12th IMISCOE conference "Rights, Democracy and Migration", Geneva, 25-27 June 2015

Submit papers for the panel or workshop (format tbc): Voice or exit/voice and exit? Recent shifts in geopolitics, global mobility and global protest

Chairs: Franck Düvell, Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), University of Oxford; Nick Vanhear, COMPAS, University of Oxford

Please send the abstracts of your proposed contribution for this panel or workshop (up to 250 words) to franck.duvell@compas.ox.ac.uk. The deadline for the abstracts is 5th of February 2015.

Over the last years, we witnessed a series of social movements and uprisings like the so-called 'Arab spring' in Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, and Syria, the 'Gezi Park' and other protests in Turley as well as the 'EuroMaidan' in Ukraine. This had diverse consequence ranging from toppled governments in Egypt, Tunisia and Ukraine, some reverse developments in Egypt, more repression in Turkey to the nightmarish civil wars in Libya and Syria. These protests sometimes led to broken down controls that opened the borders, as initially the case in Tunisia and Libya, to large scale refugee flows, as from Syria or a new patriotism that is claimed to dampen migration aspirations, as in Ukraine and/or resulted in new flows, new routes and new practices. In 2010, another pattern became apparent in Kyrgyzstan: restricted migration to Russia and thus restricted access to income caused severe social unrest. These developments once again brought to light the complex and divergent connections between protest and migration.

The aim of this panel/workshop is to attract contributions that are addressing these connections in historical and contemporary perspectives. We would like to (a) contextualise the nexus between protests and migration within Hirschman's famous 'voice, loyalty or exit' paradigm or 'voting with one's feet' concept, (b) recognise the gendered structure of the availability of the various resources and options, (c) carve out the role of social discontent as a driver of migration, (d) analyse the linkage between protest and migration management and control policies and (e) explore out how these developments bring about new flows and impact and change regional and global migration orders. We are specifically asking for empirical papers on the above mentioned cases but will also consider others. With this panel/workshop we will launch a new research initiative and consider preparing a major research proposal.

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