bank/University of Sussex global migrant origin database, we conduct a multivariate analysis to assess the relationship between social and demographic indicators and migration (immigrant, emigrant, net immigrant, and total migrant stocks) in European countries.

Preliminary findings suggest that the migration profile of Portugal most closely resembles countries in the former Eastern Bloc, differing not only from Western European countries but also from other Southern European countries.

Ana Isabel Lopez Garcia

'How Migrant Remittances Influence Support for Contentious Action in Latin America and the Caribbean'

How do remittances motivate protest and dissent? Despite receiving scholarly attention, the influence of remittances on contentious action in developing democracies remains contested. Prior studies

mostly focus on how remittances relate to the occurrence of protest events or citizen participation therein. Protest events are however rare occurrences and only a fraction of individuals participate in such endeavours. In this paper I take an alternative view in examining how the receipt of remittances relates to individual support for contentious action in democracies in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). While migrant remittances smooth consumption and thereby lower people's economic grievances, recipients often experience corruption and crime to a greater extent than non-recipients do. In this article, I theorise that these heightened grievances lead recipients to more strongly support that citizens participate outside state-sanctioned formal mechanisms or institutions. Using survey data from LAC, I confirm that relative to non-recipients, those receiving remittances are more supportive of citizens engaging in unlawful and violent protests. Furthermore, this acceptance of contentious action is influenced by recipients' increased exposure to crime and corruption. Evidence suggests that the receipt of remittances contribute to the emergence of new grievances, which legitimise the use of violence as a tool for demanding political accountability and government responsiveness within LAC democracies. The article contributes to better understand how migrant remittances influence non-electoral modes of political participation in developing democracies.

Manisha Mukherjee

'Climate change, female migration, and Gender inequality: Evidence from rural India'

This study delves into the effects of rising temperatures due to climate change on gender inequality in rural India. We showcase that rising temperature levels are associated with a higher likelihood of women being entrapped in the subsistence agricultural sector compared to men. This is most pronounced in regions with relatively low female migration to cities, which often occurs due to their marriage owing to the patrilocal tradition in India. We argue that marriage and an eventual migration out of rural to urban areas serve as an escape from the subsistence agricultural sector to women. By distorting female migration, climate change could significantly intensify the engagement of women in the agricultural sector and aggravate gender inequalities in rural regions.

Amirhossein Chitsazzadeh

'Green Remittances: Alleviating Energy Poverty in Developing Countries Through Utilization of Diaspora Finances in Renewable Energy Projects'

Unlike the rapid advancements in accessing electricity over the past two decades, a significant number of people worldwide still suffer from energy poverty. Most of these people live in remote and sparsely populated areas. The commonly accepted solution to this problem is off-grid electrification based on the potential of renewable energy, which can help achieve Sustainable Development Goal 7, aiming for affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all by 2030.

The main obstacle to achieving sustainable development is the insufficient and non-inclusive distribution of financial resources. This scarcity also affects off-grid electrification based on renewable energy. In this context, diaspora finances, particularly remittances, could provide an opportunity for developing countries to overcome this impasse. Remittances are the most stable and ever-increasing financial flow from developed to developing countries. Furthermore, remittances is a decentralized, integral, and informal financial system that can reach all corners of the world.

In this research, I will discuss the concept of "Green Remittances" and attempt to answer the following question: "To what extent are 'Green Remittances' a viable method to finance renewable energy projects in developing countries?" To test the viability of this idea, I will use multiple case studies to compare previous or ongoing projects that connect diaspora finances with renewable energy in Haiti,

Bolivia, and the African continent through solar companies.

This initiative has two sides: the push side in the destination country (remitters) and the pull side in the origin country (recipients). Implementers need to pay attention to several important factors to make these projects successful. Building trust with diaspora communities regarding the efficiency and productivity of this method on the push side, and establishing a robust distribution network, alongside raising awareness campaigns and providing maintenance and after-sales services on the pull side, can facilitate achieving the goals.

Finally, I find that diaspora finances can play a serious role in generating electricity from clean energy resources at various levels of finance. However, it is not feasible for them to be the main financial resource for these projects; they are more effective when used in a blended finance method. This condition makes partnerships with local stakeholders as an inevitable element of these projects, forming an interactive business model.

PANEL SESSION 3: Migration and education

Marrit Westerweel

'Opportunities and challenges in educational systems for minor asylum seekers and minor status holders in Belgium and the Netherlands'

Minor asylum seekers and status holders that first arrive in Belgium and the Netherlands and do not yet speak one of the national languages are offered language education; Dutch in the Netherlands and Flanders (BE) or French in Wallonia (BE). These language classes can be provided either in a separate language school, a language class in a regular school, in a regular class in a regular school with additional support or in a regular school that offers a mix of a language class and extra support. Generally, after one or two years of language education, the newcomers transit to regular education.

This paper looks at the opportunities and challenges within language education for minor asylum seekers and minor status holders in Belgium and the Netherlands. It is based on extensive empirical data (numerous questionnaires and interviews with school directors, teachers, municipality employees and asylum centre employees in the two countries) and tries to ascertain whether the situation corresponds with the right to education as established in law. It looks at language education from the perspective of the schools, municipalities (in the Netherlands), educational networks (Belgium) and asylum centres. In addition, it provides the opinion of the children's ombudsmen in both countries concerning the issues that were raised by various stakeholders during the research.

The paper aims to provide a general overview of the differences and overlaps of the opportunities and challenges in the two countries. It looks at issues (both positive and negative) that were raised including waiting lists, educational background of pupils, homework support, availability study places in asylum centres, cooperation in the region.

This is followed by an analysis whether the right to education (as based on national and European law) of minor asylum seekers and status holders has been affected because of the mentioned challenges and whether the mentioned opportunities go beyond what the law prescribes.

The goal of this paper is to critically discuss the impact of the language classes on the educational progress of minor asylum and status holders in Belgium and the Netherlands and to see whether the right to education as guaranteed in the law on paper is upheld in practice.

Tijana Breuer, Bohdana Kurylo, Cecile Magnée & Stan Vermeulen

'Do migrant students affect performance of natives?'

This paper examines how students with a migration background affect the performance of Dutch native students in primary and secondary schools using administrative data on all Dutch students leaving primary and secondary education between 2010 and 2018 from the Dutch National Cohort on Education. We exploit within-school, across-cohort, and within-student variation in the share of migrant students to identify the effects of migrant peers on the performance of native students in primary and secondary schools, respectively. While the effects of migrant peers on the performance of native students are, on average, small negative or insignificant, we further explore how different groups of migrant peers influence student performance. We differentiate migrant peers by country of origin, generation, migration status (migrant versus refugees), and duration of stay. We find that the exposure to a larger share of the 1st generation non-Western migrant peers in urban schools decrease the performance of natives in reading, although math scores remain unaffected. Heterogeneity

analysis shows that the effect is more considerable for girls and students of low-educated parents; there is no difference between students from top and bottom income quantile. These findings underscore the importance of tailoring educational policies to address the specific needs of student groups that might have adverse effects on the academic outcomes of native peers.

Jasmin Lilian Diab

'Bordering Belonging: A Qualitative Exploration of Educational Integration for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon across Perceived Value and Impact'

The protracted Syrian conflict has spurred a significant displacement crisis, notably in Lebanon where a sizable population of Syrian refugee children seeks education. Their educational journey presents a complex dichotomy: the formal structure of afternoon shifts versus informal integration into unrecognized schools. With the conflict spanning over a decade, this study investigates the contrasting educational paradigms for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. It aims to assess the efficacy and importance of formal versus informal education, especially regarding equitable opportunities and enduring consequences like continuity, retention, and future prospects. Employing qualitative methods, the research delves into students' and parents' perspectives, analyzing perceived effectiveness through interviews and focus groups. The study also scrutinizes the disparity between governance policies and the realities of mobility and migration faced by these families. It delves into policy formulation in crisis settings and explores educational frameworks within conflict zones, centered on understanding the perceived value and impact of different educational models.

Stanislav Avdeev

'University as a Melting Pot: Long-term Effects of International Peers'

This paper provides the first evidence on the impact of exposure to international students on the labor and social outcomes of native students. I use Dutch administrative and survey data on one million students and employ an across-cohort design. My identification strategy relies on idiosyncratic variation in the share of international students within university programs over time. The findings are twofold. First, exposure to international students has precisely estimated zero labor market effects up to 25 years after university entry. Second, native students exposed to international peers are more likely to form social ties with non-natives and hold more positive attitudes towards migration. These findings suggest that international student migration does not adversely affect the economic outcomes of native students while enhancing social cohesion.

Conference Organising Committee – 2024

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