

MIGRANT BELONGINGS

DIGITAL PRACTICES AND THE EVERYDAY

ONLINE CONFERENCE

21-22-23 APRIL 2021

UTRECHT UNIVERSITY

THE NETHERLANDS

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

PAUL GILROY

ENGİN İSİN

NICHOLAS DE GENOVA

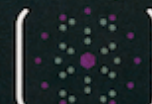
LARISSA HJORTH

SASKIA WITTEBORN

CONVENERS

SANDRA PONZANESI

KOEN LEURS



CONNECTING
EUROPE

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<< NB: All events scheduled in local Amsterdam, the Netherlands time
(= Central European Summer Time, CEST) >>

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I. Conference team

Conference chairs: Sandra Ponzanesi (Utrecht University) & Koen Leurs (Utrecht University, Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies)

Conference assistants: Julia de Lange (Utrecht University) & Frederik Kohler (University of Hamburg)

ECREA Diaspora, Migration and the Media board: Koen Leurs (Utrecht University), Kevin Smets (Vrije Universiteit Brussels) & Irati Agirreazkuenaga (University of the Basque Country)

Organisation PhD Workshop: Melis Mevsimler (Utrecht University) & Philipp Seufferling (Södertörn University)

Facilitators PhD Workshop: Saskia Witteborn (Chinese University of Hong Kong) & Nishant Shah (ArtEz University of the Arts,)

Conference blogger: Guanqin He (Utrecht University)

Conference social media content manager: Maksymilian Tomasz Monko (Vrije Universiteit Brussels)

Visual storytelling: Renée van den Kerkhof, <https://www.neetje.nl>

Submission reviewer team: Amanda Alencar, Irati Agirreazkuenaga, Laura Candidatu, Joep Hofhuis, Stijn Joye, Sara Marino, Melis Mevsimler, Claudia Minchilli, Silvia Niebla, David Ongenaert, Kevin Smets, Mélodine Sommier (thank you very much!)

Institutional affiliations:

The conference is part of the [ERC project CONNECTINGEUROPE](#), Digital Crossings in Europe: Gender, Diaspora and Belonging, led by prof. Sandra Ponzanesi.

The conference is organized in collaboration with the [DMM section \(Diaspora, Migration and the Media\)](#) of ECREA (European Communication Research and Education).

Utrecht University, the [Department of Media and Culture](#)

Utrecht University, the [Graduate Gender Programme](#)

Utrecht University, the [IOS Gender and Diversity Hub](#)

Utrecht University focus area [Migration and Societal Change](#)

Utrecht University focus area [Governing the Digital Society](#)

Utrecht University wide [Special Interest Group, Digital Migration](#)

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II. Conference at a glance

21 APRIL	22 APRIL	23 APRIL
morning	morning	morning
	Informal gathering in gather.town	Informal gathering in gather.town
	Panel sessions round 1 8.30-10.00	Panel sessions round 5 8.30-10.00
	KEYNOTE 2 - Larissa Hjorth 10.15-11.15	KEYNOTE 4 - Saskia Witteborn 10.15-11.15
	Panel sessions round 2 11.30-13.00	Panel sessions round 6 11.30-13.00
PhD seminar 10.00-12.00 organized by Melis Mevsimler & Philipp Seufferling facilitated by Saskia Witteborn & Nishant Shah	Lunch break Informal meeting in gather.town	Lunch break Informal meeting in gather.town
afternoon	afternoon	afternoon
16.00 opening KEYNOTE 1 Paul Gilroy 16.15-17.15	Panel sessions round 3 14.00-15.30	Panel sessions round 7 14.00-15.30
	KEYNOTE 3 - Engin Isin 15.30-16.30	Panel sessions round 8 15.30-17.00
Roundtable: On doing digital media and migration research 17.30-18.30 With Sandra Ponzanesi, Koen Leurs, Myria Georgiou, Amanda Paz Alencar, Nishant Shah, and Philipp Seufferling	Panel sessions round 4 16.45-18.15	KEYNOTE 5 – Nicholas de Genova 17.00-18.00
		Paper awards + closing 18.00-18.30 Irati Agirreazkuenaga, Kevin Smets, Silvia Almenara Niebla, Koen Leurs & Sandra Ponzanesi
evening	evening	evening
Screening of <i>Bab Sebta</i> and Q&A with filmmaker Randa Maroufi Presentation of REEL BORDERS' project 19.30- 20.30	Special roundtable session: Digital practices, materialities and migrant belongings 19.30-20.30	Informal meeting in gather.town

III. Keynotes

Paul Gilroy (University College London)

"Do The Wogs Still Begin at Calais?"

Wednesday 21 April at 16:15 CEST

Chaired by Sandra Ponzanesi (Utrecht University)

(Conference opening at 16.00 CEST)

Larissa Hjorth (RMIT University)

"Digital Kinship - Understanding familial care at a distance"

Thursday 22 April at 10:15 CEST

Chaired by Amanda Paz Alencar (Erasmus University Rotterdam)

Engin Isin (Queen Mary University of London)

"Digital Citizens Yet to Come"

Thursday 22 April at 15:30 CEST

Chaired by Myria Georgiou (London School of Economics and Political Science)

Saskia Witteborn (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

***"Transgressive Speech - Digital Surveillance and the Limits of
Diasporic Communication"***

Friday 23 April at 10:15 CEST

Chaired by Koen Leurs (Utrecht University)

Nicholas de Genova (University of Houston)

"Migration and the Antinomies of Mobility"

Friday 23 April at 17:00 CEST

Chaired by Domitilla Olivieri (Utrecht University)

Artist Renée van den Kerkhof will make visual records which will be shown
and discussed to end each keynote session <https://www.neetje.nl>

<< NB: All sessions are scheduled in local Amsterdam, the Netherlands time
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IV. Roundtables

On doing digital media and migration research

(Opening roundtable, Wednesday 21 April, 17.30 CEST)

Koen Leurs (Utrecht University, Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies, NL)

Kevin Smets (Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium)

Myria Georgiou (London School of Economics and Political Science, UK)

Amanda Paz Alencar (Erasmus University Rotterdam, NL)

Nishant Shah (ArtEz University of the Arts, NL)

Philipp Seufferling (Södertörn University, Sweden)

Chaired by Sandra Ponzanesi (Utrecht University, NL)

Closing & paper-award session

(Opening roundtable, Wednesday 21 April, 17.30 CEST)

Kevin Smets (Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium)

Silvia Almenara Niebla (Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium)

Irati Agirreazkuenaga (University of the Basque Country)

Sandra Ponzanesi (Utrecht University, NL)

Chaired by Koen Leurs (Utrecht University, Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies, NL)

The two paper awards (PhD-student category) and (PhD-holder category) are supported by Intellect and Sage publishing.



V. Special evening sessions

Wednesday 19.30-21.00 CEST

Screening of *Bab Sebta* France, Morocco / Colour / 2019 / 19'

and Q&As with filmmaker Randa Maroufi

<https://fidmarseille.org/en/film/bab-sebta/>

Session chaired by Irene Gutierrez, PhD Researcher & Filmmaker REEL Borders.



Bab Sebta (FIDLab 2018) is the Arabic name of Ceuta, a Spanish enclave in Morocco, opposite Spain. Literally, it means “the door of Ceuta”. When you go through that door, you enter Europe. Director Randa Maroufi focuses on the parallel economy and the power struggles that occur in this geographic oddity. The action? Small cross-border exchanges of all kinds, more or less legal. The setting? A frontier represented by a flat, ostensibly theatrical surface, with lines on the floor to mark out various functions and areas, whose grey tones are evocative of the blank surface of a schoolboard waiting to be written on. And as a medium, Maroufi chooses a slow ballet and its rituals, shown from a double viewpoint: on the ground, on a human scale; and from above, like the gaze of a cartographer, structuring spaces, indicating administrative and practical distributions, like a surveillance helicopter. The camera goes from one viewpoint to another. The shots linger on never-ending lines of people who are busy fixing colourful bulging bundles, hiding food, or going through

checkpoints. It is an endless stream of biscuits, electrical appliances, folded, rolled or piled up clothes, among all sorts of goods. We follow each and every movement of all these different events happening in the very same spot, like in a teeming fresco. This rigorous choreography of bodies, of individual and collective gestures, is enriched off screen by the diffracted tales of smugglers or customs officers, and by police announcements about trafficking, stunts and tricks, and all their unspoken tragedies. This reenactment, involving real smugglers, becomes an epic of sorts, which thwarts the foam and allows us to see an inhabited geopolitical cartography. (N.F.)

Presentation of the ‘REEL BORDERS’ ERC Starting Grant project by Kevin Smets, Vrije Universiteit Brussels with Irene Gutierrez, PhD Researcher & Filmmaker

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Thursday 19.30-21.00 CEST

Special roundtable session: Digital practices, materialities and migrant belongings

Organiser: Maggi Leung (Associate Professor, Human Geography and Spatial Planning, Utrecht University, the Netherlands)

Speakers: Issa Shaker (Shaker Productions), Shay Raviv and Pim van der Mijl (De Voorkamer, Utrecht)

Moderator: Rick Dolphijn (Associate Professor, Media and Culture Studies, Utrecht University, the Netherlands)

What does “belonging” mean for migrants and for people who are considered migrants in society? How can a sense of belonging be constructed or challenged by others? What is the role of objects, how are they cared for, and why do they matter, in times of the Covid-19 pandemic, when processes of digitalization seem to have an unprecedented impact on all practices of belonging?



DE VOORKAMER

At this roundtable, independent filmmaker Issa Shaker (<https://www.shakerproductions.nl/our-services>), who has a passion for breathing life into untold stories, will show a few of his creations that deal with different aspects of “belongings”. Shay Raviv, Pim van der Mijl and community members from De Voorkamer (<https://devoorkamer.org/en/about/>), a self-built meeting space by and for newcomers and locals in Utrecht, will showcase some of their activities in supporting members in building a new ‘home’, network and sense of belonging. The session will be moderated by Rick Dolphijn (Utrecht University) who is PI in the HERA funded research Food2Gather, in which the relations between food, migration and belonging are being studied.

We look forward to an interactive and inspiring session with the audience. Join us and bring your stories!

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VI. Overview themes parallel sessions

THURSDAY 22 APRIL – MORNING SESSIONS

THURSDAY 22 APRIL	SESSION 1.1 (PRECONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 1.2	SESSION 1.3	SESSION 1.4	SESSION 1.5
Slot 1: 8.30- 10.00 CEST	<i>Patterns and practices of transnational involvement in homeland politics among the Ukrainian Diaspora</i>	<i>Affect</i>	<i>Doing Family & Homemaking</i>	<i>Political Economy</i>	<i>Cosmopolitanism & Representation</i>
	Chair: Tetyana Lokot	Chair: Elisabetta Costa	Chair: Silvia Almenara Niebla	Chair: Helena Dedecek Gertz	Chair: Myria Georgiou
	1. Olga Boichak 2. Sofiya Voytiv 3. Roman Horbyk	1. Jeroen Boom 2. Elisabetta Costa 3. Nermin Elsherif 4. Claudia Lintner 5. Özlem Savaş 6. Nishant Shah	1. Catriona Stevens, Loretta Baldassar & Raelene Wilding 2. Tanja Ahlin 3. Rita Budiman 4. Alejandra Castellanos Breton, Lisa Marie Perez Sosa & Jose Guillermo Ricalde Perez 5. Jisu Kim 6. Haiyue (Fiona) Shan	1. Helena Dedecek Gertz 2. Quang Evansluong & Lena Grip 3. Shilpi Gupta 4. Daniela Jaramillo- Dent, Amanda Alencar and Yan Asadchy 5. Mufsin Puthan Purayil	1. Fungai Machirori 2. Viviane Riegel 3. Estrella Sendra 4. Shiella Balbutin 5. Myria Georgiou 6. Franka Zlatic

THURSDAY 22 April, 10:15 CEST KEYNOTE Larissa Hjorth (RMIT University) "*Digital Kinship - Understanding familial care at a distance*"

THURSDAY 22 APRIL	SESSION 2.1 (PRECONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 2.2 (PRECONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 2.3	SESSION 2.4	SESSION 2.5
Slot 2: 11.30 - 13.00 CEST	<i>Somali Diaspora and Digital Practices of Belonging</i>	<i>How has digital technology impacted & shaped migration intermediaries</i>	<i>Queer migrants and digital Practices</i>	<i>Resistance</i>	<i>Data</i>
	Chair: Sandra Ponzanesi	Chair: Zsófia Hacsek	Chair: Lukasz Szulc	Chair: Dağhan Irak	Chair: Gerwin van Schie
	1. Idil Osman 2. Sandra Ponzanesi & Donya Alinejad 3. Melis Mevimler 4. Claudia Minchilli 5. Laura Candidatu 6. Ilse van Liempt	1. Maria Rosa Lorini 2. Mohammad Rashed Alam Bhuiyan 3. Francisca Sassetti 4. Sophie Zinser	1. Hongwei Bao 2. Yener Bayramoğlu 3. B Camminga 4. Ela Przybylo 5. Christopher Pullen 6. Priya Sharma	1. Sara Creta 2. Ehab Galal 3. Dağhan Irak 4. Gina Netto 5. Anindita Shome 6. Arianna Grasso	1. Hong Zeng 2. Mirjam Twigt 3. Ivan Josipovic 4. Veronika Zablotsky 5. Ilke Sanlier Yuksel 6. Katie Blair

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THURSDAY 22 APRIL – AFTERNOON SESSIONS

THURSDAY 22 APRIL	SESSION 3.1 (PRECONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 3.2 (PRECONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 3.3	SESSION 3.4	SESSION 3.5
Slot 3: 14.00 - 15.30 CEST	<i>Digital entrepreneurship</i>	<i>Mobile Belongings: Digital Everyday Life and the Question(s) of Citizenship</i>	<i>Youth</i>	<i>Screening and Staging Strangers</i>	<i>Religion and Transition</i>
	Chair: Griet Steel & Katrien Pype	Chair: Cathrine Bublatzky & Shireen Walton	Chair: Çigdem Bozdog	Chair: Irene Gutierrez	Chair: Eva Midden
	1. Qiuping Pan 2. Mira Demirdirek & Catherina Wilson 3. B. Lynne Milgram	1. Cathrine Bublatzky 2. Monika Palmberger 3. Shireen Walton	1. Paul Agoe 2. Katty Alhayek 3. Sarah Anschütz 4. Çigdem Bozdog 5. Peter Chonka 6. Charlotte Hill	1. Vincenzo Cavallo 2. Nadica Denić 3. Kate Erskine 4. Maria Festa 5. Hiroko Hara 6. Elena Kaliberda	1. Abimbola Adelakun 2. Abdul Aziz 3. Carolina Sánchez-Palencia 4. Ingrid Boas

THURSDAY 22 April, 15:30 CEST KEYNOTE Engin Isin (Queen Mary University of London) "*Digital Citizens Yet to Come*"

THURSDAY 22 APRIL	SESSION 4.1 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 4.2 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 4.3	SESSION 4.4	SESSION 4.5
Slot 4: 16.45 - 18.15 CEST	<i>Southern approaches to digital responses and imaginaries in (forced) migration</i>	<i>Platformization of migration</i>	<i>Belonging/Affect</i>	<i>Humanitarianism</i>	<i>Syria</i>
	Chair: Amanda Alencar	Chair: Rutvica Andrijasevic	Chair: Ilse van Liempt	Chair: David Ongenaert	Chair: Araa Al Jaramani
	1. Julia Stier 2. Raffaella Pagogna 3. Hannah Pool 4. Margie Cheesman	1. Marc Steinberg 2. Melissa Gregg 3. Rutvica Andrijasevic 4. Julie Yujie Chen	1. Anastasia Christou 2. Afroditi-Maria Koulaxi 3. Mieke Kox & Ilse van Liempt 4. Mariangela Veikou 5. Matt Voigts 6. Jessica Retis & Patria Roman-Velazquez	1. Melora Koepke 2. Wegahtabrhan Kiros Sereke, Jolanta Drzewiecka & Rana Khaled Arafat 3. Viktor Sinitsyn 4. Martina Tazzioli 5. Emily Edwards, Sarah Ford, Radhika Gajjala, Abiona Oladoyin & Olayombo Raji-Oyelad 6. Olivia Williams	1. Rana Arafat 2. Sara Marino 3. Anisa Abeytia 4. Duha Ceylan 5. Eda Elif Tibet 6. Carmelina Concilio

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FRIDAY 23 APRIL – MORNING SESSIONS

FRIDAY 23 APRIL	SESSION 5.1 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 5.2 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 5.3	SESSION 5.4
Slot 5: 8.30- 10.00 CEST	<i>Archives and Autographics</i> Chair: Daniella Trimboli	<i>The Internet as Migrant Milieu</i> Chair: Anita Lucchesi	<i>Covid-19</i> Chair: Viviana Premazzi	<i>Politics of Care</i> Chair: Mélodine Sommier
	1. Michel O'Brien 2. Daniella Trimboli 3. Safdar Ahmed 4. Leah Jing McIntosh	1. Dang Nguyen (Nguyễn Hồng Hải Đặng) 2. Anh Nguyen Austen 3. Mary Tomsic	1. Consuelo González Pavicich 2. Anzhela Popyk 3. Viviana Premazzi 4. Anna Smoliarova 5. Anca-Diana Bibiri & Mihaela Mocanu	1. Kaarina Nikunen & Sanna Valtonen 2. Barbara Orth 3. Carmen Pereyra 4. Hien Nguyen, Loretta Baldassar, Raelene Wilding & Lukasz Krzyzowski
FRIDAY 23 April, 10:15 CEST KEYNOTE Saskia Witteborn (Chinese University of Hong Kong) "Transgressive Speech - Digital Surveillance and the Limits of Diasporic Communication"				
FRIDAY 23 APRIL	SESSION 6.1 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 6.2 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL)	SESSION 6.3	SESSION 6.4
Slot 6: 11.30 - 13.00 CEST	<i>Food, Belonging and Digital Public Spaces</i> Chair: Rick Dolphijn	<i>Digital Corridors for Transnational Belonging</i> Chair: Pierluigi Musrò	<i>Digital Diaspora and Placemaking</i> Chair: Laura Candidatu	<i>Visuality & Social Media</i> Chair: Mine Gencel Bek
	1. Rick Dolphijn 2. Ida Tolgensbakk 3. Giovanna Palutan & Donatella Schmidt 4. Helene Fiane Teigen & Virginie Amilien	1. Paola Parmiggiani, Melissa Moralli & Elena Giacomelli 2. Valentina Cappi, Alagie Jinkang & Pierluigi Musrò 3. Irene Gutierrez 4. Sergei Shubin	1. Cæcilie Svop Jensen 2. Aisling Keavey 3. Lilia Sablina 4. Audris Umel 5. Jenny-Louise Van der Aa 6. Xinyu Promio Wang	1. Moé Suzuki 2. Karen Waltorp & Sama Sadat Ben Haddou 3. Joanna Kedra 4. Mine Gencel Bek

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FRIDAY 23 APRIL – AFTERNOON SESSIONS

FRIDAY 23 APRIL Slot 7: 14.00- 15.30 CEST	SESSION 7.1 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL) <i>Migrant Digital Food Practices</i> Chair: Ajay Bailey & Natasha Webster	SESSION 7.2 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL) <i>Digital Everyday Forms of Mobilisation and Solidarity Led by Migrants and Refugees in times of Covid-19</i> Chair: Giorgia Donà	SESSION 7.3 <i>Platforms / Infrastructure</i> Chair: Koen Leurs	SESSION 7.4 <i>Mediated Diasporas</i> Chair: Kevin Smets
	1. Ajay Bailey 2. Qian Zhang & Natasha Webster 3. Ann Cathrin Corrales-Øverlid	1. Marcia Vera Espinoza 2. Latefa Narriman Guemar, Jessica Northey & Elias Boukrami 3. Evan Easton- Calabria 4. Herve Nicolle & Jared Owuor 5. Giorgia Donà & Marie Godin	1. Maksim Ni 2. Luce Beeckmans and Bruno Meeus 3. Zeynep Genel 4. Daniel Leix Palumbo 5. Philipp Seufferling & Koen Leurs 6. Nicole Stremlau & Anna Tsalapatanis	1. Olawale Akinrinde 2. Diana Jarnea 3. Jennifer Leetsch 4. Dalila Missero 5. Wisnique Panier
FRIDAY 23 APRIL Slot 8: 15.30 - 17.00 CEST	SESSION 8.1 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL) <i>Migrants' Digital Connections from the Sending Countries' Perspective</i> Chair: Oksana Morgunova	SESSION 8.2 (PRE-CONSTITUTED PANEL) <i>Diasporic Queers from Eastern Europe and Eurasia</i> Chair: Adi Kuntsman	SESSION 8.3 <i>Borders, Securities & Insecurities</i> Chair: Fran Meissner	SESSION 8.4 <i>Mobility</i> Chair: Vasiliki Makrygianni
	1. Anna Khotivishvili 2. Nicoleta-Florina Moraru 3. Olga Chuprina 4. Helena Lassen 5. John Santos	1. Lukasz Szulc 2. Maryna Shevtsova 3. Tatiana Klepikova 4. Alexandra Novitskaya	1. Maria Avraamidou 2. Claudia Böhme 3. Adria Guardiola Rius 4. Sanja Milivojevic 5. Boris Ružić	1. Sazana Jayadeva 2. Vasiliki Makrygianni 3. Luiz Guilherme Natalio de Mello & Francisca Sassetti 4. Antonella Patteri 5. Simone Pfeifer 6. Cansu Nur Simsek

FRIDAY 23 April, 17:00 CEST KEYNOTE Nicholas de Genova (University of Houston)
"Migration and the Antinomies of Mobility"

VII. Details individual parallel sessions

THURSDAY 22 APRIL – 8.30-10.00 CEST

SESSION 1.1

Patterns and practices of transnational involvement in homeland politics among the Ukrainian Diaspora (pre-constituted panel)

Shifting repertoires of collective action, away from those mediated by traditional institutions, toward direct and highly personalised forms of engagement, merit a critical inquiry into mobilisation processes among diasporic actors. Digitally mediated shifts in the relationships between information, compassion, and capacity for action have moved diasporas from the margins of the global geopolitical landscape toward its centre. According to the Ukrainian World Congress estimates, there are over 20 million persons who identify as Ukrainians either by means of citizenship, nationality, or ethnic origin, while residing outside of the country, which makes the Ukrainian diaspora one of the largest in the world. The Ukrainian communities abroad have historically been vocal supporters of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity since the country's independence in 1991; this involvement in homeland politics has exponentially intensified in the events leading up to the Russian-Ukrainian war, ranging from framing and discursively representing the conflict, to circulating petitions, raising funds, participating in protests, or liaising with governments and international organisations in the countries of residence. Yet, scholarly evidence on the issues, factors, and contexts of such mobilisation is only now starting to emerge, making this panel one of the first to offer a systematic inquiry into Ukrainian diasporic activism. Focussing on the patterns and practices of diasporic engagement in homeland politics, we ask: what are the stakes of such engagement, and what role do digital media play in mobilising new and existing diasporic communities?

Chair: Tetyana Lokot, Dublin City University, Ireland

1. Olga Boichak University of Sydney, Australia	<i>Diasporising humanitarianism: social media and the changing nature of diasporic involvement in homeland wars</i>
2. Sofiya Voytiv, Sofiya Voytiv, Tampere University, Finland	<i>Politicization of diasporic organizational network during the armed conflict in the "homeland"</i>
3. Roman Horbyk Södertörn University, Sweden	<i>Saving sergeant Markiv: Information war and mediated self-mobilization of Ukrainian diasporas</i>

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THURSDAY 22 APRIL – 8.30-10.00 CEST

SESSION 1.2

Affect

Chair: Elisabetta Costa, University of Groningen, the Netherlands

1. Jeroen Boom Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands	<i>Floating Encounters in Purple Sea (2020)</i>
2. Elisabetta Costa University of Groningen, the Netherlands	<i>Digital nostalgia: places and temporalities of immobility during the Covid-19 pandemic</i>
3. Nermin Elsherif University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands	<i>The Guardians of "the good old days": Nostalgia and belonging to the ideal nation in post-revolutionary Egyptian Facebook</i>
4. Claudia Lintner Free University of Bolzano, Italy	<i>Being (co-)present: The role of connectivity in the context of refugees</i>
5. Özlem Savaş Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany	<i>Affective digital culture of new migration from Turkey</i>
6. Nishant Shah ArtEZ University of the Arts, Arnhem, The Netherlands	<i>Rule 34: Of porn, dating, and affective belonging</i>

SESSION 1.3

Doing Family & Homemaking

Chair: Silvia Almenara Niebla, Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium

1. Catriona Stevens, Loretta Baldassar & Raelene Wilding University of Western Australia	Digital anticipation: facilitating the pre-emptive futures of PRC Chinese grandparenting migrants to Australia
2. Tanja Ahlin University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands	Frequent callers: Family care through everyday information and communication technologies (ICTs) in Indian transnational families
3. Rita Budiman RMIT University, Australia	Make My House a Home: How Indonesian female expatriate vloggers mitigate cultural displacement through vlogging
4. Alejandra Castellanos Breton, Lisa Marie Perez Sosa & Guillermo Ricald European Master in Migration and Intercultural Relations (EMMIR)	A Homing Journey: Notions of Home during the COVID-19 pandemic
5. Jisu Kim SCUOLA NORMALE SUPERIORE, Italy	Tell us what you think: home and destination attachment for migrants on Twitter
6. Haiyue (Fiona) Shan Vrije University Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Mothering in the digital diaspora: Middling transnationalism among Chinese migrant mothers in the Netherlands

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THURSDAY 22 APRIL – 8.30-10.00 CEST

SESSION 1.4

Political Economy

Chair: Helena Dedecek Gertz, Hamburg University, Germany

1. Helena Dedecek Gertz Hamburg University, Germany	Migrants and content creators: transnationalising educational aspirations on social networking sites
2. Quang Evansluong , Umeå University & University of Gothenburg, Sweden Lena Grip , Karlstad University, Sweden	From Disadvantage to Advantage: Digital performance of ethnicity in migrant entrepreneurship
3. Shilpi Gupta University of Granada, Spain	Digital matrimonial sites: a disruption or continuity of gender and caste in the marriage system of Indian diaspora?
4. Daniela Jaramillo-Dent , University of Huelva, Spain Amanda Alencar , Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands Yan Asadchy , Tallinn University, Estonia	#Migrantes on TikTok: Creative Practices and Platformed Belongings
5. Mufsin Puthan Purayil IIM Calcutta, India	A Tale of Mediated Ties: Digital Job Search and Social Capital among the Mappila Emigrants of Southern India

SESSION 1.5

Cosmopolitanism & Representation

Chair: Myria Georgiou, London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom

1. Fungai Machirori University of Technology Sydney, Australia	Exploring consecration and cultural capital within the African digital cosmopolitan field
2. Viviane Riegel ESPM, São Paulo, Brazil	Identity Negotiation and Cosmopolitanism in Social Media: The Case of London and Sao Paulo migrant communities
3. Estrella Sendra SOAS, University of London, United Kingdom	Facebook as a Virtual Festival Space for Rooted Cosmopolitans: A Case Study of the Festival International de Folklore et de Percussion in Louga (Senegal)
4. Shiella Balbutin Xavier University-Ateneo de Cagayan, The Philippines	Every drawing has a story: Filipino youth migrants in Rome and their social representations of migration
5. Myria Georgiou London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom	How does the subaltern speak? Migrant voice and the necessity of critique and praxis
6. Franka Zlatic University of Nottingham, United Kingdom	Counter-mapping: Complementing migration narratives

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THURSDAY 22 APRIL – 11.30-13.00 CEST

SESSION 2.1

Somali Diaspora and Digital Practices of Belonging (Pre-constituted panel)

This panel proposes to rethink recent advancements of communication technologies through the paradigmatic case of the Somali diaspora, exploring the ways in which the Somali, specifically Somali women, keep in touch locally, nationally and transnationally through different forms of everyday digital practices. In particular for Somali migrant women, the use of digital media is highly embedded in their gendered roles as mothers, daughters, reunited wives, students and professionals, who keep the ties with the homeland and diaspora communities in diversified as well as collective ways. The different contributions to this panel explore how digital co-presence, enabled by new social media platforms and apps, allows people to establish multi-sited forms of belonging that cut across national, ethnic and 'clan' boundaries and reshape the sense of diasporic belonging and nostalgia for the troubled homeland. Digital connectivity allows them not only to bridge distance through digital intimacy but also to renegotiate the memories and imaginaries of a national space that has undergone enormous conflicts and strife. The close analysis of empirical findings across different sites in Europe shows multi-sitedness, generation and urban belonging as central features.

These issues emerge as findings from a large ethnographic fieldwork carried out across European cities (Amsterdam, London and Rome). Ethnography offers an essential contribution in understanding social media practices as situated in specific social, geographical and political contexts, taking into account the intersectional dynamic of factors including gender, race, ethnicity, generation, religion and sexual orientation.

Chair: Sandra Ponzanesi, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

1. Idil Osman University of Leicester, United Kingdom	Illuminating gendered and postcolonial contexts within Somali diaspora digital practice
2. Sandra Ponzanesi & Donya Alinejad Utrecht University, The Netherlands	The multi-sitedness of Somali diasporic belonging: comparative notes on Somali migrant women's digital practices
3. Melis Mevimler Utrecht University, The Netherlands	Second-generation British-Somali Women: The Translocal Nexus of London and Global Diaspora
4. Claudia Minchilli Utrecht University, The Netherlands	Localizing diasporic digital media practices: social stratification and community making among Somali women living in Rome.
5. Laura Candidatu Utrecht University, The Netherlands	Diasporic mothering and Somali diaspora formation in the Netherlands
6. Ilse van Liempt Utrecht University, The Netherlands	Respondent

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SESSION 2.2

How has digital technology impacted & shaped migration intermediaries (pre-constituted panel)

This panel will discuss the topic of migration intermediaries from different perspectives, yet linking back to everyday uses of technology among labour migrants. A critical approach to digital technology will be the red ribbon of the interventions. In particular, the presentations will address the use of digital solutions and their potential to support and, in some cases replace, the role of migration intermediaries. The speakers will showcase studies from different continents in the context of labour migration on the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs): from the usage of social media by migrants as a substitute to more traditional intermediaries to understanding whether ICTs are effectively becoming commonplace as new migration intermediaries. Questions like this one and others connected to the potentiality as well as criticalities and challenges of the use of ICTs in the migration context will drive the debate.

The panellists – all migrants themselves – will engage the audience in interactive ways during the one hour long session. As a session outline, the moderator will open the session and introduce the speakers. Each panellist will present for 5 minutes drawing on their work and personal experience on the topic, ending each presentation with a short poll (such as number of attendees that are migrants, and experiences with digital-intermediaries).

Chair: Zsófia Hacsek, Coventry University, United Kingdom

1. Maria Rosa Lorini Royal Holloway University of London, United Kingdom, & University of Cape Town, South Africa	Talk 1
2. Mohammad Rashed Alam Bhuiyan Coventry University, United Kingdom	Talk 2
3. Sophie Zinser United Nations University Institute in Macau, People's Republic of China	Talk 3
4. Francisca Sassetti Royal Holloway University of London, United Kingdom, UNESCO Chair in ICT4D, and MIDEQ	Talk 4

SESSION 2.3

Queer migrants and digital Practices

Chair: Lukasz Szulc, Sheffield University, United Kingdom

1. Hongwei Bao The University of Nottingham, United Kingdom	Sharing Food and Intimacy Online: Being Queer and Chinese in Europe During the COVID-19 Pandemic
2. Yener Bayramoğlu ASH Berlin, Germany	Queer Migrant (Un-)Belongings in Pandemic Times: Digital entanglement and worldmaking
3. B Camminga Wits University, South Africa	'GoFundMe': LGBTI asylum seekers in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya
4. Ela Przybylo Illinois State University, USA	Queer Diasporic Intermediality
5. Christopher Pullen Bournemouth University, Poole, United Kingdom	Queer Asylum Seekers Online and the UK Lockdown: Media Literacy, Authenticity and Co-presence
6. Priya Sharma Goldsmiths College, London, United Kingdom	Safety on Social Media: the SADD space and queer and womxn British South Asian Instagrammers

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THURSDAY 22 APRIL – 11.30-13.00 CEST

SESSION 2.4

Resistance

Chair: Dağhan Irak, University of Huddersfield, United Kingdom

1. Sara Creta Dublin City University, Ireland	I hope, one day, I will have the right to speak
2. Ehab Galal University of Copenhagen, Denmark	Mediatized Egyptian opposition in diaspora: Entangled revolutionary spaces
3. Dağhan Irak University of Huddersfield, United Kingdom	New forms of mediated politicisation among diaspora members from Turkey: BOYUT alumni organisation and their use of Slack
4. Gina Netto Heriot Watt University, Scotland	Resilience, smartphone use and language and literacy among urban refugees in the global south
5. Anindita Shome University of Hyderabad, India	South Asian Diaspora Women and Virtual Spaces of Support: Countering Gender Violence in the Diaspora.
6. Arianna Grasso University of Naples "L'Orientale", Italy	New Media and Refugeehood: Practices of Decolonial Resistance in Contemporary Australia.

SESSION 2.5

Data

Chair: Gerwin van Schie, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

1. Hong Zeng City University of Hong Kong	Representing Her Trajectory: Women, Migration, and Data Visualization
2. Mirjam Twigt University of Oslo, Norway	Technologies towards Accountability? Data-driven protection contexts and communication with people seeking refugee protection in Jordan
3. Ivan Josipovic University of Vienna, Austria	Between identification and national security: the emergence and implementation of Smartphone Data Extraction (SDE) during asylum procedures in Austria and Germany
4. Veronika Zablotsky UCLA, USA	Beyond Humanity: Refugee Resistance in Moria 2.0
5. Ilke Sanlier Yuksel Cukurova University, Turkey	How digital space empower refugees and asylum seekers? Examples on accessing health services from a rights-based perspective
6. Katie Blair University of Birmingham, United Kingdom	Digital Methods in the Linguistic Landscape Analysis of the southern Italian town of Riace, Calabria

MIGRANT BELONGINGS

DIGITAL PRACTICES AND THE EVERY DAY

THURSDAY 22 APRIL – 14.00-15.30 CEST

SESSION 3.1

Digital entrepreneurship (pre-constituted panel)

The introduction of digital technologies, and social media in particular, have shaped, transformed and restructured migration processes and experiences in various ways. As long as the multifaceted linkages between migration and digital technology are concerned, most scholars focus on the role of new ICTs in the social and political lifeworlds of migrants. Less attention is paid to the ways in which the intersections between migration and digital technologies have triggered the rise of mundane practices of electronic commerce (e-commerce) in which men and women from all over the world buy and sell goods, products and services through digital mediation. An in-depth-focus on this economic dimension on migration and technology is important to disentangle the unique ways in which the growing popularity of social media has opened novel entrepreneurial opportunities for migrants as well as people who do not migrate, but maintain a strong network with different migrant communities in the diaspora. Panelists will throw an innovative light on the digital migration debates, by showing how global digital connections have made the world of trade and commerce accessible for those who do not physically move through space. Contributions will demonstrate how digital entrepreneurship, even as more conventional flows of remittances, has the potential to extend the development impact of migration beyond the livelihoods of the migrants themselves. This panel will show the complex and unexpected ways in which in the digital revolution has shaped, restructured and facilitated digital entrepreneurship by zooming in on empirical examples of small-scale entrepreneurs capitalize on migration.

Chair: Griet Steel, Utrecht University, the Netherlands & Katrien Pype, KU Leuven, Belgium

1. Qiuping Pan University of Melbourne, Australia	We Trade via WeChat: The Rise and Demise of Micro Transnational Digital Entrepreneurship Among Chinese Australians
2. Mira Demirdirek, & Catherina Wilson Leiden University, the Netherlands	Refugee <i>machinga</i> on Dar es Salaam's digital pavements. Navigating immobilization through social media commerce in urban Tanzania
3. B. Lynne Milgram OCAD University, Toronto, Canada	From Market to Market: Filipino-Canadian Entrepreneurs Refashion an Alternative Transnational Business Landscape

SESSION 3.2

Mobile Belongings: Digital Everyday Life and the Question(s) of Citizenship (pre-constituted panel)

Performing, belonging, staying connected, and attending to everyday social paradoxes and conflicts, are central features in human wellbeing, lifeworlds, and life courses. In migratory and exile contexts, these aspects may take on particular significance (Jackson 2013). To stay connected across different sites and social communities can engender nascent forms of 'digital citizenship' and 'political collective subjects' whereby people make 'rights claims through the Internet' (Isin/Rupput 2020). Concurrently, developing notions of digitally-facilitated connectedness goes hand in hand with individuals' ongoing navigation of legal, political and bureaucratic frameworks of citizenship (Anderson 2019) 'on the ground', and wider forms of inclusion and exclusion, which also pertain to digital infrastructures.

Furthermore, when various kinds of 'social distancing' and disjuncture in migratory experiences morph with global crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic, natural disasters, or political upheaval, digital entanglements and temporalities of care, communication and commemoration become further transformed. Through smartphones, digital technologies, and social media platforms, individuals and groups develop and perform solidarities and various 'mobile belongings'. In turn, these digital practices and forms of visibility may, to varying extent, mitigate feelings of 'social death' (Goffman 1961) construed as physical absence or invisibility.

This panel pays attention to various mobile belongings, and to digital everydayness as informed by ethnographic research in a range of migration contexts. All contributions approach the central question of how digital practices affect individuals in their everyday lives; to express and negotiate presence/absence, belonging, and to continue to re-work the boundaries of citizenship?

Chair: Cathrine Bublatzky, Heidelberg University, Germany & Shireen Walton, Goldsmiths, University of London, United Kingdom

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1. Cathrine Bublatzky Heidelberg University, Germany	Resisting and commemorating from a distance? Digital transformation of migratory citizenship in times of the pandemic.
2. Monika Palmberger University of Vienna, Austria & University of Leuven, Belgium	Building Belonging and Enacting (Digital) Citizenship Through Everyday Care Practices
3. Shireen Walton Goldsmiths, University of London, United Kingdom	Smartphones, migration, and belongings: digital everyday life in the city and beyond

SESSION 3.3

Youth

Chair: Çigdem Bozdag, University of Bremen, Germany & University of Groningen, the Netherlands

1. Paul Agoe Bielefeld University, Germany	Clothing, Dress, and Belonging of Children of Ghanaian Immigrants in Germany
2. Katty Alhayek University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA	Digital empowering positivity: gender, displacement, and networked counterpublics
3. Sarah Anschütz Maastricht University, The Netherlands	"Most of my friends are from WhatsApp": The role of social media and transnational online peer relationships in shaping young people's experiences during 'home' visits in Ghana
4. Çigdem Bozdag University of Bremen, Germany & University of Groningen, the Netherlands	Digital Inequalities and young people in the urban migration society. An Intersectional approach
5. Peter Chonka King's College London, United Kingdom	Mobility scams and the transnational everyday: Young men's engagement with social media 'opportunities' in Hargeisa, Somaliland
6. Charlotte Hill Goldsmiths, University of London, United Kingdom	Poetic Resistance: Karen Rap Music and YouTube

SESSION 3.4

Screening and Staging Strangers

Chair: Irene Gutierrez, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

1. Vincenzo Cavallo Oxford University and Cultural Video Production Ltd, United Kingdom	Somalis Social Media and Migration Narratives in Conflict
2. Nadica Denić University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands	Digital Auto-ethnographies of Migration: An Affective and Ethical Engagement with Midnight Traveller (2019) and Purple Sea (2020)
3. Kate Erskine Northwestern University, USA	"Palatable Foreignness": Subjectivity, Ethnicity and Race in Migrant Cinema
4. Maria Festa University of Torino, Italy	Digital Storytelling in Current Migration Narratives
5. Hiroko Hara Prefectural University of Kumamoto, Japan	Filmmaking and Performing towards the Visualization of Rhizomatic Being and Becoming in Diaspora
6. Elena Kaliberda Carleton University, Canada	European refugee radios: small platforms for deliberation

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THURSDAY 22 APRIL – 14.00-15.30 CEST

SESSION 3.5

Religion and Transition

Chair: Eva Midden, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

1. Abimbola Adelakun University of Texas at Austin, USA	“Thank God for amazon.com”: Prayer Merchandize and Black Spirituality Commodity
2. Abdul Aziz Queensland University of Technology, Australia	Being Rohingya, Being Muslims: Religious Placemaking and Belonging in Rohingya Diaspora
3. Carolina Sánchez-Palencia Universidad de Sevilla, Spain	Googling while Muslim: Digital Anxieties in Kamila Shamsie’s Home Fire (2017)
4. Ingrid Boas Wageningen University, the Netherlands	The digitalisation of pastoral herding: Navigating socio-environmental risk in the Kenyan Laikipia Highlands

THURSDAY 22 APRIL 16.45 - 18.15 CEST

SESSION 4.1

Southern approaches to digital responses and imaginaries in (forced) migration (pre-constituted panel)

Narratives of migration and displacement have long focused on mobility patterns originating from Global South to Global North countries and their consequences for the socioeconomic and cultural status quo of Western receiving nations. Although it has been documented by NGOs and activist groups in the migration field, academics tend to focus less on migration processes in Southern regions, despite that being very much the case globally. Currently dominant imaginaries around migration are also largely mediated and shaped through digital technologies. On the one hand, digital infrastructures enable the production and circulation of stories, experiences and aspirations of migrants, but on the other hand, these technologies exacerbate structures of political and economic oppression halting migrants’ agency across different spatial and temporal configurations.

This panel seeks to contribute to this conversation by highlighting the importance of decolonial and Southern approaches to the politics of knowledge production about (media and) migration and refugee-related research. Drawing on fieldwork in Senegal and Ethiopia, in the first two presentations Julia Stier and Raffaella Pagogna examine how everyday digital practices shape transnational family relations and imaginaries of migration in both countries. In a longitudinal ethnographic study of migrants’ trajectories from Afghanistan to Germany and upon arrival, Hannah Pool analyzes how migrants’ mediated communication practices shape family expectations of social and financial remittances. Finally, against the backdrop of complex socio-technical infrastructures, Margie Cheesman explores the role of faith as an important concept to meaningfully engage with Syrian women’s everyday digital responses to financial practices in the Jordanian context.

Chair: Amanda Alencar, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands

1. Julia Stier Berlin Social Science Center (WZB), Germany	The Role of Smartphones and Social Media in the Production of a Collective Imaginary about Migration in Senegal
2. Raffaella Pagogna University of Vienna, Austria	Exploring the impact of ICTs and Transnational Communication on migration imaginaries and aspirations in Harar, Ethiopia
3. Hannah Pool Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Germany	Communicating a New Life. The influence of social media portrayal on expected remittances
4. Margie Cheesman Oxford Internet Institute, United Kingdom	Reconceptualising blockchain in aid: from trust in institutions to faith in infrastructure

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THURSDAY 22 APRIL 16.45 - 18.15 CEST

SESSION 4.2

Platformization of migration (pre-constituted panel)

Digital technology and social media usage are enabling migrants cross-border mobility and connectivity thus shaping transnational processes in multiple ways. The same platforms are also used by capital in order to trigger and then channel these migrant mobilities so that they match businesses' demand for migrant labour. This perspective is currently lacking as scholarship focuses on either the role of the state/enforcement agencies or migrants themselves. In order to examine the role of capital in instigating, shaping and managing migrants' mobilities and everyday life entails understanding platforms not just as 'social' in their usage but also as steeped in processes aimed at extracting labour and profit. This is best visible when we examine the role of platforms in engendering and controlling labour migration.

What interests us in particular is how capital makes use of digital technologies and social media in order to recruit, move and put to work migrant workers in exceptionally short time. In other words, it imposes a very specific directionality and temporality onto migration, both of which are motivated by 'just-in-time' business model that aims to produce what is needed, at the time needed, and in the quantity needed. We will discuss how such a temporal order creates 'on-demand' migration characterized by short migratory cycles, vulnerability to exploitation and depletion of everyday social reproduction. Platformization of migration thus entails, as we see it, making visible not only the extent to which platforms structure contemporary migratory experiences but also the ways in which they subsume migration into the business logic of platforms, thus significantly limiting migrants' ability to claim or enforce their social and employment rights.

Chair: Rutvica Andrijasevic, University of Bristol, United Kingdom

1. Marc Steinberg Concordia University, Canada	Platforms have a hardware history
2. Melissa Gregg Client Computing Group, Intel	Circuits of consumption and production
3. Rutvica Andrijasevic University of Bristol, United Kingdom	On-demand migrant labour
4. Julie Yujie Chen University of Toronto, Canada	Temporal arbitrage and fragmented rush

SESSION 4.3

Belonging/Affect

Chair: Ilse van Liempt, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

1. Anastasia Christou Middlesex University, London, United Kingdom	The significance of things: Objects, emotions and cultural production in migrant women's return visits home
2. Afroditi-Maria Koulaxi London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom	Kaleidoscopic Identities: Affectively Liberated, Ideologically Incarcerated
3. Mieke Kox & Ilse van Liempt Utrecht University, the Netherlands	Urban belonging in a climate of suspicion. Refugee and asylum youth's everyday experiences in the urban fabric of Amsterdam
4. Mariangela Veikou Tilburg University, the Netherlands	Digitally Translated Politics. Everyday Forms Of Political Membership And Acts Of Citizenship
5. Matt Voigts University of Nottingham, United Kingdom	How refugees maintain belonging through online privacy practices
6. Jessica Retis University of Arizona, USA & Patria Roman-Velazquez Loughborough University London, United Kingdom	British Latinidad/es: Diasporic Formations and Narratives of Belonging amongst Latin Americans in London

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SESSION 4.4

Humanitarianism

Chair: David Ongenaert, Ghent University, Brussels

1. Melora Koepke Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Canada	Crisis and the Camps: Emplacement, errancy and endurance at the frontiers of the "migrant metropolis"
2. Wegahtabrhan Kiros Sereke, Jolanta Drzewiecka & Rana Khaled Arafat Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland	Digital self-help initiatives as instances of negotiating integration and migrant belonging: A case study of Eritrean forced migrants in Switzerland
3. Viktor Sinitsyn Free University, Berlin, Germany & Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia	"Remember where you come from!" Moral remittances and Digital control over Uzbek students in Germany
4. Martina Tazzioli Goldsmiths, University of London, United Kingdom	Extractive humanitarianism: digital technologies, participatory detention and refugees' digital labour
5. Emily Edwards, Sarah Ford, Radhika Gajjala, Abiona Oladoyin & Olayombo Raji-Oyelad Bowling Green State University, USA	The Shaheeh Bagh Protests: Transnationalizing Anti-CAA-NRC Protests from Urban to Digital Streets

SESSION 4.5

Syria

Chair: Araa Al Jaramani, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

1. Rana Arafat University of Lugano (USI), Switzerland	Examining Diaspora Journalists' Digital Networks and Role Perceptions: A Case Study of Syrian Post-Conflict Advocacy Journalism
2. Sara Marino London College of Communication, University of the Arts, United Kingdom	"People say that Facebook is dying, but not for refugees". Comparing digital performances of exile through an analysis of social media use among Syrian refugees in London.
3. Anisa Abeytia University of San Francisco, USA	The Digital Lives of Syrian Refugees in Norway and the European Union: The Creation of Digital Jama'iyat and Facebook Social Media Networks as a Tool of Social (Ex)Inclusion
4. Duha Ceylan Vrije Universiteit Brussel/Ghent University, Belgium	Gender in Refuge
5. Eda Elif Tibet University of Bern, Switzerland	Coming of (digital) Age: Affective Multimodalities of Care and Postcolonial Connectivities Among Transnational Refugee Youth Diasporas
6. Carmelina Concilio Università di Torino, Italy	Migrants' narratives and Digital Humanities

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FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 8.30-10.00 CEST

SESSION 5.1

Archives and Autographics (pre-constituted panel)

This panel brings together academics and artists working on the digital diaspora project *Cosmopolitan Possibilities: Reanimating Diasporic Narratives in the Transpacific*. Through various digital practices, the project seeks to bring back to life a significant though largely hidden archive of multicultural literature held at Deakin University -- the Australian Multicultural Collection (AMC) -- established in the 1990s and maintained until the early 2000s. Despite comprising more than 2000 titles, including memoir, poetry, short stories, novels, and auto/biography, the AMC has been highly underutilized and is difficult, if not impossible, to access for those located outside of Deakin University. Our project puts the migrant narratives foundational to the archive into conversation with contemporary autographics that similarly express diasporic Transpacific stories. 'Autographics,' as termed by life writing scholar Gillian Whitlock (2006, p. 966), refers to a particular kind of autobiography, in which visual and verbal text intertwine to allow for various narrative subject positions to be negotiated. Autobiographical comics, zines, and graphic novels are the common examples, though this project expands the terrain of autographics more deliberately into the digital realm -- those that have a specific online presence or connection, for example as web-comics, social media 'stories', animated narratives, or web blogs. In this way, our work seeks to extend the critical genealogy of the archive through a focus on the digital. While mobile connectivity and digital interaction create new kinds of transnational communities, much work remains to be done on mapping the new diasporic histories and temporalities these communities are narrating-- an urgent task as migration increasingly takes exceptional detours and perpetual routes.

In this panel, we consider how contemporary forms of autographics lend themselves to a re-telling of diasporic experience that traces these kinetic pathways and re-imagines minor narratives and migrations across the Transpacific. We make this intervention in relation to the AMC which, mirroring the diasporic experience itself, has been temporally and spatially fragmented. Adopting an 'archive as method' approach gestures toward the complexity of capturing diasporic autographics as static archival elements and instead aligns with the work of digital autographics as texts which, in Anna Poletti's words, are 'marginal, weird, too big, or too small, that do not fit neatly with existing paradigms of interpretation' (2020, p. 24).

Chair: Daniella Trimboli, Deakin University, Australia

1. Michel O'Brien Central Washington University, USA	Narrativizing un-arrival: digital narratives by asylum seekers in the Pacific'
2. Daniella Trimboli Deakin University, Australia	Toxic bodies and Muslim zombies: diasporic intimacy in Australian-based comic zines
3. Safdar Ahmed Refugee Art Project, Australia	The splintered self and the autographic fram
4. Leah Jing McIntosh University of Melbourne, Australia	<i>Comic Sans</i> : A DIY Intervention in Contemporary Australian Comics

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FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 8.30-10.00 CEST

SESSION 5.2

The Internet as Migrant Milieu (pre-constituted panel)

This panel examines methodological considerations for studying migrant online experiences where we see the internet not as a tool or an intermediary, but as a living environment. Our research focuses on social media as a live space – a milieu of heterogeneous eventualities willed into being with others. As an ambient whole larger than the sum of its constituent spaces, the internet as a migrant milieu cannot be reduced to the role of indiscriminately carrying and transmitting knowledge and information. This milieu and its participants are actively involved in the shaping of the interactions from which it originates. The productivity that arises from this milieu is that people construct themselves, create communities, mobilise, cause others to mobilise, and make significant changes to their lives, as a part of an increasingly seamless integration of digital technology into everyday life.

Each of the papers in this panel will focus on a distinct grouping of people who have experienced migration in different forms and consider the ways these subjects actively create themselves as part of the global digital diaspora. The migrant milieu of focus is the social media platforms of Facebook and Instagram as two distinct areas of the contemporary digital landscape. The panel will focus on how particular migrant groups use Facebook and Instagram to express their identity and belonging in the global digital diaspora, and in doing so will examine the productivity that arises from migrant's everyday engagement of the internet for cultural and medical practices as well as the interdisciplinary research methodologies employed to interrogate meaning making with social media. More specifically, the papers on this panel are about the internet as a non-biomedical milieu for Vietnamese diaspora's alternative health therapies, how Vietnamese curate their own refugee experiences on Facebook compared to how they are represented in Australian museum collections, and how refugees use childhood photographs and hashtags on Instagram to inform the nature of identity and belonging in refugeedom.

Chair: Anita Lucchesi, Federal University of Sergipe, Brazil

1. Dang Nguyen (Nguyễn Hồng Hải Đăng) University of Melbourne, Australia	The Internet as Non-Biomedical Milieu: Production of Alternative Health Techno-Social Spaces and the Vietnamese Diaspora
2. Anh Nguyen Austen Australian Catholic University, Australia	Representation and Belonging for Vietnamese Australian Refugees in Museums and Digital Diaspora
3. Mary Tomsic Australian Catholic University	Instagram Refugeedom: Hashtags and Childhood Photos

SESSION 5.3

Covid-19

Chair: Viviana Premazzi, University of Malta and Global Mindset Development, Malta

1. Consuelo González Pavicich Utrecht University, the Netherlands	Latin American bike couriers and mobile place making in Berlin during the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. Anzhela Popyk SWPS, Poland	Digital divide during the COVID-19 pandemic. A case of immigrant schoolchildren in Poland
3. Viviana Premazzi University of Malta and Global Mindset Development, Malta	Far From Home. Emotional transnationalism online and offline during Covid19
4. Anna Smoliarova St. Petersburg State University, Russia	Pride and prejudice: attitudes of Russian-speaking Instagram bloggers from 20 countries towards their host and home countries during COVID-19 outbreak
5. Anca-Diana Bibiri& Mihaela Mocanu "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania	The Young Romanian Intention to Migrate in the Pandemic Era

MIGRANT BELONGINGS

DIGITAL PRACTICES AND THE EVERY DAY

FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 8.30-10.00 CEST

SESSION 5.4

Politics of Care

Chair: Mélodine Sommier, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands

1. Kaarina Nikunen & Sanna Valtonen Tampere University, Finland	Undocumented and datafied: precarious digital life, affective tactics and politics of care
2. Barbara Orth Free University Berlin, Germany	Global Care Chains Reloaded? Research Strategies for Investigating Migrant Workers' Experiences on Digital Care Platforms
3. Carmen Pereyra Leipzig University, Germany	Striving for agency in a migratory project for Germans in Paraguay: conspiracy theories and right-wing populism in the digital media
4. Hien Nguyen, Loretta Baldassar, Raelene Wilding & Lukasz Krzyzowski University of Western Australia, Australia	Ageing in the digital era and transnational mobility: perceptions and experiences of Vietnamese migrant parents

FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 11.30-13.00 CEST

SESSION 6.1

Food, Belonging and Digital Public Spaces (pre-constituted panel)

The research in this panel, is part of FOOD2GATHER; a HERA funded, pan European project that investigates the roles food play in creating public spaces, shaping opportunities for communication and relations between places and the peoples that inhabit it (so-called host-societies, refugees, displaced populations, newcomers, etc.), thus creating conditions for living together. Our research builds on the interplay in public spaces of two variables: food cultures and migration, through the concept of foodscapes - understood as public spaces knitted together through food related practices, including the physical, social, and institutional landscapes of foods and their modes of valuation. Foodscapes are seen as crucial agents in the construction of dynamic and reciprocal relationships among all of the communities that find themselves in Europe today.

Digital communication has for long been an important means of maintaining and building friendships for communities on the drift. But especially today, in times of Covid (and social isolation), digital public spaces seem to play an even more important role. In this panel we explore in what way foodscapes are being shaped through digital forms of expression today. From digital work lunch meetings, to shared family festivities, from recipe sharing to simply bringing back memories, the aim of this panel is to map the alimentary lives of those new to Europe. Thus, we do research on the importance of these online food communities and the opportunities this gives to setting up new neighborhoods, different forms of socializing, and a sense of 'home'.

Chair: Rick Dolphijn, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

1. Rick Dolphijn Utrecht University, The Netherlands	A Taste of Home
2. Ida Tolgensbakk Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway	The digital neighbourhood
3. Giovanna Palutan & Donatella Schmidt Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy	A thick digital environment. Case studies from Italy
4. Helene Fiane Teigen & Virginie Amilien Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway	"Digitalizing foodscapes" - Thoughts about the dynamic construction of hybrid spaces between private and public.

MIGRANT BELONGINGS

DIGITAL PRACTICES AND THE EVERY DAY

FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 11.30-13.00 CEST

SESSION 6.2

Digital Corridors for Transnational Belonging (pre-constituted panel)

This panel aims to explore the ways in which different subjects construct and reshape imageries of Europe and its inhabitants by consuming and contributing to media and social media contents, for functional, political or recreational uses.

“Talking me, talking EU” means deciphering and engaging a digitally mediated dialogue, sometimes a struggle, between the several actors that contribute to the construction of transnational imaginaries. To this aim, the panel focuses on the digital practices that enable migrants to be present (or absent) to Europe and, vice versa, that enable Europe to be present (or absent) to migrants and would-be migrants. On the one hand, through their personal social media, diasporic migrants, while talking about themselves, tell about the Europe they live in; on the other hand, European media claim to talk about the presence of migrants in Europe and inevitably talk about Europe (and its absences) to migrants. Furthermore, intermediate subjects, such as local or diasporic journalists, try to mediate the accuracy of (and the possibilities of access to) these representations. But who tells and who is told? Which narratives rely on digital technologies and which are complemented by non-digital practices? Drawing upon these questions, the panel will reflect on what is visible and what is (made) invisible within three kinds of migration-related narratives: in the mainstream media depictions of climate change-induced migrants, in migrants’ videos focused on their border crossing, and in awareness campaigns involving Gambian journalists. New grammars and codes for expressing migration will finally be explored.

Chair: Pierluigi Musarò, University of Bologna, Italy

1. Paola Parmiggiani, Melissa Moralli & Elena Giacomelli University of Bologna, Italy	In-between narratives: reflections on multiple layers of invisibility of migration
2. Valentina Cappi, Alagie Jinkang & Pierluigi Musarò University of Bologna, Italy	The role of Gambian journalists in shaping narratives about Europe: agenda, dissemination channels and communication strategies
3. Irene Gutierrez Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium & University Carlos III of Madrid, Spain	Self-mediating migrant’s presence in the ‘digital border’: the <i>boza</i> videos made by Sub-Saharan migrants at the Moroccan-Spanish divide as contemporary ‘underground railroads
4. Sergei Shubin Swansea University, United Kingdom	Rethinking the relationship between language and migration

SESSION 6.3

Digital Diaspora and Placemaking

Chair: Laura Candidatu, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

1. Cæcilie Svop Jensen Tampere University, Finland	Autonomizing conflict: Online political mobilization among Turkish and Kurdish diasporas in Denmark
2. Aisling Keavey Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art Design and Technology, Dublin, Ireland	Using digital ethnographic methods to explore hybrid identities among Irish immigrant women in London.
3. Lilia Sablina Central European University, Hungary/Austria	Mobilizing “everyday”: the role of online ethnic networks in minority radicalization
4. Audris Umel Bremen International School of Social Sciences, Germany	Filipino migrants in Germany and their (ironic) space-time constructions of their home and host societies in Facebook
5. Jenny-Louise Van der Aa University of Leuven, Belgium	Informal education as a nexus of change: Blommaert’s unfinished business in education.
6. Xinyu Promio Wang Waseda University, Japan	Transnationalism in what sense? The negotiation of belonging among Chinese digital diasporas in Japan

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FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 11.30-13.00 CEST

SESSION 6.4

Visuality & Social Media

Chair: Mine Gencel Bek, Siegen University, Germany

1. Moé Suzuki University of East Anglia	Empathy and the everyday in 'Clouds Over Sidra': forging 'human' connections with refugees through virtual reality films
2. Karen Waltorp & Sama Sadat Ben Haddou University of Copenhagen, Denmark	Diasporic articulations in a digital media ecology: The case of Farkhunda seen through the analytics of Stuart Hall
3. Joanna Kedra University of Jyväskylä, Finland	WhatsApp iconology: Narratives on in-app photographic practices in (transnational) family communication
4. Mine Gencel Bek Siegen University, Germany	Exploring (migrant) women's lives and stories through photographs

FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 14.00-15.30 CEST

SESSION 7.1

Migrant Digital Food Practices (pre-constituted panel)

Food practices often act as a mechanism to connect the immigrant identity with both present homes and past 'home' lands. Food embodying physical and emotional labour is produced in various domestic and public contexts, and for private and public consumption. Food is increasingly digitized through platforms such as uber eats, but also through building narratives and collections like Instagram, YouTube and blogs. Digital and material spaces intersect and offer new ways to understand food in daily life. Food builds connections; however connections between food and different kinds of spaces requires us to look beyond the mere concept of food as consumption. We need to examine the linkages between digital spaces with home, food, labour and belonging, in order to understand the constitution of the migrant self, and the space for conviviality and bottom-up integration in day-to-day interethnic relations. In this panel we explore the stories of migrant food practices through participatory documentation of food practices of locating, preparing, cooking, and eating food to explore the comparative issues of connection and disconnection experienced by different migrant communities and the adaptation and adoption of migrant food cultures. We discuss how food and eating practices have both inclusionary and exclusionary effects on different groups and the role of digital experiences in these relations. Ultimately, whether migrants' food practices contribute to ethnic retention, assimilation, or to different forms of hybridization has broader implications for how we might understand integration and transnational lives in the 21st century.

Chair: Ajay Bailey, Utrecht University, the Netherlands & Natasha Webster, Stockholm University, Sweden

1. Ajay Bailey Utrecht University, the Netherlands	<i>Simple vegetarian South Indian food</i> : Performing home and identity through food and cooking practices
2. Qian Zhang & Natasha Webster Stockholm University, Sweden	Digitalizing Authenticity for IRL: Immigrants supplying home-made food via apps in the gig economy
3. Ann Cathrin Corrales-Øverlid University of Bergen, Norway	Navigating Media Discourses and Digital Practices: Peruvian Immigrant Women's Culinary Entrepreneurship in Southern California

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FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 14.00-15.30 CEST

SESSION 7.2

Digital Everyday Forms of Mobilisation and Solidarity Led by Migrants and Refugees in times of Covid-19 (pre-constituted panel)

In recent years we have seen the emergence, consolidation and conceptualisation of new forms of informal humanitarianism, radical activism and alternative solidarity amidst increasingly hostile environments towards migrants and refugees. Digital technologies and social media platforms have been instrumental to the formation of loose, informal citizen- and migrant-led mobilizing at the local, transnational and diasporic levels. This panel examines everyday forms of digital mobilisation and solidarity led by migrants, asylum seekers and refugees across global contexts. They increasingly use digital tools, often in dialogue and collaboration with other social actors, to informally support and protect one another and to mobilise, dismantle and negotiate the crossing of borders. Migrant and refugee-led everyday forms of mobilization and solidarity that unfold both online and offline help us rethink the connections among digital humanitarian, digital activism and digital mobilisation from the perspectives of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. Mobile digital devices and platforms have the potential to foster transversal forms of solidarities and diasporic belonging as well as new peer-to-peer support and protection during migrants' increasingly long, complex and fragmented journeys'. These tools also reconfigure the political, exposing the politics of the border through a variety of 'digital interferences' that challenge increasingly exclusionary reception policies and border violence. They also reveal the existence of digital inequalities in migrant- and refugee-led mobilization, solidarity and activism.

Chair: Giorgia Donà, University of East London, United Kingdom

1. Marcia Vera Espinoza	
2. Latefa Narriman Guemar , University of East London, United Kingdom; Jessica Northey , Coventry University, United Kingdom & Elias Boukrami , Regent University, United Kingdom	Migration and social transformation: Algerian Diaspora Responses to COVID19
3. Evan Easton-Calabria University of Oxford, United Kingdom	Digital Belonging in Berlin: Syrian Refugee-led organisations during COVID-19
4. Herve Nicolle & Jared Owuor Samuel Hall	Technology in disrupting existing inequalities among refugees in Kenya amidst COVID-19
5. Giorgia Donà , University of East London, United Kingdom & Marie Godin University of Oxford, United Kingdom	Everyday forms of mobilisation and solidarity in techno-borderscapes

SESSION 7.3

Platforms / Infrastructure

Chair: Koen Leurs, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

1. Maksim Ni St. Petersburg State University, Russia	Migrants' Facebook communities as interaction ritual chains
2. Luce Beeckmans , Ghent University Belgium & Bruno Meeus , KU Leuven, Belgium	Reflections on a digital mapping and exhibition of arrival infrastructures during a covid pandemic
3. Zeynep Genel İstanbul Okan University, Turkey	Understanding of Informal Communication Eco-System Effects on Social Inclusion
4. Daniel Leix Palumbo University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands	The datafication and biometric control of asylum seekers' voices and transnational intimacy
5. Philipp Seufferling , Södertörn University, Stockholm, & Koen Leurs , Utrecht University, the Netherlands	Histories of humanitarian technophilia: How imaginaries of media technologies have shaped migration infrastructures
6. Nicole Stremlau & Anna Tsalapatanis , University of Oxford, UK & University of Johannesburg, South Africa	Social Media, Mobile Phones, and Migration in Africa: A Review of the Evidence

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FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 14.00-15.30 CEST

SESSION 7.4

Mediated Diasporas

Chair: Kevin Smets, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

1. Olawale Akinrinde Osun State University, Osogbo, Nigeria	Human Insecurities in Africa, the Politics of Non-Refoulement and the Plights of the African Refugees along Mexican-American Borders
2. Diana Jarnea UCLouvain, Belgium & Lasco	Media, collective memory and the Romanian diaspora through the narrative approach
3. Jennifer Leetsch University of Würzburg, Germany	Digital Diasporas and Dictaphones: Cross-Oceanic and Cross-Generational Intimacy in Warsan Shire's Poetry
4. Dalila Missero Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom	Latin-American Women Watching Films: Transnational Media Consumption and Everyday Negotiations of Proximity and Belonging
5. Wisnique Panier Laval University, Quebec, Canada	The attachment of Haitians in the diaspora with Haiti: Transnationalism and participation in radio debate programs

FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 15.30-17.00 CEST

SESSION 8.1

Migrants' Digital Connections from the Sending Countries' Perspective

The panel suggests looking at migration, diasporic connections and digital communication from a sending countries' perspective. Instead of picturing digital environment as a borderless and egalitarian space, the papers question some issues of digital divide among different groups of people on the move; examine how efficient international organizations are in communicating their initiatives and programmes to migrants through digital channels and test the efficiency of state-backed initiatives of return migration; attempt a (gendered) analysis of entrepreneurial activities of migrants, transnationally through their digital connections.

Chair: Morgunova Oksana, Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Moscow, Russia

1. Nicoleta-Florina Moraru Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Moscow, Russia	Developing human capital across borders: case studies of female migrants-entrepreneurs
2. Anna Khotivirshvili RUDN, Moscow, Russia	In search for a safe and fulfilling digital environment: the case of female migrants from Georgia in Europe
3. Olga Chuprina RUDN, Moscow, Russia	Welcoming migrants back: Ecuadorian return migrants after the economic crisis of 2010s
4. Helena Lassen Maternity Foundation, Russia	Can an App save a life? The role of digital solutions in improving the protection of women on the move
5. Johnatan Santos Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Moscow, Russia	The UNHCR's Strategies in Implementing New Technologies for Displaced Communities

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DIGITAL PRACTICES AND THE EVERY DAY

FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 15.30-17.00 CEST

SESSION 8.2

Diasporic Queers from Eastern Europe and Eurasia (pre-constituted panel)

In the first two decades of the twenty-first century, many postsocialist and post-Soviet countries of Eastern Europe and Eurasia have increasingly waged the politics of anti-diversity and exclusion that has forced a number of young LGBTQs to migrate from the region in search of a political asylum elsewhere. This wave of migration has differed from multiple iterations of people from this region setting on the move throughout the twentieth century in that it has taken place during the era of ubiquitous connectivity. Uprooted and dispossessed, LGBTQ migrants have been forced to start a new page in their lives and refigure the modalities of their selfhood, belonging, and solidarity in new geographical, cultural, and language constellations while having multiple digital tools at their disposal. This panel zooms in on four different case studies of LGBTQ migrants from Eastern Europe and Eurasia to discuss the scenarios of negotiating queer sensibilities in and through digital spaces. The papers explore digital practices of disidentification by nonbinary Poles in the UK; intersections of Russian, Ukrainian, and Estonian national and queer identities in podcasts by LGBTQ migrants; queering of time and space in a theatre performance of Facebook conversations between Kazakh asylum seekers in Sweden and their friends back in Almaty, as well as debates on white privilege and anti-racist solidarity in online communities of post-Soviet LGBTQ immigrants. The analyses provided by the authors intervene with binary notions of gender construction online, disrupt geopolitical divisions of oppressions and alliances informed by the Cold War, and underscore the fluidity and versatility of articulating queer East European and Eurasian selves that digital media afford.

Chair: Adi Kuntsman, Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom

1. Lukasz Szulc University of Sheffield, United Kingdom	Gender Diversity across Digital Media and Between Cultural Contexts: Nonbinary Poles in the UK and their Gender Disidentifications
2. Maryna Shevtsova Dnipro, Ukraine	Russians are Coming: On Podcasting, Languages, Migrant Belonging, and Queer Identities in Virtual Spaces
3. Tatiana Klepikova University of Toronto, Canada	Between Kazakhstan and Sweden: Queer Time and Space of Belonging and Migrant-hood in Facebook Stories Performed on an Almaty Stage
4. Alexandra Novitskaya Stony Brook University, New York, USA	"If what you said about police brutality [in your asylum statement] is true, you can never be against BLM": Negotiations of white privilege and anti-racist solidarity in online communities of post-Soviet LGBTQ immigrants

SESSION 8.3

Borders, Securities & Insecurities

Chair: Fran Meissner, University of Twente, The Netherlands

1. Maria Avraamidou University of Cyprus, Cyprus	"Innocent" hashtags? A cautionary tale. The #IStandWithGreece as a network of intolerance on Twitter during a land border crisis.
2. Claudia Böhme University of Trier, Germany	Trust Building and Future Construction via Smartphones and Social Media at intermediate Locations of Transnational Migration
3. Adria Guardiola Rius Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain	To be seen or not to be seen. The Spanish migrant frontier or how to die between two regimes of (not) being seen.
4. Sanja Milivojevic Oxford University, UK & La Trobe University, USA	Crossing "roborders": Digital frontier technologies and mobility of illegalized non-citizens
5. Boris Ružić University of Rijeka, Croatia	Irregularized Migration and Digital Media: A Subject Caught in the Web

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FRIDAY 23 APRIL – 15.30-17.00 CEST

SESSION 8.4

Mobility

Chair: Vasiliki Makrygianni, independent researcher

1. Sazana Jayadeva University of Cambridge, United Kingdom	Study Abroad Influencers: How YouTube channels are facilitating international student mobility from India
2. Vasiliki Makrygianni Independent researcher	Mobile Cyborgs: subverting the myth of the 'other' en route to Europe through everyday digital practices
3. Luiz Guilherme Natalio de Mello , Latin American Studies Association & Francisca Sassetti Royal Holloway University of London, United Kingdom, UNESCO Chair for ICT4D and MIDEQ	Technology as an Enabler or Barrier of Migrant Caravans: A Systematic Review of Migrant Caravans in Central America
4. Antonella Patteri Birkbeck College, University of London, United Kingdom	Connecting Lives: Transient Migrants in Calais
5. Simone Pfeifer Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany	In/visible Images of Mobility: Sociality and Analogue-Digital Materiality in Personal Archives of Transnational Migration
6. Cansu Nur Simsek University of Texas at Dallas, USA	Performing the Escape: Path Out (2017)