



ANNUAL REPORT

2025

IMISCOE

International Migration Research Network


coordinated by



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FOREWORD FROM THE RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LIÈGE



It is my pleasure to introduce this 2025 IMISCOE Annual Report, which offers an overview of another year of remarkable achievements and collective engagement across the Network.

Since 2022, the University of Liège has had the privilege of coordinating IMISCOE through the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM), and we are proud that you have entrusted our institution with a renewed coordination mandate until 2030.

IMISCOE's goals and activities match perfectly with our university's strategy of supporting research. Indeed, both IMISCOE and the University of Liège aim to promote interdisciplinarity and collaboration opportunities for researchers from diverse backgrounds and at different stages of their careers. Hosting the Network has also reinforced the strong convergence between the values promoted by IMISCOE and the institutional commitments of the University of Liège to academic excellence, societal engagement, and international cooperation.

As this Annual Report demonstrates, 2025 has been a productive and dynamic year for the IMISCOE community. I would like to highlight the organization of the Spring Conference focused on the theme *"The Regularity of Irregularity: Rethinking Migration Paradigms"* at the University for Continuing Education Krems, as well as the PhD School organized by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning (IGOT), where early-career researchers came together to reflect on *"Developing a Sensory Methodology in Migration Studies"*. Furthermore, IMISCOE's flagship event – the Annual Conference – was hosted in 2025 by the Institut Convergences Migrations in Paris and focused on *"Decentering Migration Studies"*. By adopting a decentered perspective, the conference challenged conventional representations of migration, fostering a more nuanced understanding of migration processes.

Through its events, Standing Committees, training activities, publications, and collaborative research initiatives, IMISCOE has continued to strengthen its role as the leading network in migration research, stimulating reflexive debates on the production of knowledge about migration and on the role of researchers and academic institutions in contemporary societies. In a context marked by ongoing geopolitical tensions and social transformations, the Network has remained a crucial platform for advancing rigorous, critical, and societally and policy-relevant scholarship.

To conclude, I wish to underline that the University of Liège's support to IMISCOE is a collective endeavor. The IMISCOE Coordinators, Daniela Vintila and Jean-Michel Lafleur, work together with the Network Officers Angeliki Konstantinidou, Carole Wenger, and Marine Maréchal to assume the important responsibility of managing the Network's infrastructure and activities. In fulfilling this role, they also rely on the support of colleagues working across various institutional bodies and administrative services of our University. I would therefore like to thank all those who contribute to the successful coordination, growth, and development of the IMISCOE network.

I wish you an enjoyable reading of this Annual Report and look forward to seeing your activities continue to develop in the years ahead.

Anne-Sophie Nyssen

Rector of the University of Liège



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FOREWORD FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RISE (RESEARCH, INNOVATION, SUPPORT AND ENTERPRISES), UNIVERSITY OF LIÈGE



It is my pleasure to contribute to this 2025 IMISCOE Annual Report and to reflect on the achievements of IMISCOE, which has grown into the world's largest interdisciplinary network in migration research.

From the perspective of the department for Research, Innovation, Support and Enterprises (RISE) that I coordinate at the University of Liège, IMISCOE illustrates the importance of providing researchers with the infrastructures and support needed to develop ambitious scientific collaborations and innovative research ecosystems. The ULiège research community is proud that our institution is hosting the coordination of IMISCOE, as your Network's activities and objectives closely align with our university's strategy for fostering research, innovation, and knowledge transfer that stimulate exchange and create value for the scientific, social, associative, and cultural sectors.

High-quality research with societal impact depends on strong international networks capable of ensuring effective coordination mechanisms, sustained collaborations, and dedicated professional and administrative support for the production and circulation of knowledge. Since the University of Liège assumed the coordination of IMISCOE in 2022, we have witnessed the growth and vitality of your Network, which brings together universities, scholars, and disciplines around a shared commitment to advancing migration research.

Through its training, research, publications, and collaborative initiatives, IMISCOE fosters an environment in which innovative ideas, interdisciplinary dialogue, and international cooperation can develop. This demonstrates the value of investing in collective research infrastructures that support migration scholars in their research mission, open venues for international partnerships, and strengthen research capacities for the next generation of migration researchers worldwide.

The activities highlighted in this Annual Report further confirm that the achievements of this large and dynamic research network are only possible thanks to the dedication of many individuals and institutions committed to research on migration. Given IMISCOE's multilayered structure and functioning, its coordination is both demanding and complex. I would therefore like to acknowledge the continuous dedication of the IMISCOE Coordinators, Daniela Vintila and Jean-Michel Lafleur, as well as the IMISCOE Network Officers, Angeliki Konstantinidou, Carole Wenger, and Marine Maréchal, who work closely with colleagues across ULiège's research support and administrative services to ensure the successful coordination and management of your Network. Their expertise and engagement enable IMISCOE to continue serving its institutional and individual members effectively and to pursue its ambitious objectives.

I look forward to seeing the Network continue to grow and to contribute to advancing knowledge on migration in the years to come.

Didier Mattivi

*Director of the Research,
Innovation, Support and
Enterprises (RISE) department at
the University of Liège*



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**OPENING REMARKS FROM
IMISCOE COORDINATORS
DANIELA VINTILA AND
JEAN-MICHEL LAFLEUR,
CENTRE FOR ETHNIC
AND MIGRATION STUDIES
(CEDEM), UNIVERSITY OF
LIÈGE**





On behalf of IMISCOE and its Network Office based at the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM) of the University of Liège, we are delighted to present this 2025 Annual Report, celebrating what we have accomplished together as a community over the past year.

While this report can only capture a selection of the many activities that shaped 2025, it offers a glimpse into the many ways in which IMISCOE's institutional and individual members have come together to strengthen a more inclusive, open, and globally connected environment for scientific dialogue on migration. Through continued institutional development, impactful research, and vibrant scholarly exchange, our community has continued to further advance critical debates on the production, circulation, and accessibility of knowledge in migration studies.

These achievements belong to all of us. They are the result of the collaboration, commitment, and mutual support that make IMISCOE such a dynamic network. We are very grateful to the Board of Directors, the Executive Board, the Standing and Executive Committees, the IMISCOE community of PhD researchers, and all individual members whose contributions have helped make these accomplishments possible.

Throughout 2025, IMISCOE continued to broaden its **individual membership** and strengthen its position as the largest interdisciplinary network of scholars in the field of migration research. Our **institutional membership** also continued to diversify, with new members bringing valuable expertise, perspectives, and experiences that enrich the network as a whole. In particular, we were delighted to welcome our first institutional members from Brazil (*Universidade Estadual de Campinas-UNICAMP*) and Senegal (*Laboratoire d'Études et de Recherches sur Genre, Environnement, Religion et Migrations-GERM* at *Université Gaston Berger*

de Saint-Louis), alongside the Center for Diversity, Democracy, and Inclusion in Education-ZBI at the University of Hildesheim (Germany).

Our **scientific events** continued to play a central role in fostering connections and collective reflections on recent developments, ongoing challenges, and future directions in migration studies. A highlight of the year was the 2025 IMISCOE **Annual Conference**, hosted by *Institut Convergences Migrations* in Paris-Aubervilliers. Under the theme “*Decentering Migration Studies*”, over 1,000 participants on-site and nearly 450 online participants engaged in critical and reflexive discussions on how migration research is conceptualized, produced and circulated. Similarly, the 2025 IMISCOE **Spring Conference**, organized in a hybrid format by the Department for Migration and Globalisation (DEMIG) of the University for Continuing Education Krems (Austria), offered us an important space for stimulating exchanges on often-overlooked aspects of irregular migration across different world regions. Finally, the 2025 **PhD School**, hosted by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning at University of Lisbon and co-organized by the Critical Heritage Studies Hub at Jagiellonian University, brought together doctoral researchers from diverse disciplinary and institutional backgrounds who explored visual and sensory methodologies in migration research. Together, all these events demonstrate the importance of creating spaces where researchers can connect, exchange ideas, and learn from one another. They continue to be among the most valuable ways in which our network nurtures collaborations.

The IMISCOE **Standing Committees** continued to be at the heart of the Network’s scientific life throughout 2025, and the numerous panels, workshops, and seminars they organised during the year allowed us to continue the collective reflection on emerging debates in migration research. We were also pleased to see several recently established or reorganised Standing Committees—including SC Forced Migration and Refugees (FMR), SC Race, Racism and Discrimination (RACED), and SC Families, Welfare, Care and the Life Course (FamWeLC)—expand their membership, diversify their activities, and further shape these research areas within IMISCOE.

Our commitment to fostering an open, inclusive, and supportive research environment is equally reflected in our **training activities** for doctoral researchers and our continued **support for Open Access publications**. Throughout 2025, the IMISCOE PhD Academy and the PhD Network continued to grow, creating new opportunities for networking and professional development for doctoral researchers around the world. These initiatives not only support the next generation of migration scholars, but also strengthen the sense of community and connection that lies at the core of IMISCOE. We also remained committed to broadening access to migration research by supporting publication opportunities for scholars at all career stages. IMISCOE’s Research Series (in partnership with Springer) is now recognised as one of the leading OA book series in migration studies, while we also continued to sponsor Open Access articles published in the journal *Comparative Migration Studies*.

In sum, the highlights included in this Annual Report reflect parts of what we have been able to achieve together in 2025. We are deeply grateful to all IMISCOE members and friends for the energy, dedication, and generosity you bring to our network!

A heartfelt thank you goes to our wonderful colleagues at the IMISCOE Network Office—Angeliki Konstantinidou (Senior Network Officer), Carole Wenger (Network and Communication Officer), Marine Marechal (Finance Officer), and Valkyria Dantas Rattmann (Network and Communication Assistant)—for their exceptional professionalism, commitment, and team



spirit. We also warmly thank our colleagues at the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies, the Research Institute in Social Sciences, the Faculty of Social Sciences, and the wider University of Liège community for their ongoing support in coordinating the IMISCOE network.

Thank you all for your engagement throughout the year —and we hope you enjoy reading this report. We look forward to seeing you very soon.

Daniela Vintila and Jean-Michel Lafleur
IMISCOE Coordinators



**WORD FROM THE
IMISCOE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS WIEBKE
SIEVERS AND THE CHAIR
OF EXECUTIVE BOARD
PARVATI RAGHURAM**



In the past few years we have all been reflecting on the value of migration studies as an area of work, and rightly so. Are migration studies scholars adding to the fetishisation of migration as a topic? But, migration research is also under attack from those who want to put a stop to migration. Just last year, Parvati Raghuram was speaking to an international PhD student in North America who travelled to the UK to present a paper. She had already done a lot of fieldwork on migration and wanted to present her findings but her supervisors, colleagues and friends advised her not to travel out of the country to present the paper. They even suggested that she change her research topic because working on this topic would blacklist her in future job applications and could affect her career. In that context, while we laud reflexivity on migration, we also feel that we need to defend migration research. Isn't it time to rethink and defend migration studies on the basis that migration science is now threatened by migration rhetoric and politics?

IMISCOE conferences, for us, are a place to defend and to proclaim the importance of science and evidence while researching migration. They keep open the space for analysis and for rehearsing the arguments around equality and justice, including for migrants. When politics is so driven by dubious assertions about migration, the simple fact that IMISCOE fosters and enables scientific rigour when talking about migration, as when discussing other things is, is something we are proud of. The huge numbers of submissions to our conferences, and the growing demand to join our network shows that these values around facts, evidence and critical appraisal of each other's claims are things that many want to keep alive. IMISCOE provides a global avenue for just that.

Through the years we have seen the organisation grow, become more formalised, expand by including voices other than those of the European organisations that we began with, and have seen the quality of the discussions become richer as a result. We are proud of what has been achieved thus far, and the huge steps that the Liège team have taken in moving us forward in the last four years. We extend our grateful thanks to them. None of this would be possible without their leadership and organisational ability. We look forward to seeing how the organisation develops further in their next four-year term.

That means we will still be working with familiar faces, but unfortunately, Wiebke Sievers is stepping down from her role as Chair of the Board of Directors. Parvati Raghuram wants to gratefully acknowledge her friendship and camaraderie in the meetings and through all the IMISCOE work we have done together. Wiebke Sievers pays incredible attention to detail and also has huge institutional knowledge which keeps the organisation ticking. She will be sorely missed.

Before we end, a few words from Wiebke Sievers on her last years as well:

I would like to thank all BD members for their trust and for participating so enthusiastically in the new brainstorming format that was implemented during my term. It has been a great honour and pleasure for me to serve as your BD Chair. I want to use my last contribution to the annual report to encourage all of you to become actively involved in taking this network into the future. It is hard work, but it is also a great experience! I had the opportunity of exchanging views on many issues concerning the network in a very constructive and friendly atmosphere with wonderful colleagues on the EB. It is also amazing to see how many people contribute to the network as members of committees or as organizers of events! I am enormously grateful that my partner on this four-year journey as EB chair was Parvati Raghuram and that she will stay on to continue her great work. I am very happy that I could support Daniela Vintila and Jean-Michel Lafleur in realizing their vision for the IMISCOE network and wish them all the best for their second term. My final thanks go to Angeliki Konstantinidou, Carole Wenger and Marine Maréchal for their energy and meticulous work.

With all good wishes

Parvati Raghuram and Wiebke Sievers



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ABOUT IMISCOE



This section describes the mission of the IMISCOE Network and its organizational structure.

5.1 OUR MISSION

IMISCOE (International Migration Research Network) is the largest interdisciplinary network of scholars in the field of migration. The Network currently consists of **73 research institutes** from different countries around the world and various disciplines including sociology, political science, anthropology, economics, law, demography, public administration, geography, and history.

The IMISCOE Network is coordinated by the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM) of the University of Liège, with Daniela Vintila and Jean-Michel Lafleur acting as Coordinators. The Network Office team also includes Angeliki Konstantinidou (Senior Network Officer), Carole Wenger (Network and Communication Officer), Marine Maréchal (Finance Officer), and Valkyria Dantas Rattmann (Network and Communication Assistant- since March 2026).

Over the years, IMISCOE has developed and promoted a wide range of activities, including:

5.2 RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

IMISCOE provides a platform for scholars throughout the world to get together, initiate comparative research, and organize joint research projects. The Network supports and maintains a broad range of **Standing Committees** that cover significant topics in migration studies, in line with the special expertise of its members. The development of common lines of study is primarily research-driven. IMISCOE derives its relevance for society in general and for policy and politics in particular from its theory-based, analytical contributions.

5.3 PUBLICATIONS

IMISCOE has established a **book series** with Springer, covering key contributions in the field of migration. To promote the dissemination of research and the widest possible access to research, IMISCOE has become the leading supporter of Open Access publishing in this research area. Most books are available in the **OAPEN** library. Furthermore, the Network also sponsors the Open Access journal **Comparative Migration Studies** owned by Springer.

5.4 EVENTS

Throughout the year, numerous **IMISCOE events** are organized in the context of research collaborations, publication events, PhD trainings, etc. The biggest event on the Network's agenda is the IMISCOE Annual Conference, which has been organized every year since 2004 by different IMISCOE Member Institutes. Other important annual events are the IMISCOE Spring Conference, the IMISCOE PhD School, and the numerous activities organized throughout the year by the various IMISCOE Standing and Executive Committees. More recently, the Network has also launched a new type of event – the IMISCOE Forum, whose first edition will take place in October 2026.

5.5 TRAINING & AWARDS

Training of young researchers is an essential task of IMISCOE. By pooling the resources and expertise of its members, the Network facilitates the highest quality training in the field of migration studies. To this aim, the Network provides annual **PhD Schools**, as well as specific training modules at other IMISCOE events. The **IMISCOE PhD Network** and the **IMISCOE PhD Academy** are also an integral part of the IMISCOE Network. Also, every year IMISCOE awards the **Maria Ioannis Baganha Award** to the best PhD thesis in the field of migration, and the **Rinus Penninx Award** for the best paper presented at the IMISCOE Annual Conference.





LIST OF IMISCOE MEMBER INSTITUTES

The IMISCOE Network currently includes 68 Member Institutes:

1. [CEDEM](#) (Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies), University of Liège, Belgium-
Coordinating Institute of IMISCOE
2. [AMIS](#) (Centre for Advanced Migration Studies), University of Copenhagen, Denmark
3. [ARC-M](#) (Amsterdam Research Centre-Migration), University of Amsterdam, The
Netherlands
4. [BICC](#) (Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies), Germany
5. [BIRMM](#) (Brussels Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Migration and Minorities), Vrije
Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
6. [Casa Grande University](#), Ecuador
7. [Centre for Welfare and Labour Research](#) (SVA), OsloMet, Norway
8. [CERC in Migration and Integration](#) (Toronto Metropolitan University), Canada
9. [CESSMIR](#) (Centre for the Social Study of Migration and Refugees), Ghent University,
Belgium
10. [CFD](#) (Center on Forced Displacement), Boston University, USA (joined in April 2024)
11. [CGM](#) (Centre on Global Migration), University of Gothenburg, Sweden
12. [CIES-Iscte](#) (Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology), University Institute of Lisbon,
Portugal
13. [CMR](#) (Centre of Migration Research), University of Warsaw, Poland
14. [CMRS](#) (Centre for Migration and Refugee Studies), The American University in Cairo, Egypt

15. [**COMPAS**](#) (Centre on Migration, Policy and Society), University of Oxford, UK
16. [**CRASH**](#) (Center for Research on Social Change and Human Mobility), Kozminski University, Poland
17. [**DEMIG**](#) (Department for Migration and Globalisation), Danube University Krems, Austria
18. [**DEUSTO**](#) (Research Unit on Migration, Management of Diversity and Social Cohesion), University of Deusto, Spain
19. [**DeZIM**](#) (German Centre for Integration and Migration Research), Germany
20. [**ERCOMER**](#) (European Centre on Migration and Ethnic Relations), Utrecht University, The Netherlands
21. [**ESOMI**](#) (Societies In Motion Research Team), University of A Coruña, Spain
22. [**EUI**](#) (European University Institute), Italy
23. [**EUR**](#) (Erasmus University of Rotterdam), The Netherlands
24. [**Eurac Research**](#), Italy
25. [**FAFO**](#) (Institute for Labour and Social Research), Norway
26. [**FHSE**](#) (Faculty of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences), University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg
27. [**FIERI**](#) (Forum Internazionale ed Europeo di Ricerche sull'Immigrazione), Italy
28. [**FLACSO Ecuador**](#) (Latin-American Faculty of Social Sciences), Ecuador
29. [**GEOMIGRACE**](#) (Geographic Migration Center), Charles University, Czech Republic
30. [**GERM**](#) (Laboratoire d'Études et de Recherches sur Genre, Environnement, Religion et Migrations), Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Senegal (joined in 2025)
31. [**GRAMNet**](#) (Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network), University of Glasgow, UK
32. [**GRITIM**](#) (Interdisciplinary Research Group in Immigration), Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain
33. [**ICM**](#) (Institut Convergences Migrations), France
34. [**ICMPD**](#) (International Center for Migration Policy Development), Austria
35. [**IES**](#) (Institute for Ethnic Studies), Slovenia
36. [**IGOT-UL**](#) (Instituto de Geografia e Ordenamento do Território), University of Lisboa, Portugal
37. [**IMIS**](#) (Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies), University of Osnabrück, Germany
38. [**IML**](#) (International Migration Laboratory), University of Trento, Italy
39. [**INED**](#) (Institut National d'Études Démographiques), France
40. [**InZENTIM**](#) (Interdisciplinary Centre for Integration and Migration Research), University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany
41. [**IRMS**](#) (Institute for Research on Migration and Society), Concordia University, Canada
42. [**ISF**](#) (Institute for Social Research Oslo), Norway
43. [**ISMU**](#) (Fondazione Ismu - Initiative e Studi sulla Multietnicità), Italy
44. [**ISR**](#) (Institute for Urban and Regional Research), Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria
45. [**IUEM**](#) (Instituto Universitario de Estudios sobre Migraciones), Universidad Pontificia Comillas, Spain
46. [**MACIMIDE**](#) (Maastricht Centre for Citizenship, Migration and Development), Maastricht University, The Netherlands

47. [MDX](#) (Middlesex University), UK
48. [MIF](#) (Migration Institute of Finland), Finland
49. [MIGLOBA](#) (The Network on Migration and Global Mobility of the University of Antwerp), University of Antwerp, Belgium
50. [MIM](#) (Malmö Institute for Studies of Migration, Diversity and Welfare), Malmö University, Sweden
51. [MiReKoc](#) (Koç University), Turkey
52. [MML PLUS](#) (The Salzburg Migration and Mobility Studies Lab), Austria
53. [MMMRH](#) (Monash Migration and Mobilities Research Hub), Monash University, Australia.
54. [NIDI](#) (Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute), The Netherlands
55. [NTNU](#) (NTNU Social Research Centre for Diversity and Inclusion), Norway
56. [OU](#) (Open University), UK
57. [PRIO](#) (Peace Research Institute Oslo), Norway
58. [REMESO](#) (Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society), Linköping University, Sweden
59. [RUHR-UNIVERSITAET BOCHUM](#), Germany
60. [RUNOMI](#) (Radboud University Network on Migrant Inclusion), The Netherlands
61. [SCIENCES PO](#), France
62. [SCMR](#) (Sussex Center for Migration Research), University of Sussex, UK
63. [SFM](#) (Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies), University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland
64. [SMI](#) (Slovenian Migration Institute of the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts), Slovenia
65. [UNICAMP](#), Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil (joined in 2025)
66. [UNIVE](#) (Ca'Foscari University), Italy
67. [UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK](#), Ireland
68. [UNIVERSITY OF GIRONA](#), Spain
69. University of Lancashire ([MIDEX](#): Centre for Migration, Diaspora and Exile; [AMIS](#): Institute for Area and Migration Studies; [PACT](#): Institute for Planetary Resilience and Community Transformation), United Kingdom
70. [UNIZG](#) (University of Zagreb), Croatia
71. [URMIS](#) (Unité de Recherches Migrations et Société), University of Nice, France
72. [WEI](#) (Work and Equalities Institute), University of Manchester, UK
73. [ZBI](#) (Center for Diversity, Democracy, and Inclusion in Education), University of Hildesheim, Germany (joined in July 2025)

*During 2025, the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity and the Leiden Interdisciplinary Migration Seminar (Leiden University) were also institutional members of the IMISCOE network.

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GOVERNANCE OF IMISCOE



This section describes the different governance bodies of IMISCOE, as well as their recent developments since 2025.

IMISCOE's governance structure includes the following:

- THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
- THE COORDINATORS & NETWORK OFFICE
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES:
 - › DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE
 - › EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
 - › ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
 - › EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
 - › FINANCE COMMITTEE
 - › PHD NETWORK
 - › TRAINING COMMITTEE

7.1 IMISCOE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors (BD) is the central decision-making body of IMISCOE. Formed by representatives of all **IMISCOE Member Institutes**, the BD takes decisions on the overall strategy and organisation of the Network, including the appointment of hosts for our major events, fund allocations, membership policy and the establishment of new Standing and Executive Committees in the Network. Wiebke Sievers (Austrian Academy of Sciences) is the Chair of the BD for the period 2022-2026.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Ahmet İçduygu, MiReKoc, Koç University
- Aly Tandian / Angèle Flora Mendy, Laboratoire d'Études et de Recherches sur Genre, Environnement, Religion et Migrations (GERM), Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis
- Ana Carolina de Moura Delfim Maciel / Adriana Nunes Ferreira, UNICAMP, Universidade Estadual de Campinas
- Anders Neergaard, Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society (REMESO), Linköping University
- Andreas Pott / Helen Schwenken, Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS), University of Osnabrück
- Andrew Geddes, European University Institute (EUI)
- Anja van Heelsum / Saskia Bonjour / Bram Lancee, Amsterdam Research Centre for Migration (ARC-M), University of Amsterdam
- Anja Weiß, Interdisciplinary Centre for Integration and Migration Research (InZentIM), University of Duisburg-Essen (in 2025, Helen Baykara-Krumme also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Anna Triandafyllidou, CERC in Migration and Integration, Toronto Metropolitan University (in 2025, Marshia Akbar also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Benjamin Etzold / Daniele Saracino, Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies
- Berit Berg / Turid Satermo, NTNU Social Research (in 2025, John Wrench also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Birte Nienaber, Faculty of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences (FHSE), University of Luxembourg
- Caitriona Ni Laoire, University College Cork
- Ceri Oepen, Sussex Centre for Migration Research (SCMR), University of Sussex (in 2025, Sarah Scuzzarello also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Dušan Drbohlav, Geographic Migration Centre (GEOMIGRACE), Charles University
- Ecaterina Stefanescu, University of Lancashire
- Eleonore Kofman, Middlesex University
- Federica Infantino, Unité de Recherches Migrations et Société (URMIS), University of Côte d'Azur
- Ferruccio Pastore, Forum Internazionale ed Europeo di Ricerche sull'Immigrazione (FIERI)
- Francesca Stella, Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network (GRAMNet), University of Glasgow
- Frank van Tubergen, Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI)

- Gabriella Elgenius, Centre on Global Migration (CGM), University of Gothenburg (in 2025 and 2026, Andrea Spehar also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Gianni D'Amato, Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies (SFM), University of Neuchâtel
- Gioconda Herrera, FLACSO Ecuador (Latin-American Faculty of Social Sciences, institutional member of IMISCOE since 2026)
- Giuseppe Sciortino, International Migration Laboratory (IML), University of Trento
- Goranka Lalić Novak, University of Zagreb
- Gorka Urrutia Asua, Institute of Human Rights, University of Deusto
- Guia Gilardoni, Fondazione Iniziative e Studi sulla Multietnicità Ente del Terzo Settore (ISMU)
- Gunjan Sondhi, Open University (in 2025, Parvati Raghuram also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Hanne Kavli / Guri Tyldum, Institute for Labour and Social Research (FAFO)
- Hassan Bousetta, Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM), University of Liège (in 2025, Marco Martiniello also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Hélène Le Bail / Martin Aranguren, Sciences Po Paris (in 2025, Virginie Guiraudon and Hélène Thiollet also acted as representatives of this institute in the BD)
- Ibrahim Awad, Centre for Migration and Refugee Studies (CMRS), American University in Cairo
- Ilke Adam / Hannah Vermaut, Brussels Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Migration and Minorities (BIRMM), Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Ilse Derluyn / Floor Verhaeghe, Centre for the Social Study of Migration and Refugees (CESSMIR), Ghent University
- Izabela Grabowska, Center for Research on Social Change and Human Mobility (CRASH), Kozminski University (institutional member of IMISCOE since 2026)
- Jan-Paul Brekke, Institute for Social Research Oslo (ISF)
- Jacqueline Broadhead, Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), University of Oxford
- Jennifer McGarrigle, Instituto de Geografia e Ordenamento de Território (IGOT-UL), University of Lisbon
- Jørgen Carling / Marta Bivand Erdal, Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)
- Karlijn Haagsman, Maastricht Centre for Citizenship, Migration and Development (MACIMIDE), Maastricht University
- Kristian Tronstad, Centre for Welfare and Labour Research (SVA), Oslo Metropolitan University
- Kyoko Shinozaki, Salzburg Migration and Mobility Studies Lab (MML PLUS), Paris-Lodron-University Salzburg
- Laura Oso, Societies in Motion Research Team (ESOMI), University of A Coruña
- Margit Fauser, Ruhr-Universität Bochum
- Marie Sandberg, Centre for Advanced Migration Studies (AMIS), University of Copenhagen
- Marie-Caroline Saglio-Yatzimirsky / Camille Schmoll, Institut Convergences Migrations (ICM)
- Marina Lukšič Hacin, Slovenian Migration Institute of the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SMI, institutional member of IMISCOE since 2026)
- Mathias Czaika / Albert Kraller, Department for Migration and Globalisation (DEMIG), University for Continuing Education Krems
- Milena Belloni, The Network on Migration and Global Mobility (MIGLOBA), University of Antwerp
- Mireille Paquet, Institute for Research on Migration and Society (IRMS), Concordia University (institutional member of IMISCOE since 2026)
- Muhammad Zaman / Carrie Preston, Center on Forced Displacement, Boston University
- Olaf P. van Vliet, Leiden Interdisciplinary Migration Seminar (LIMS- institutional member of IMISCOE in 2025)
- Òscar Prieto-Flores, University of Girona
- Özge Bilgili, European Centre on Migration and Ethnic Relations (ERCOMER), Utrecht University
- Pascal Beckers, Radboud University Network on Migration Inclusion (RUNOMI), Radboud University
- Patrick Simon, Institut National d'Études Démographiques (INED)

- Matteo Bonotti, Monash Migration and Mobilities Research Hub (MMMRH), Monash University (in 2025 and 2026, Paul Long also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Paweł Kaczmarczyk, Centre of Migration Research (CMR), University of Warsaw
- Peter Scholten, Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR)
- Pieter Bevelander, Malmö Institute for Migration Studies (MIM), Malmö University
- Ricard Zapata-Barrero / Zenia Hellgren, Interdisciplinary Research Group in Immigration (GRITIM), Universitat Pompeu Fabra
- Saara Pellander / Marja Tiilikainen, Migration Institute of Finland (MIF)
- Sabrina Marchetti, Ca'Foscari University (in 2025, Francesca Campomori also acted as representative of this institute in the BD)
- Sebastián Umpierrez de Reguero / Ingrid Ríos, Casa Grande University
- Sonja Novak Lukanović, Institute for Ethnic Studies (IES)

7.2 IMISCOE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The **IMISCOE Executive Board (EB)** oversees the management and coordination of the Network and its operation.

Parvati Raghuram (Open University) is the Chair of the Executive Board for the period 2022-2026. The Executive Board also consists of IMISCOE Coordinators (Daniela Vintila and Jean-Michel Lafleur), the Chair of the Board of Directors (Wiebke Sievers), the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors (Òscar Prieto-Flores) and representatives of the IMISCOE Member Institutes elected by the Board of Directors.

CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

- Parvati Raghuram (Chair of the Executive Board), Open University
- Sarah Scuzzarello (Vice-Chair of the Executive Board), University of Sussex
- Wiebke Sievers (Chair of the Board of Directors), Austrian Academy of Sciences
- Òscar Prieto-Flores (Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors), University of Girona
- Ahmet İçduygu, Koç University
- Eleonore Kofman, Middlesex University
- Gorka Urrutia Asua, University of Deusto
- Özge Bilgili, Utrecht University
- Paul Long, Monash University



7.3 IMISCOE COORDINATORS & NETWORK OFFICE

Since April 2022, the **Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM)** of the University of Liège has been the Coordinating Institute of IMISCOE.

Daniela Vintila and Jean-Michel Lafleur act as Coordinators of IMISCOE, thus being responsible for the day-to-day management and coordination of the **IMISCOE central administration** and its operation. The IMISCOE Network Office also includes Angeliki Konstantinidou (Senior Network Officer), Marine Maréchal (Finance Officer), Carole Wenger (Network and Communication Officer) and Valkyria Dantas Rattmann (Network and Communication assistant- since March 2026).

The tasks of the Network Office are complex and diverse, aiming to ensure the daily functioning of IMISCOE. They include, among many others:

- Developing working plans regarding the Network's strategy and organization for the IMISCOE Executive Board and the Board of Directors;
- Proposing policies regarding IMISCOE research, training, events, publications, communication, while ensuring the implementation of the decisions taken by the Board of Directors;
- Preparing financial plans regarding IMISCOE's budget and management of all incoming and outgoing financial transactions within the Network;
- Reporting to the Board of Directors on the Network's activities, achievements, risks, and budget performance and preparation of IMISCOE Annual Reports;
- Regular exchanges with IMISCOE's institutional and individual members, as well as all the governance bodies of the Network, including the preparation of the meetings of the IMISCOE Board of Directors and the Executive Board;
- Supporting and exchanging with all IMISCOE Executive and Standing Committees regarding the design, implementation and reporting of their work programs;
- Formalizing procedures for IMISCOE's internal governance structure, activities and events;
- Guidance, support and monitoring of the organization of all IMISCOE-sponsored events, including the review, registration, scheduling and communication for the Annual Conference;
- Negotiation and follow-up of agreements with third party providers, with the hosts of all IMISCOE sponsored events, and with authors publishing their manuscripts in the IMISCOE book series with Springer;
- Follow-up and support to prospective Institutional Members and other parties wishing to cooperate with IMISCOE;
- Maintenance and updates of the IMISCOE website, the Annual Conference platform, the Migration Research Hub, and all IMISCOE communication channels, including social media accounts.



Daniela Vintila
IMISCOE Coordinator



Jean-Michel Lafleur
IMISCOE Associate Coordinator



Angeliki Konstantinidou
Senior Network Officer



Carole Wenger
Network and Communication Officer



Marine Maréchal
Finance Officer



Valkyria Dantas Rattmann
Network and Communication Assistant

7.4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

IMISCOE's Executive Committees are task-specific committees dealing with different aspects regarding the Network's core activities, functioning and operations.

7.4.1 COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION (DEIC)

IMISCOE's Executive Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEIC) was created in 2022 and is established in the Consortium Agreement (art. 8). Its main aim is to develop and propose to the IMISCOE Coordinators, the Executive Board, and the Board of the Directors policies and practices that will ensure IMISCOE's commitment of being antiracist and inclusive. DEIC also advises on how to increase the participation of under-represented groups, especially racialized groups, in all IMISCOE activities, including those related to research and teaching, communications, networking and membership of the Network's governance bodies and committees.

Current members of DEIC:

- Guia Gilardoni (DEIC Chair since July 2025), ISMU Foundation
- Anders Neergaard (DEIC Chair until July 2025), Linköping University
- Thais França (DEIC Vice-Chair since July 2025), Lisbon University Institute
- Ana Beatriz Baselice Pelicioni, University of Warsaw
- Glenda Santana de Andrade, Université Paris 8 and Institut Convergences Migrations
- Gunjan Sondhi, Open University
- Hassan Bousetta, University of Liège
- Jelena Džankić, European University Institute
- Maissam Nimer (since 2026), Akdeniz University
- Milena Doytcheva (since 2026), Université de Caen Normandie
- Sayaka Osanami Törngren, Malmö University
- Zeynep Sahin Menkütek, Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies

*During the year 2025, Marco Martiniello (University of Liège) and Nir Cohen (University of Bar Ilan) also acted as DEIC members.

DEIC members work with portfolios reflecting the organization of IMISCOE. The activities focus on being a support within IMISCOE in discussing matters related to diversity, equity and inclusion, with the aim of counteracting barriers, improving representation and keeping alive a discussion concerning these complex aspects. An important focus of DEIC has been on developing contacts and participating in the discussions with different IMISCOE governance bodies, but also to develop a discussion concerning the role and tasks of the DEIC. Concerning the main IMISCOE event, the Annual Conference, DEIC has been in dialogue with IMISCOE groups and conference organizers concerning diversity, equity and inclusion, encompassing, among other aspects, scholarships, conference fees, and multilingual possibilities. It has prepared the *Guidelines for writing abstracts* with the aim of supporting colleagues to develop more competitive and high-quality conference submissions. During 2025, DEIC also continued

its collaboration with the Standing Committee RACED for the development of a survey related to diversity, equity and inclusion. During the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference held in Paris Aubervilliers, the Committee also organized a special workshop on *Promoting inclusivity through linguistic diversity*. The workshop explored how multilingualism can challenge the dominance of English and promote greater epistemic inclusion within IMISCOE, highlighting both technological solutions and human-centered approaches. It also discussed practical measures to value linguistic diversity in conferences, publications, and communication practices.

DEIC portfolios and the members responsible for them:

1. IMISCOE Network Office and Committee chairs

IMISCOE Network Office: Daniela Vintila, Jean-Michel Lafleur, Angeliki Konstantinidou

Committee chairs: Anders Neergaard, Guia Gilardoni

2. IMISCOE events (Annual Conference, Spring Conference, PhD School, Forum)

Annual Conferences: Thais França, Guia Gilardoni (since 2026), Anders Neergaard (in 2025)

Spring Conference: Anders Neergaard and Ana Beatriz Baselice Pelicioni (since 2026), Marco Martiniello and Nir Cohen (in 2025)

PhD School: Gunjan Sondhi

Forum: Hassan Bousetta

3. IMISCOE Standing Committees

Guia Gilardoni, Gunjan Sondhi, Zeynep Sahin Menkütek

4. IMISCOE activities with and for PhD students (PhD Network & PhD Academy)

PhD Network: Anders Neergaard, Hassan Bousetta, Gunjan Sondhi, Ana Beatriz Pelicioni

PhD Academy: Thais França, Hassan Bousetta, Ana Beatriz Pelicioni

5. IMISCOE's external affairs (Network's membership & external communication strategies)

Zeynep Menkütek, Gunjan Sondhi

6. IMISCOE Awards (Maria Baganha & Rinus Penninx Awards)

Jelena Džankić

*During the year 2025, Jelena Džankić was also responsible for the portfolio on IMISCOE publications (book series with Springer & CMS journal).

7.4.2 EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

IMISCOE's Editorial Committee includes leading scholars from all over the world who are responsible for the dedicated book series that the IMISCOE Network publishes with Springer. All books published in the IMISCOE Research Series are available at:

<https://www.springer.com/series/13502>

This successful series includes research monographs and edited volumes, targeting a more specialized audience; a Short Reader series, aimed at students, young researchers or practitioners who need a concise and simple introduction into a specific topic; and a Regional Reader series providing access to expert knowledge from different world regions. The book series is largely Open Access, with entire books and separate chapters available for

download for free, thanks to a privileged agreement between IMISCOE and Springer. Open Access is expected to become the standard in academic publishing, as it enables the widest possible access to scientific knowledge. On average, Open Access books on SpringerLink are downloaded 10 times more and cited 2.4 times more than non-OA books.

During the year 2025, the Editorial Committee supervised the publication of 13 manuscripts in the IMISCOE Research Series (including one Short Reader) and more Open Access Books are expected to be published over the period 2026-2027. The review procedures include a peer review of all book proposals by three or four Editorial Committee members and the Editorial Committee Chair, and a full peer refereeing of each manuscript by one Editorial Committee member and one external reviewer.

Editorial Committee members:

- Anna Triandafyllidou (Editorial Committee Chair), Toronto Metropolitan University
- Irina Isaakyan (Managing Editor), Toronto Metropolitan University
- Aneta Piekut, University of Sheffield
- Ayhan Kaya, Istanbul Bilgi University
- Benjamin Etzold, Bonn International Center for Conflict Studies
- Helen Schwenken, Universität Osnabrück
- Irene Ponzio, Forum Internazionale ed Europeo di Ricerche sull'Immigrazione
- Justyna Salamońska, Kozminski University
- Karin Borevi, Södertörn University
- Laura Oso, Universidade da Coruña
- Lekh Nath Paudel, Osnabrück University
- Luigi Achilli, European University Institute
- Matteo Bonotti, Monash University
- Ognjen Obućina, INED
- Panos Hatziprokopiou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Sabrina Marchetti, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

List of books published in 2025:

	Author(s)/ Editor(s)	Title	Downloads & citations
1	Mikolaj Stanek, Sol P. Juárez, Miguel Requena	<u>Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Immigrant Health: New Insights from Spain</u>	Published in February 2025, 18k accesses
2	Shanshan Lan, Miloš Debnár	<u>Migration, Transnational Flows, and the Contested Meanings of Race in Asia</u>	Published in March 2025, 33k accesses
3	Özge Bilgili and Marta Bivand Erdal	<u>Migrant Transnationalism (Short Reader)</u>	Published in June 2025, 16k accesses
4	Julija Sardelić	<u>Refugee Protection Crises and Transit Europe. Immediate Responses, Selective Memory, and the Self-Serving Politics of Diversity</u>	Published in August 2025, 6k accesses
5	Harald Bauder and Mary Boatemaa Setrana	<u>Urban Migrant Inclusion and Refugee Protection: Frontiers of Sanctuary, Solidarity, and Hospitality (Volume 1)</u>	Published in August 2025, 28k accesses
6	Harald Bauder and Mary Setrana	<u>Urban Migrant Inclusion and Refugee Protection: Global Perspectives of Sanctuary, Solidarity, and Hospitality (Volume 2)</u>	Published in August 2025, 25k accesses
7	Iva Dodevska	<u>Europe and its Others: Migrant Integration in Research and Policy</u>	Published in August 2025, 11k accesses
8	Liberty L. Chee	<u>Merchants of Migrant Domestic Labour: Recruitment Agencies and Neoliberal Migration Governance in Southeast Asia</u>	Published in September 2025, 8k accesses
9	Jeremie Molho, Marie Gibert-Flutre, Kong Chong Ho	<u>City Makers and the Politics of Urban Diversity Governance: Comparative Approaches from Europe and Asia</u>	Published in October 2025, 26k accesses
10	Janine Dahinden, Andreas Pott	<u>Reflexivities and Knowledge Production in Migration Studies: Pitfalls and Alternatives</u>	Published in October 2025, 74k accesses
11	Ilke Adam, Jean Beaman, Mariska Jung	<u>A New Wave of Anti-Racism in Europe? Racialized Minorities at the Centre</u>	Published in November 2025, 38k accesses
12	Matteo Bonotti, Chiara De Lazzari, Narelle Miragliotta	<u>Diasporas, Voting and Linguistic Justice: A Study of Second- and Third-Generation Italo-Australians</u>	Published in November 2025, 7k accesses
13	Andonis Piperoglou, Francesco Ricatti	<u>Researching Migration on Indigenous Lands: Challenges, Reflections, Pathways</u>	Published in December 2025, 26k accesses

List of books published/expected to be published in 2026:

	Author(s)/ Editor(s)	Title	Status & downloads
1	Nick Dines	<u><i>Migration & European Cities: A Multidimensional Perspective</i></u> (Short Reader)	Published in January 2026, 7k accesses
2	Karin Borevi and Ayhan Kaya	<u><i>Migration and the Politics of Integration</i></u> (Short Reader)	Published in March 2026, 6k accesses
3	Halleh Ghorashi, Tara Fiorito, Phoebe Kisubi Mbasalaki, and Elena Ponzoni	<u><i>Transformative Engaged Scholarship in Migration: Toward a Co-creative, Caring, and Reflexive Migration Studies</i></u>	Published in May 2026, 4k accesses
4	Benjamin Etzold, Marie Godin	<u><i>Translocal Lives in Times of Conflict Understanding People's (Im)Mobilities and (Dis)Connections under Conditions of Violence and War</i></u>	Expected in July 2026
5	Karolina Łukasiewicz, Marta Pachocka, Michał Nowosielski	<u><i>Migration Governance in Central and Eastern European Cities Post-2015</i></u>	Expected in August 2026
6	Hila Zaban and Franz Buhr	<u><i>Privilege in Migration Mobilities, Inequalities, and the Urban Context</i></u>	Expected in August 2026
7	Marek Okólski	<u><i>Do Employers Matter? Their Impact on Labour Migration</i></u>	Expected in August 2026
8	Ortrun Merkel and Melissa Siegel	<i>Migration & Corruption</i> (Short Reader)	Expected in September 2026
9	Mehrunnisa Ali	<i>Migration Research Across Borders</i>	Expected in October 2026

7.4.3 ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The **IMISCOE Executive Committee on Elections** is responsible for managing and ensuring the fairness and transparency of all elections taking place in the IMISCOE Network, including that of the IMISCOE Coordinator.

Throughout 2025, the Committee prepared and organized the elections for the host institution of the 2027 IMISCOE PhD school, while also advising on the procedures to be followed for the election of the members of different IMISCOE governance bodies.

Members of the Elections Committee:

- Sebastián Umpierrez de Reguero, Casa Grande University
- Sorina Soare, University of Florence
- Verena Wisthaler, EURAC Research

7.4.4 EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (EAC)

The **External Affairs Committee (EAC)** deals with the promotion of IMISCOE bridges between research, policy, and society. In addition, its ambition is to ensure IMISCOE's impact on society and public policy at national, European and international levels. The chair of the External Affairs Committee, Ricard Zapata-Barrero, is responsible for coordinating the EAC agenda, represents EAC at the BD, and is in permanent contact with the IMISCOE Coordinators and the Network Office. He is also editor-in-chief of the IMISCOE Bulletin. The IMISCOE Bulletin is a dissemination channel collecting and sharing the selection of the accumulated knowledge produced by the members of the IMISCOE Board of Directors. All the editions of the IMISCOE Bulletin can be consulted here: <https://www.imiscoe.org/news-and-blog/bulletin>.

Current members of the External Affairs Committee:

- Ricard Zapata-Barrero (EAC Chair), GRITIM, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
- Albert Kraler, Center for Migration and Globalisation Research, Danube University Krems
- Asya Pisarevskaya, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Ibrahim Awad, American University in Cairo
- Ingrid Ríos, Casa Grande University
- Verena Wisthaler, EURAC Research.

HIGHLIGHT: THE IMISCOE MIGRATION **PODCAST**

Background & overview of activities in 2025

An initiative by the IMISCOE Network, this podcast explores the latest in migration and mobility research globally. Providing a platform for migration scholars to speak about their recent research projects, ideas and insights, the ***IMISCOE Migration Podcast*** aims to publicize and render more accessible what happens inside universities and research institutes around the world. Created in 2020 by Fiona Seiger, the podcast has received, until now, a total of 14,425 plays. It is run voluntarily by a group of committed researchers. **The coordination team** consists of: podcast producers Kate Dearden, team coordination and programming Milena Belloni, Roos Derrix and Mark Marvin Kadigo (University of Antwerp, MIGLOBA); Asya Pisarevskaya, responsible for promotion and finances (Erasmus University Rotterdam).

Since its inception, the podcast has aimed for a balanced representation of migration researchers in terms of geographic locations and focus, thematic expertise, and career stages. This principle helped to showcase perspectives and knowledge gained from different countries around the world. The podcast team's goal is to provide a platform to a diverse crowd of scholars.

The 2025-2026 team of interviewers includes: Itzel Eguiluz (Tec de Monterrey Mexico, Red Atenea), Samanwita Paul (Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Silindile Nanzile Mlilo (African Centre for Migration & Society, University of Witwatersrand), recently joined by Lena Richter (EURAC Research). We would like to thank Liberty Chee for her contributions as podcast interviewer in the past years, as well as Rogier Frederiks for having contributed to the podcast sound editing and production in the past months. Both Liberty and Rogier had to discontinue their participation.

In 2025, the team released the following episodes:

2025: Season 5

Episode	Guest	Topic
1	Ulrike Bialas and Eleonora Milazzo	<i>Dublin, solidarity and age.</i>
2	Ntokozo Yingwana and Isabel Rose Soloaga	<i>Film and digital storytelling in migration research</i>
3	Rustam Urinbojev and Nodira Kholmatova	<i>Migration & Russia</i>
4	Ietza Bojorquez and Sylvia Dantas	<i>Migration and mental health: A look at Latin America</i>
5	Andrea Pettrachin and Karolina Łukasiewicz	<i>How European cities respond to migration</i>
6	Rose Champion and Louis Brehony	<i>Making Resonance: Forced Migrants and Music Across Borders</i>
7	Cecilia Schenetti and Rossella Marino	<i>Migration information campaigns – European governments' strategy</i>

8	Katie Paul, Anatoliy Gruzd and Mattias Ekman (repost from Borders and Belonging podcast)	<i>False narratives, real consequences: Social media's impact on thoughts about migration?</i>
9	Irene Landini and Jacob Garrett	<i>Schools as sites of migrant integration</i>
10	Asuncion Fresnoza-Flot and Herbarry Cheung	<i>A conversation with the «2025 GenSeM best paper» winners</i>

Plans for 2026:

New episodes in 2026: Season 6

Episode	Guest	Topic
1	Özge Bilgili & Marta Bivand Erdal	<i>Understanding the world through transnationalism</i>
2	Helena Wray	<i>Brexit couples and the British immigration system</i>
3	Oliver Bakwell	<i>Migration and development – Has research and policy lost its way?</i>
4	Bridget Anderson	<i>(forthcoming July)</i>

Season 6 is still in the making and we welcome proposals for new episodes. We are particularly interested in conducting more interviews with scholars outside Europe. If you have suggestions, please reach out to our coordination and programming team (***Milena Belloni***).

Training

In February 2026, the IMISCOE Migration Podcast team organized an online training led by professional podcast producer Kevin Caners. The training focused on strengthening journalistic interviewing skills, which are quite distinct from academic qualitative interviewing style. Podcasters have learned that podcast interviews require clear and conversational style, a story arc, and a clear takeaway, to make research insights accessible and engaging to the listeners. Across two sessions, interviewers explored practical techniques, common pitfalls, and the art of balancing preparation for the interviews with spontaneity of interactions during recording. Participants then conducted practice interviews with each other and submitted recordings for feedback. During the final session, the trainer provided detailed reflections on these recordings and discussed how to refine interviewing styles for future episodes. Supported by IMISCOE structural funding, this training equipped the team with new skills for Season 6.

Workshop at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference

At the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference, the podcast team is organizing the workshop “*Engaging policy and society through migration podcasting*” (1 July, 15:00–16:30, session 204), which will explore the question: *Can academic podcasts help bring migration research beyond the ivory tower?* In a field where public debate is often polarized and detached from evidence, podcasts can offer an accessible way to share scholarly insights with wider audiences and create dialogue with societal, political, and policy actors. Building on the contacts with other migration podcasts, the workshop organizer Asya Pisarevskaya brought together podcasting teams from:

- Borders & Belonging Podcast — Maggie Perzyna
- The IMISCOE Migration Podcast — Milena Belloni and Kate Dearden
- Queer(y)ing Asylum — Diego García Rodríguez
- BIRMM Migration Talks — Hannah Vermaut

Podcasters will reflect on the opportunities and challenges of academic podcasting, including production, continuity, audience engagement, and impact. In this interactive session, attendees can discuss about their own experiences with listening to, producing, or using podcasts in research, teaching, policy, and public engagement.

More information on the IMISCOE Migration Podcast can be found here:

<https://www.imiscoe.org/news-and-blog/podcast>

7.4.5 FINANCE COMMITTEE

IMISCOE's Finance Committee serves as the Network's auditing body. As the Coordinating Institute of IMISCOE, the University of Liège administers the Network's finances. The task of the Finance Committee is to review IMISCOE's finances and advise the Coordinators and the Board of Directors on financial matters. The members of the Finance Committee are appointed by the Executive Board of IMISCOE.

Members of the Finance Committee:

- Paweł Kaczmarczyk, Centre of Migration Research (CMR), University of Warsaw
- Veronika Bilger, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).

7.4.6 PHD NETWORK

The **IMISCOE PhD Network** serves as a bridge between the broader community of PhD researchers worldwide and the IMISCOE Network. Its goal is to create an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere where PhD candidates feel valued and heard, both within IMISCOE and among the wider research community. The PhD Network Board organizes activities for PhD candidates within IMISCOE, such as workshops and training, online networking opportunities linking students from across the world, and activities specifically tailored for PhD researchers at both the Spring and Annual Conferences.

Moreover, the PhD Board works closely with the IMISCOE Network Office, the IMISCOE PhD Academy, and IMISCOE's Standing and Executive Committees. Every academic year, the board appoints new members to engage in designing these activities. For the academic year 2024-2025, the board counted 16 active members. This group of PhD researchers regularly meet online and separately work on one of the following tasks: Annual Conference, Spring Conference, Buddy System, Blog Group, Newsletter and Communication, and the PhD Day.

If you wish to stay up to date with the activities of the IMISCOE PhD Network, follow the group on [LinkedIn](#) or register for their [newsletter](#).

Description of 2025 activities and plans for the future

In 2025, the IMISCOE PhD Network Board continued its efforts to strengthen the sense of community, support, and exchange among PhD researchers in migration studies. Through a series of online and in-person initiatives, the Board focused on creating spaces for reflection on the realities of academic life, encouraging peer connection, and supporting early-career researchers in navigating academia.

The Board organized networking and community-building activities during the 2025 **PhD Day**, and at the 2025 **Spring Conference** and **Annual Conference**, providing opportunities for PhD researchers to connect across institutions and disciplines. A central theme throughout the year was the **exploration of academic wellbeing, motivation, and "finding joy"** within research careers. The Board encouraged PhD candidates to engage in critical reflection on the

challenges and rewards of academic life, including questions of belonging, purpose, work-life balance, and professional development. These reflections culminated in the preparation of a Best Practice Guide on finding and nurturing joy in academia for early-career researchers, which will be presented at the 2026 Annual Conference in Girona, and made available online.

The IMISCOE **PhD Blog** also remained an important platform for doctoral researchers to share reflections, experiences, and innovative research perspectives. In 2025, the blog published six contributions addressing themes such as positionality, participatory methods, migrant marginalities, and wellbeing in academia. The work of the Blog Group culminated in the publication of the Special Issue **“Unpacking Intersectional Perspectives on Migrant Marginalities: Tracing Agency, Solidarity and Resistance”**, which gathered contributions exploring intersectional and engaged approaches to migration research.

To improve communication and outreach, the PhD Board invested in new tools and formats throughout the year. A redesigned newsletter format was launched, enabling the Network to better track and expand its reach. By the end of 2025, the IMISCOE PhD Network connected with 531 researchers across six continents. Published four times a year, the newsletter featured updates from the Network, calls for contributions, and publication and blog highlights relevant to early-career researchers.

To complement these efforts and provide more immediate updates, the Network also launched a **LinkedIn page** to share opportunities, events, and resources for young researchers in migration studies. These initiatives contributed to strengthening the visibility and accessibility of the IMISCOE PhD Network and fostering a more connected international doctoral community.

Looking ahead to the 2025–2026 academic year, the IMISCOE PhD Network will focus on the theme *“Community and Curiosity in the Research Process”*. Building on previous reflections on wellbeing and joy in academia, this new theme explores how curiosity drives research trajectories while communities sustain and enrich them. Alongside these thematic activities, the Board will continue its efforts to strengthen the Network’s long-term sustainability by streamlining procedures, improving continuity between mandates, and reinforcing the role of the Board as an effective and collaborative executive committee. These efforts aim to ensure stronger institutional memory, more efficient coordination, and a more supportive environment for both current and future members of the Network.

PhD Network Board for the academic year 2024-2025:

- Chair: Billie Martiniello, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (until July 2025)
- PhD Vice-Chair: Silvia Talavera Lodos, School of Advanced Studies Sant’Anna (until October 2025)
- PhD Vice-Chair: Agnese Pacciardi, University of Lund (until September 2025)
- Alice Fill, Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris & University of Roma Tre (until September 2025)
- Denis Zekovic, Technical University Chemnitz & German Center for Integration and Migration Research (DeMIZ)
- Diletta Marcucci, Pompeu Fabra University
- Elina Jonitz, Erasmus University Rotterdam (until September 2025)
- Fabiana Pineda, University of Barcelona (until July 2025)
- Filipa Saraiva, University of Coimbra (FUEC) & Centre for Social Studies (CES)

- Gunika Rishi, Norwegian University of Science and Technology
- Ismail Oubad, Center for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM), University of Liège (until October 2025)
- Katharina Klaunig, University of North Carolina
- Lucy Potter, University of Sheffield (until March 2025)
- Teresa Pallarés Ramos, Comillas University Spain
- Tulika Bourai, Birla Institute of Science and Technology- Pilani
- Yowali Kabamba, Utrecht University

New members who joined the PhD Board for the academic year 2025-2026:

- Chair: Yowali Kabamba, Utrecht University
- Vice-Chair: Denis Zekovic, Technical University Chemnitz & German Center for Integration and Migration Research (DeMIZ)
- Alba Planchart, Malmö Institute for Migration Studies
- Amy Bugnoli, Universities of Innsbruck and Trento
- Ana Beatriz Baselice Pelicioni, University of Warsaw
- Leah Durst-Lee, University of Coimbra
- Tulya Su Güven, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Victor Ombugadu, Nasarawa State University
- Watfa Najdi, Erasmus University of Rotterdam

PhD Network Advisory Board:

- Lucy Potter, University of Sheffield
- Mateusz M. Krawczyk
- Adriana Calvo, University of Deusto
- Irene Gutiérrez Torres, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Sebastian Carlotti, University of Pisa
- Mariia Shaidrova, University of Tilburg
- Sandra N. Morgenstern, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES)
- Carolin Müller
- Samuel D. Schmid, University of Lucerne
- Olav Nygård

7.4.7 TRAINING COMMITTEE

The **Training Committee** aims to encourage and facilitate training activities within the Network, and more specifically, to organize the IMISCOE PhD Academy.

In 2025, the Training Committee held online meetings, in conjunction with planning, preparing, and following up on the IMISCOE PhD Academy membership, events, and workshops. One important aspect of this work is maintaining a close dialogue with the IMISCOE PhD Network through the PhD Network board member of the Training Committee. Another aspect is sharing information about training activities (PhD courses, networking events, etc.) happening within IMISCOE, and especially in the context of many Standing Committees' engagement with doctoral researchers. In 2025, the Training Committee also supported the PhD Network's efforts to organize the IMISCOE Annual PhD Day (virtually) and a pizza-socializing event on the evening before the start of the IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris.

Training Committee members:

- Marta Bivand Erdal, Peace Research Institute Oslo (Chair until 2025)
- Nilay Kilinc, Helsinki Institute of Urban and Regional Studies, University of Helsinki (Chair since February 2026)
- Sophia Schönthaler, Center for Migration and Societal Change, Eurac Research (Chair since February 2026)
- Denis Zekovic (PhD Network representative), Technical University Chemnitz
- Gokhan Kayir, Manisa Celal Bayar University
- Martha Munezhi, School of Policy Studies, Queen's University
- Nomkhosi Mbatha, University of the Western Cape
- Olga Khabibulina, Polish Academy of Sciences
- Saleh Seid Adem, University of Cologne
- Thais França, CIES-ISCTE

IMISCOE PHD ACADEMY

The **IMISCOE PhD Academy** connects PhD researchers working across the broad field of migration studies, providing specialized training, mentoring, and opportunities for academic exchange while strengthening the IMISCOE PhD network community. In 2025, the Academy received more than 90 applications of exceptionally high quality from PhD researchers representing a wide range of disciplines, methodological approaches, and geographical backgrounds. The selected cohort reflects this diversity. This year's PhD Academy members come from Asia, Africa, North America, and Europe. While most are affiliated with European institutions, many bring rich personal migration experiences that further enhance the cohort's geographical and experiential diversity.

The new members' research projects demonstrate the breadth and dynamism of contemporary migration studies. Topics range from language policy and migration in Switzerland to migration as a disabling process, examining how disability and policy intersect along migration routes through Mexico towards the United States. Other projects explore the social infrastructure and identity construction of cross-cultural children and youth with Latin American heritage in Helsinki, alongside a wide range of issues related to mobility, inclusion, and social justice. The cohort's research spans diverse temporal and spatial contexts and multiple levels of analysis, providing valuable contributions to both the PhD Academy and the wider IMISCOE network. Its global scope is equally noteworthy, encompassing topics such as intra-EU migration, climate-induced migration in the African context, and other migration dynamics across different regions of the world.

Overall, the PhD Academy members come from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds and employ a variety of methodological approaches, reflecting the multifaceted nature of migration studies. Their diversity highlights the continued importance of the IMISCOE PhD Network and the PhD Academy in fostering connections among emerging migration scholars across disciplines, regions, and research traditions, while strengthening the next generation of migration researchers worldwide.



8

IMISCOE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE



8.1 IMISCOE STANDING COMMITTEES (SCs)

8.1.1 ARTS, CULTURE AND MIGRATION (DIVCULT)

Coordinators: Elsa Mescoli (since 2026), Karolina Nikielska-Sekuła (since 2026), Marco Martiniello (in 2025), Wiebke Sievers (in 2025)

PhD representatives: Ana Beatriz Baselice Pelicioni (since 2026), Eurídice Hernández Gomes (since 2026), Joanna Jurkiewicz (in 2025), Diana Duarte Bernal (in 2025)

The **Standing Committee DIVCULT** aims to better understand the relevance of arts and culture in the theoretical and policy debates about immigrant incorporation and diversity in Europe and beyond. Over the last years, artistic activities have found increasing interest among migration researchers because they prove to be a means of moving beyond ethnic differences towards narratives of identity and belonging which can capture the current postmigrant reality in many cities and countries. DIVCULT covers a wide range of artistic and cultural activities in migration-related analyses, ranging from music, literature, cinema, and theatre to sports, fashion, clothing, design, and food. The idea is to jointly work on the following dimensions: theoretical and conceptual issues; methodologies; relevance and social impact. These dimensions constitute the general framework in which the researchers involved can initiate joint research activities, organize workshops and conferences, and prepare publications.

DIVCULT activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris–Aubervilliers, including: the workshop “*Researching human mobility, activism, and activism: New concepts and approaches for migration research*” organized by Melissa Meralli and Laura Oso; the pre-launch workshop of the book “*Contemporary dynamics of arts and cultural participation through the lens of immigration*” organized by Caroline Marcoux-Gendron; panel “*Decentering the understanding of migrant integration: Exploring immigrant participation in the arts*” organized by Angeline Escafre-Dublet; SC DIVCULT Special Session: “*Musicking migration: the role of sound in migration dynamics*” organized by Angeline Escafre-Dublet; two panels on the theme “*Addressing (im)migration dynamics through the study of arts and culture: Representations and practices across the globe?*” organized by Matteo Dutto (Part 1) and Lorenzo Rinelli (Part 2); a series of panels entitled “*Challenging the norms from the margins*”, including “*Negotiating cultures in complex foodscapes*” organized by Elsa Mescoli and Susan Beth Rottmann (Session 1/3); “*Identity, belonging and encounters through the arts*” organized by Elsa Mescoli and Susan Beth Rottmann (Session 2/3); and “*Migrants’ practices of activism*” organized by Elsa Mescoli (Session 3/3).
- › Supporting PhD initiatives, such as the organization of the IMISCOE Standing Committee Spring Workshop that included one PhD panel, the preparation of a Special Issue with contributions from members of the PhD group, the organization of monthly PhD cafés, the creation of an online communication channel for DIVCULT PhD students, and fostering the connections with PhD representatives of other Standing Committees.
- › DIVCULT Spring Workshop (March 2025) at the Austrian Academy of Sciences (Vienna & online), including the seminar “*Locating postmigration in English-speaking debates on migration, arts and culture*” coordinated by Wiebke Sievers (Austrian Academy of Sciences) and Michael Parzer (University of Vienna), the seminar “*Exploring civic and political engagement within festivals thematizing migration and ethnic diversity*” coordinated by Ivana Rapoš Božič (Masaryk University), Mark Simon (Bielefeld University) and Joanna Jurkiewicz (Humboldt University), the PhD initiatives and the DIVCULT General Assembly.

DIVCULT activities planned for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference.
- › 2026 DIVCULT Spring Event on “*Urban mobilities: Artistic and cultural engagements with migration histories and discourses*” (May 2026, Faculty of Humanities, University of Lisbon).
- › Organization of two DIVCULT webinars in Spring and Autumn 2026. The Spring webinar takes place on 25 June and focuses on participatory and visual methods in migration research. It is open to everyone and features six presentations by SC members from Europe, Turkey, Syria, and Latin America.
- › Launch of a Special Issue call on multisensoriality, migration and materiality, coordinated by Karolina Nikielska-Sekuła, Amandine Desille, and Franz Buhr.
- › Specific PhD activities, including organization an interactive workshop and dinner for DIVCULT PhD candidates at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference and two online meetings during the second semester, in collaboration with PhD representatives from other Standing Committees.

For more information on SC DIVCULT, please visit:

<https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/superdiversity-migration-and-cultural-change> and follow the SC's LinkedIn account: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/arts-culture-migration/>

8.1.2 EDUCATION AND SOCIAL INEQUALITY (EDUSOCIAL)

Coordinators: : Thais França, Elif Keskiner, Jens Schneider, Nubin Ciziri, Gulsah Turk-Yigitalp, Fanny D'hondt, Yao Xie (until May 2025), Zehra Colak (until May 2025)

PhD representatives: Tamila Carvalho, Cristina Mazzero

The intersection between social inequality and education has always been an important topic for the IMISCOE network, fostering innovative comparative research across countries. The ongoing central importance of the field of education –at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels– is key for understanding international migration patterns, experiences and outcomes. Furthermore, it is through education that social inequalities are sustained, increased, or abolished. This is why “social inequality” is at the core of this SC research. The **Standing Committee EduSocial** aims to advance critical theoretical discussions on social inequalities in education access and outcome, education-to-work transitions, and international mobility and education (e.g., students and refugees).

EduSocial activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference, including the SC Workshop *Decentring teaching on migration and race*.
- › Organization of the Workshop “*Language diversity, education and learning in the context of migration and diaspora*” (13-14 November in Lisbon, Portugal).
- › Organization of online writing retreats aimed at PhD students and early-career researchers and designed to provide structured writing.
- › Coordination of the Special Issue “*Critical perspectives on anti-racism in education*” to be published in *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.
- › Preparation of the Special Issue “*Language regimes in migration*”.

EduSocial activities planned for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference.
- › Maintaining the SC Travel Grant for the IMISCOE Annual Conference.
- › Maintaining the biannual newsletter publication.
- › Launch of a quarterly webinar series on “*Language, power, and social boundaries: Dynamics of inclusion and exclusion across social spaces*” in collaboration with CESSMIR (Ghent University) and the Center for Migration and Societal Change (EURAC Research).
- › Continuing the online writing retreats for PhD students.
- › Supporting the organization of the workshop “*Forced migration and displacement in higher education: Theoretical perspectives, methodological challenges and policy implications*” to be held at the University of Trento in September 2026.

For more information on SC EduSocial, please visit: <https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/education-and-social-inequality>

8.1.3 FAMILIES, WELFARE, CARE AND THE LIFE COURSE (SC FAMWELC)

Coordinators: Tineke Fokkema, Alistair Hunter

PhD representatives: Maria Izzo, Myra Mufti

Early-career representative: Anu Abraham

The **Standing Committee FamWelC** seeks to draw attention in migration studies to the interconnections between families, welfare and care, and their changing contexts; advance a life-course perspective in migration studies by facilitating dialogue between scholars working on different life-course phases and transitions; contribute to local, national and international policy debates on welfare and care as they relate to migrants and their families, advocating for interventions to mitigate social risks across the migratory life-course; facilitate the career development of the next generation of researchers working in these fields and create more synergies between scholars from different world regions; develop joint publications, collaborative projects and applications for funding between scholars working on these topics.

FamWelC activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris-Aubervilliers. During the event, the SC also held its annual general meeting and an evening social event for SC members.
- › Organization of four online events: *“Migrants as migration researchers”* (May), facilitated by PhD and early-career representatives Maria Izzo, Myra Mufti and Anu Abraham, and the co-leads of the “Informal care and social support” thematic working group, Martha Montero-Sieburth and Başak Bilecen; *“Kissing the screen? Transnational grandparenting, personal networks & ICTs”* (September) facilitated by the two authors, Louise Ryan and Weronika Kloc-Nowak, and supported by the thematic working group “Migration and life-course transitions” led by Laura Kempainen and Weronika Kloc-Nowak; *“Migrants and formal providers of health and social services: What is the role of trust in these interactions?”* (December), facilitated by Hanna Carlsson and Allen Glicksman, co-leads of the thematic working group “Health care and social services” and featuring short inputs from three expert speakers- Monique Kremer (University of Amsterdam), Elżbieta Czapka (University of Gdańsk) and Freya Diederich (University of Bremen); *“Exile and beyond. A graphic novel about death in migration”* (December) facilitated by the creative team behind the graphic novel- Gaspard Njock and Félicien de Heusch, alongside Alistair Hunter, and with discussion by Alexandra Délano Alonso (New School, New York).
- › Publication of the Special Issue *“Older refugees: Who are they and how are they faring?”* in the Journal of Refugee Studies. Edited by SC members Vincent Horn and Tineke Fokkema and including articles from SC members.
- › Acceptance of the Special Issue proposal *“Navigating age and migration: Methodological innovations and challenges in researching older migrants”* by International Migration, featuring contributions from SC members Emma Fàbrega, Başak Bilecen and Maria Izzo, along with Silvia Stefani as guest editors. The basis for this Special Issue was the SC conference organized in September 2024 in Valencia.
- › Launch of a new SC [LinkedIn account](#).

FamWelC activities planned for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference
- › Online book forum for *“Stuck at home: Pandemic immobilities in the nation of emigration”*, by Yasmin Ortiga (Singapore Management University).
- › Planning of an in-person conference/workshop dedicated to the SC’s themes, to take place in autumn 2026/spring 2027.
- › Webinar *“Decolonization and critical intercultural education”*, using indigenous scientific knowledge.
- › Organization of a discussion on *“Migration and inter-generational transfers”*, targeting early-career researchers.

For more information on SC FamWelC, please visit:

<https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/families-welfare-care-and-the-life-course>

8.1.4 FORCED MIGRATION AND REFUGEES (FMR)

Chairs: Franck Düvell, Marta Jaroszewicz, Hidayet Siddikoglu

Coordinators: Claire Dorrity, Eveliina Lyytinen, Jasmin Lilian Diab, Gustavo de la Orden, Ceri Oepen, Daniela de Bono, Heidrun Bohnet, Molly Gilmour, Zeynep Yanasmayan

PhD representative(s): Anoshay Fazal, Elena Habersky

The **Standing Committee Forced Migration and Refugees** seeks to provide a home for forced migration and refugee researchers within IMISCOE, complementary to – but not in competition with – other networks and associations. Forced migration and refugees is understood in an inclusive manner covering a wide range of theoretical, normative and methodological approaches, a multitude of different types of forced migration as well as immobility, and a wide range of fields, actors and individuals involved. The SC also strives for global coverage and considers affairs in the Global South, Global East and Global North. During the year 2025, the SC members focused on strengthening the committee’s internal integration on the one hand, and reaching out to other researchers and stakeholders dealing with forced migration, including refugee-led organizations, on the other.

FMR activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris-Aubervilliers, including the two workshops *“Research and knowledge gaps in the field of forced migration and refugee studies”* and *“Decentring forced migration research through study of immobilities”*.
- › Completing previously vacant coordinator positions and electing a co-chair responsible for the Global South.
- › Organization of a panel on the nexus of irregular migration and forced migration during the 2025 IMISCOE Spring Conference in Krems.
- › Launch a series of online seminars open to the general public, aimed at disseminating knowledge and fostering discussion on key issues essential to the further development of forced migration research, including the ethical and methodological challenges faced by scholars in this field. The series opened on 12 November with an inaugural two-hour webinar on ethical approaches to displacement research, featuring two

speakers: Lidia Kuzemska (Forum Transregionale Studien) who presented “*Ethical migration research during wartime: Challenges, opportunities & lessons (to be) learned*” and Christina Clark-Kazak (University of Ottawa) who delivered “*Reflections on the IASFM Code of Ethics: Lessons learned & future directions*”. The session was chaired by Eveliina Lyytinen (SC FMR Event Coordinator).

- › Preparation of a journal article by SC FRM members on the Global East dimension of migration and refugee research.
- › Organization of a hybrid workshop (17-18 November) by Franch Düvell on immobility in the field of forced migration.
- › Initiating a PhD Seminar Series to create a forum for students to present their research.
- › Planning of a series of events with leading European and non-European refugee-led organizations to create a more stable platform for engagement.

FMR activities planned in 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona.
- › Continuing regular online meetings with SC members and the SC webinar series (one on conceptual issues related to forced migration and immobility, and another on the ethics of conducting research in dangerous environments).
- › Organization of an onsite seminar on the Global East.
- › Launch the first Expert Panel Discussion with refugee-led organizations (15 June 2026)
- › Initiating a PhD Student Seminar for PhD students both within and beyond IMISCOE.

For more information on SC FMR, please visit: <https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/forced-migration-and-refugees>

8.1.5 GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN MIGRATION RESEARCH (GENSEM)

Chairs: Sarah Scuzzarello, Laura Morosanu (until 2025), Sinem Yilmaz (since 2026)

Coordinators: Laura Morosanu, Cai Chen, Nisha Aminath, Maggi Leung, Eleonore Kofman, Rik Huizinga, Asuncion Flot, Laura Cleton, Anastasia Christou, Nicola Chanamuto, Agnese Pacciardi, Abu Saleh Mohammad Sowad, Marwa Nejj.

PhD representatives: Kenisha White, Joana Rafael Pereira

The **Standing Committee GenSeM** is an international platform for over 400 researchers working on how gender and sexuality shape migration pathways and settlement experiences. Key to GenSeM’s ethos is to engage in dialogues with scholars across disciplines, career stages, and geographical locations. To this end, we issue a regular newsletter with members’ activities; organize Migration Dialogues, online or hybrid conversations on research by GenSeM members; support the development of PhD and early-career researchers through a diverse set of workshops and retreats; and support the development of small-scale research through seed-corn funding.

GenSeM activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference, including early-career researchers workshops on “Intersectional migration research” and “(De)centring migrant men and masculinities in a globally interconnected world: Transnational resistance, resilience and reimagined identities” in collaboration with the Standing Committee FMR. During the Annual Conference, the SC also held its annual meeting.
- › Organization of two online workshop series by SC’s PhD representatives, aimed at guiding early-career researchers in successfully navigating their careers. It included the “Meet the Editors” workshop series, concluded with a one-hour online session featuring journal editors, as well as a new three-part online series titled “Life after the PhD”.
- › Organization of two OA book launches: “Decided return migration: Emotions, citizenship, home and belonging in Bosnia and Herzegovina” by Aida Ibričević, and “Undoing nothing: Waiting for asylum, struggling for relevance” by Paolo Boccagni.
- › Organization of several *Migration Dialogues* throughout the year (online or hybrid), some in collaboration with other research networks/centres. Themes and speakers included: “The global fight against LGBTI rights: How transnational conservative networks target sexual and gender minorities” by Phillippe Ayoub (UCL); “Exploring asylum decision making through machine learning” by Asta Sofie S. Jarlner (Center of Excellence for Global Mobility Law); “Unpacking SOGIESC asylum in an age of hostility - a roundtable”, featuring several speakers; “Lawyerly navigation of hostility in LGBTQIA+ claims. Resistance, conformity and mitigation of risk” by Catherine Jacquiss (One Pump Chambers/Manchester MU); “The return to concealment in LGBTQIA+ refugee claims” by Allan Briddock (One Pump Chambers); “Queer Iranians seeking protection in Turkey, the UK and Canada” by Nuno Ferreira (SCMR) and Sarah Scuzzarello (SCMR, discussant); “Boundaries in the Turkish humanitarian field: Entrenching and contesting refugee deservingness” with Nisha Zadhy (University of Leeds, 2023 recipient of GenSeM seed-corn fund award), Kristen Biehl (Sabanci University) and Maissam Nimer (Akdeniz University); “Queer migration within and beyond migration policies” by Florent Chossier (College de France & SCMR); “Decentering sexuality and gender identity in the asylum system symposium” with talks by Mengia Tschalär and Nina Held on “Recognizing Trauma in the Asylum Decision Process for Lesbian Women in Germany” and by Moira Dustin (Law, SCMR) on “Professing selves: sexuality, gender identity and refugee categories for Iranian exiles”, discussant Florent Chossier (joint SCMR-GenSem seminar; “Pursuing well-being, constructing new subjectivities: Selected stories of Belgian men in Thailand” by Asuncion Fresnoza (Université libre de Bruxelles).
- › GenSeM presentation by Laura Morosanu at the Sussex-Mahidol Mobilities Hub Meeting in Mahidol University (Thailand).
- › Launch of the GenSeM Best Article Award and call for small-scale research projects. The small-scale project funding scheme aimed at supporting ECRs to develop their research profile. The 2025 recipient was Thi Bogossian (Warwick University) with the project titled: “Trans-borders: Examining the experiences of gender non-conforming Venezuelans in Manaus”.
- › Publication of three GenSeM newsletters.

GenSeM activities in 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions and activities at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona, including: *GenSeM Special Session 1: Where is girlhood in migration?* organized by Rachel Larking and Tatiana Avignone; *GenSeM Special Session 2: Critical intersections: Migration, gender, and sexuality in global perspective* organized by Sarah Scuzzarello, with Tanja Bastia, Jean Beaman, Dounia Bourabain, Laura Cleton, Rik Huizinga, Liza Mugge and Gökce Yurdakul; participation of SC members in a special session with journal editors from Migration Studies and Ethnic and Racial Studies, discussing the peer review process; GenSeM Annual Meeting, where the Best Paper Award and the Seed corn funds Award will be announced; social get together for all GenSeM members and friends (June 30).
- › Organization of several *Migration Dialogues* throughout the year, online or hybrid. Themes and speakers: “*Extraterritorial migration management and invisible vulnerabilities: A critical analysis of the Italy-Albania protocol through the lens of LGBTQIA+ rights*” by Emilia Mazzara (27 January); “*Building and breaking trust: Postmigrant political actors and the limits of migrant political participation*” by Tunay Altay (28 January); “*Walking with Afghan women: Using mobile methods to understand differentiated embedding within different places across England*” by Louise Ryan, María López and Mursal Rasa (19 June); “*East African queer and trans displacements*” by B Camminga, John Marnell and colleagues (September 2026).
- › Organization of the international conference “*Gender and sexuality in the field: Rethinking positionality, epistemology, and safety through a feminist and queer lens*” (11–13 May at Université libre de Bruxelles, co-sponsored by GenSeM). The event focused on how gender and sexuality shape fieldwork, with discussions on positionality, epistemology, emotional labour, safety, and power relations.
- › Launch of a PhD Network survey to collect input from the GenSeM PhD community on their interests, needs, and priorities for the 2026–2027 agenda (including writing support, networking opportunities, research feedback, peer exchange, and spaces to discuss challenges related to gender, sexuality, and migration).
- › Forthcoming GenSeM PhD “*Shut up & write*” series for writing and support, with GenSeM PhD student members (monthly recurring activity starting on 26 June).
- › Forthcoming online series about navigating the job market as ECRs with invited academic and professional consultants (planned for autumn/winter 2026).

For more information on SC GenSeM, please visit:

<https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/gender-and-sexuality-in-migration-research>

8.1.6 METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES AND TOOLS IN MIGRATION RESEARCH (METH@MIG)

Chairs: Agata Górný, Steffen Pöttschke.

Coordinators: Justyna Salamońska, Sebastian Rinken, Evren Yalaz

PhD representative: Laila Omar

The **Standing Committee Meth@Mig** provides a forum for discussing methodological approaches and tools in migration research and assessing the best options available for tackling manifold methodological challenges. The Standing Committee takes on a pluralist perspective as it addresses (1) issues relevant across a wide range of research methods in migration studies, such as obtaining informed consent in cross-cultural settings, gaining access to hard-to-reach populations, operationalizing relevant concepts, and leveraging the potential of new communication technologies, as well as (2) issues relevant for specific research approaches (quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods or experimental) as applied to the study of international migration in all its facets and dimensions.

Meth@Mig activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris–Aubervilliers, including special workshop “*Strategies and practical tools for publishing methods papers*” co-chaired by Meth@Mig’s coordinator Steffen Pöttschke and Roslyn Cameron (Torrens University Australia) and panel “*Discussing and advancing mixed methods for migration research*” organized with Yahya Al-Abdullah (School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences).
- › Organization of the 4th Meth@Mig Annual Workshop on “*Between data and dialogue: Focusing on participants in migration research*” (Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany, April 2025). The workshop included 21 contributions and generated three methodological blogs proposals to be published on the Meth@Mig website in 2026.
- › Co-organization (with the Centre of Migration Research at University of Warsaw and Kozminski University) of the online workshop “*Data visualisation workshop for migration researchers*” for doctoral students and early-career researchers (April 2025).
- › Preparation of the methodological Short Reader “*Migration and quantitative methods*”; co-authored by SC coordinators Agata Górný and Justyna Salamońska and expected for publication in the IMISCOE Research Series with Springer.
- › Publication of diverse materials through the SC digital communication channels, including the blog text “*Navigating fieldwork and field life: Reflections from Nepal*” by Josef Neubauer, and the video recording of Aneta Piekut’s keynote “*Navigating between the ‘invisible’ and the ‘representative’ in migration research: Participant recruitment and knowledge production*” at the 3rd Meth@Mig Annual Workshop in the SC’s YouTube channel.

Meth@Mig activities planned for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona.
- › Continuing the Meth@Mig Trouble Shooting Sessions and the Meth@Mig Research Roundtables with a refreshed format.
- › Organization of the 5th Meth@Mig Annual Workshop on “*Methodological approaches*”

in cross-cultural and cross-national (migration) research” at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies’ Sociology and Anthropology Program in Qatar.

- › Publication of methodological blog posts prepared by the participants of the 4th Meth@Mig Annual Workshop in Chemnitz.

For more information on SC Meth@Mig, please visit: <https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/methodological-approaches-and-tools-in-migration-research> and their Bluesky profile ([@methatmig.bsky.social](https://bsky.social/@methatmig)).

8.1.7. MIGRANT TRANSNATIONALISM (MITRA)

Coordinators: Karlijn Haagsman and Marie Godin

PhD representatives: Yichi Zhang, Hilda Gustafsson

The **Standing Committee MITRA** aims to provide an arena within IMISCOE for academic exchange on migrant transnationalism. The transnational turn was an innovation in migration studies and offered a new perspective for overcoming the limitations of methodological nationalism. It has provided new insights into integration issues, the functioning of diasporas, political movements, economic and social remittances and methodological strategies for multi-sited research. It has also questioned the very notion of migration. In many cases, people who lead transnational lives are a challenge to dominant conceptualizations of migration, undermining the assumption that people move from one country to another and remain settled in one place. MITRA, through a wide range of academic activities and publications, contributes to these theoretical, conceptual and methodological discussions from an open and reflective standpoint.

MITRA activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris–Aubervilliers, including the launch of the OA IMISCOE Short Reader “*Migrant transnationalism*” authored by Özge Bilgili and Marta Bivand Erdal, and special sessions on “*Transnational intimacies: Migrating emotions across the border*” and “*Translocal lives in times of conflict*”, based on a forthcoming edited volume emerging from a MITRA symposium.
- › Organization of the MITRA PhD Training & Symposium “*International student mobility in changing sociopolitical landscapes*” (Utrecht University, May). The two-day programme combined a keynote lecture delivered by Jill Ahrens, themed workshops, an academic writing session and multiples rounds of PhD presentations with feedback from senior scholars and peers.
- › Dissemination of the IMISCOE Short Reader “*Migrant transnationalism*”, including the organization of an online book webinar in October, during which Özge Bilgili and Marta Bivand Erdal discussed the book with Mary Setrana (University of Ghana), Koen Leurs (Utrecht University), and Benjamin Etzold (BICC).
- › Preparation of the edited volume “*Translocal lives in times of conflict*” (edited by Benjamin Etzold and Marie Godin), expected for publication in the IMISCOE Research Series with Springer.
- › Communication and outreach activities, including a quarterly SC newsletter and announcements via SC’s social media (LinkedIn, Bluesky, Facebook).

MITRA activities planned for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona, including the special workshop “*Transnationalism, community engagement and the co-production of knowledge: A workshop for early-career scholars*” organized by MiTRA PhD representatives Hilda Gustafsson (Malmö University) and Yichi Zhang (University of St Andrews); the panel “*Understanding transnational family life through historical and other sources*”; and the SC annual gathering.
- › Co-organization of the Joint TraFaDy–MITRA policy meeting under the theme “*Policy and impact – Effective policies supporting transnational families*” (Budapest, March 2026). The event brought together approximately 50 members from MITRA and the Cost Action TraFaDy (Transnational Family Dynamics in Europe – CA21142).
- › Disseminating the Short Reader “*Migrant transnationalism*” and supporting the publication process and subsequent dissemination/launch of the edited volume “*Translocal lives in times of conflict*”.
- › Continuing the regular SC newsletter and online presence via the MITRA page on the IMISCOE website and social media channels (LinkedIn, Bluesky, Facebook).
- › Publication of a Special Issue “*Youth mobilities through higher education in times of changing political landscapes*”, accepted for the journal *Mobilities* following PhD students’ symposium in Utrecht in 2025. The Special Issue will be edited by Özge Bilgili (Utrecht University), Marie Godin (University of Leicester & COMPAS Centre on Migration, Policy and Society) and Ajay Bailey (Utrecht University).

For more information on SC MITRA, please visit: <https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/migrant-transnationalism>

8.1.8 MIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION (MIGCITPOL)

Coordinators: Gianni D’Amato (Chair), Luicy Pedroza, Sebastián Umpierrez, Jean-Thomas Arrighi, Ana Margheritis

PhD representative: Great Udochi

The **Standing Committee MIGCITPOL** aims to compare how citizenship status and rights are legally regulated, and to explore how the resulting institutional opportunity structure influences migrants’ access to naturalization and their political participation in origin and residence countries. The SC thus combines a top-down analytical approach aiming to understand how underlying regulations regarding naturalization and enfranchisement evolve over time and across countries with a bottom-up focus on migrants’ practices of engagement in electoral and non-electoral mobilizations aiming at influencing the political decision-making process.

MIGCITPOL activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris–Aubervilliers, including a follow-up panel from the 2024 MIGCITPOL Annual Workshop held in Mexico City and a publication workshop aimed at finalizing the Special Issue resulting from the 2023 MIGCITPOL Annual Workshop in Buenos Aires. During the event, the SC also held a Business Meeting, in person and online.

- › Organization of the 2025 MIGCITPOL Annual Workshop “*Migration and complexity*” (Nebrija University-Madrid, November), coordinated by Sebastián Umpierrez de Reguero. For the first time, the workshop was co-organized with another IMISCOE SC –Migration Politics and Governance (MIGPOG). The [programme](#) combined paper sessions, a public panel, and a concluding discussion focused on publication strategies.
- › Acceptance of a Special Issue proposal for publication in *Political Research Exchange*, emerging from the MIGCITPOL Annual Workshop and co-edited by Pau Palop-García (DeZIM & GIGA), Nieves Fernández-Rodríguez (Nebrija University) and Sebastián Umpierrez de Reguero (Tallinn University).
- › Organization of two MIGCITPOL Online Cafés. The first one took place in May and included presentations by: Berfin Nur Osso- “[Now you see me’: Refugees looking back at the EU’s border camp watch in Lesbos](#)” (piece co-authored with Henk van Houtum and published in *Geopolitics*); Pau-Palop Garcia “[Tracing the pathways for labour migrants in thirty states: The nexus between immigration regulations and immigrant rights](#)” (piece co-authored with Luicy Pedroza and published in *Comparative Politics*). The second Online Café took place in September and featured Ana Margheritis, Berfin Nur Osso and Cagla Güner presenting the Special Issue “[Migration crisis with adjectives: Towards a new conceptualization and assessment of institutional responses to migration crises across world regions.](#)”
- › Joint publications, including a Special Issue in *Comparative Migration Studies* on “[Citizenship from policy to practice: Global perspectives on the implementation gap](#)”, co-edited by Luicy Pedroza and Jean-Thomas Arrighi, as well as another Special Issue in the *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies* on “[Migration crisis with adjectives: Towards a new conceptualization and assessment of institutional responses to migration crises across world regions](#)”, edited by Ana Margheritis.
- › Launch of an internal mentoring programme, with a twofold aim: 1) providing junior scholars with the support and guidance of a senior scholar working on similar topics and evolving within their own sub-field and; 2) strengthening internal cohesion and solidarity within the SC, by creating a bridge between junior and senior scholars.
- › Opening of a social media account on BlueSky ([@migcitpol.bsky.social](#)).

MIGCITPOL activities planned for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona.
- › Organization of a workshop “*Entitled citizenship in displacement: Politics, policies and lived experiences*” (June 2026, Tangiers).
- › Continuing the SC mentoring programme aiming to provide junior scholars with the support and guidance of senior scholars working on similar topics.
- › Planning an upcoming series of periodic Online Cafés.
- › Publication of a third Special Issue, co-edited by Lucas Van der Baaren and Luicy Pedroza- accepted by *Third World Quarterly*, online publication expected in the second semester of 2026.

For more information on SC MIGCITPOL, please visit: <https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/migration-citizenship-and-political-participation>

8.1.9 MIGRATION, MIGRANTS AND LABOUR MARKETS (IILME)

Coordinators: Anders Neergaard (Chair), Stefania Marino (Chair), Lisa Berntsen, Nahikari Irastorza, Nilay Kilinc, Rinus Penninx, Karen Ravn Vestergaard

PhD representatives: Esteban Perez Gnavi, Philippa Brunner-Heywood

The **Standing Committee IILME** focuses on the links between increasing migration, labour market dynamics and access to welfare resources, central to the discourse on both migration and integration policies. Negative views on the socio-economic effects of migration, often based on scarce scientific or empirical evidence, influence the political debate around these themes. However, little knowledge exists on the role of labour market actors in influencing migration and integration policies and practices, as well as the migrants' labour market positions and experiences. SC IILME aims at exploring the complexities and contradictions of the interaction between migration phenomena and the labour market in a time of rapidly changing migration, integration and labour market policies. The SC seeks to combine the tradition of industrial relations, political economy — especially research on segmented labour market(s) — and gender studies to explore multiple intersectional inequalities as well as the precarization of migrant and ethnic workers within labour markets.

IILME activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris–Aubervilliers, including the special workshop “*The future of research is in the hands of early-career researchers*” and the PhD workshop “*Navigating theoretical, methodological, and career challenges in labour migration research*”.
- › Organization of an online workshop in collaboration with SCRACED and WEI (University of Manchester) on “*The silence around ‘race’ in the discourse of equality and inclusion in the labour market*”. The workshop involved a discussion of comparative findings of an ESRC-funded research on the politics of equality across several countries (UK, France, Spain, the Netherlands) carried out by scholars of the University of Manchester (Work and Equalities Institutes) and Grenoble. It also involved reflections from expert scholars of different regional contexts. The chair of the event was Stefania Marino (Work and Equalities Institute & IILME), whereas Patrick Simon (French Institute for Demographic Studies) delivered the opening reflections. The workshop included the following presentations: “*The colorless hand: Whiteness as a hidden force*” by Tamara Lee (Rutgers University); “*Villain, victims and welfare queens – Racial and gendered representation of unemployed racialized women – and how it restructures social and unemployment policies in Sweden*” by Paula Mulinari (Malmö University); “*Findings from a cross-country comparative research on the politics and practices of equality at work*” by Heather Connolly (Grenoble Ecole de Management), Stefania Marino, Miguel Martinez Lucio and Holly Smith (University of Manchester). Emmanuel Ogbonna (Cardiff Business School) delivered the final remarks, whereas Marcel Maussen (University of Amsterdam) and Jenny Rodriguez (University of Manchester) acted as discussants.
- › Organization of the conference “*Labor markets and the ‘migrant worker’ in light of technological transformation*” in collaboration with RUNOMI, Radboud University (November).
- › Establishing the SC’s online presence with four newsletters in 2025, through launching

a LinkedIn account, and updating the SC website (<https://iilme.net/>). The SC also held regular online meetings, approximately every two months.

- › Launch of the “PhD Corner” to increase the visibility of IILME PhD members and their research.

IILME activities planned for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona.
- › Developing an edited collection/special issue coordinated by Lisa Berntsen on “*Migrant worker collectivism: Exploring contentious relations and alternative forms and dimensions of collective action*”. This publication initiative will also be presented as a session at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference and will be expanded through an external Call for Papers and developed during a workshop/conference organized in person at the Work and Equalities Institute at the University of Manchester in October 2026.
- › Continuing the “PhD Corner” initiative throughout 2026.

For more information on SC IILME, please visit: <https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/migration-migrants-and-labour-markets>

8.1.10 MIGRATION POLITICS AND GOVERNANCE (MIGPOG)

Coordinators: Cathrine Talleraas, Maria Schiller, Giacomo Solano (from 2026), Thomas Lacroix (from 2026)

PhD representative: Zeynep Aydar, Jelle van der Wal (since October 2025)

The **Standing Committee MigPoG** takes a broad and comprehensive approach to the study of migration policy, aiming to promote dialogue between scholars focusing on the politics and governance of migration. MigPoG starts from the assumption that in a context of increasing politicization of migration, governance and politics should be thematized as two facets of the same coin. The SC has the ambition of covering migration policy in a broad sense, including immigration, emigration, border control, integration, asylum seekers and refugees, etc. From a geographical viewpoint, MigPoG intends to contribute to the overcoming of the national government and receiving country-centred bias of much research on migration policy, which is still highly characterized by a Eurocentric (or more broadly West-centric) approach. From a disciplinary perspective, the SC aims at gathering scholars working on migration policy from different approaches, reflecting an understanding of policy as the product of the interaction between multiple actors. MigPoG also includes different methodological approaches to the study of migration politics and governance, including both quantitative and qualitative methods.

MIGPOG activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris–Aubervilliers.
- › Organization of a two-day writing retreat at the University of Hildesheim (May 2025) on “*From policy to practice: Local governance in the polycrisis age*”.

- › Co-organization of a two-day workshop (November 2025) at the Universidad de Nebrija in Madrid, on the complexity of migration governance. The event was co-funded by the Standing Committee MIGCITPOL.
- › Publication of the Special Issue “*The politics and governance of migration*” in *Governance*. The Special Issue is edited by Tiziana Caponio, Maria Schiller and Cathrine Talleraas, and features contributions by many SC members.
- › Release of a call for new PhD representatives. In 2025, Jelle van der Wal was selected as SC PhD representative.
- › Regular online meetings among the SC coordinators.
- › Release of a call for more SC Chairs, with two candidates selected (Giacomo Solano and Thomas Lacroix), to allow for rotation and expansion of current activities. The SC planed an international MIGPOG workshop with the new chairs and PhD representatives to discuss the plans for the coming years.
- › Maintaining a regular SC newsletter and update of the SC’s LinkedIn account.

MIGPOG activities planned for 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions and members meeting at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona.

For more information on SC MigPoG, please visit: <https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/migration-politics-and-governance>

8.1.11 RACE, RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION (RACED)

Coordinators: Patrick Simon (Chair), Sayaka Osanami Törngren (Chair), Valentina Di Stasio, Guia Gilardoni, Marcel Maussen, Nina Sahraoui

PhD representative: Shahab Mirbabaei, Asia Della Rosa, Eduardo Campbell-Bethancourt

The **Standing Committee RACED** is a forum for researchers to engage in interdisciplinary conversations with an ambition to more adequately conceptualize and empirically study racial inequalities and racial exclusion, and to epistemologically and institutionally contribute to racial equity and justice. Starting from the assumption that racial inequalities are globalized and can be found in all societies in the world, SC RACED aims to scientifically address race, racism and discrimination in migration studies as follows:

- › in a multi-temporal perspective to catch the past still living in specific distinctive racial frames, mechanisms, dynamics and events of our time;
- › by acknowledging that social relations and practices based on racial distinctions are embedded in a system that even unwittingly reproduce the racial frame and renew mechanisms of racialization;
- › by considering different forms of racism (systemic, structural, institutional, collective and individual, intentional and unintentional, manifest and subtle), racial frames and mechanisms at different social scales (micro-meso-macro level), with the ambition to investigate and understand the role race, racism and discrimination play in social dynamics;

- › by acknowledging that the constitution of whiteness connected to the white privilege contributed to the conception of the very category of ‘migrants’ as a racialized category, intertwined so far with that of race. In this sense, an epistemological work on the categories used in migration studies and their meanings is essential.

SC RACED activities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris-Aubervilliers. During the event, the SC also organized its annual meeting.
- › Organization of the joint webinar “*The silence around ‘race’ in the discourse of equality and inclusion in the labour market*” hosted by SC IILME, SC RACED, and the Work and Equalities Institute (WEI) of the University of Manchester (March).
- › Organization of two online PhD Reading Sessions. The first (March) was dedicated to reading “*Notes on race as denegated ethnicity*” by Loïc Wacquant. The second (September) was dedicated to reading “*Incorporating racialization, anti-blackness, and critical whiteness into European psychology: Moving beyond ‘migrant’ integration*”, with the presence of two of the paper’s authors for the Q&A.
- › Online presentation by Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), followed by an interactive Q&A session for PhD students.
- › Co-organization of the cross-sectoral symposium “*Addressing structural racism, diversity and inclusion*” with Malmö University. The event was held in person in Malmö, Sweden (November).
- › Contribution to the draft of the IMISCOE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion survey in collaboration with IMISCOE’s Executive Committee DEIC.

SC RACED activities planned for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona, including a workshop on anti-Roma/Sinti racism.
- › Organization of the seminar “*Migration and racialization: A reflexive discussion about theoretical and methodological approaches to studying race and racialization in migration studies*” in collaboration with the Centre of Migration Research (University of Warsaw), with Margaret Amaka Ohia-Nowak, Magdalena Nowicka and Campbell-Bethancourt (7 May).
- › Organization of a workshop in Amsterdam (November 2026) on ‘*Theorizing and researching racism as structural and systemic for a non-USA context*’.
- › Hosting two PhD activities online in the fall.

For more information on SC RACED, please visit: <https://www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/race-racism-and-discrimination>

8.1.12 REFLEXIVITIES IN MIGRATION STUDIES (REFLEXIVITIES)

Chairs: Janine Dahinden, Andreas Pott and Anna-Lisa Müller (until 2025), Iva Dodevska, Stefan Manser-Egli and Nadine Blankvoort (since 2026)

PhD representative: Marina Lazetic

The **Standing Committee Reflexivities** aims to push forward a reflexive (and self-reflexive) perspective within migration studies. Given the growth, relevance and responsibility of migration studies, the SC strives to promote reflexivity in migration research and to investigate how the field of migration studies has emerged and is currently changing. Being reflexive in these two senses involves investigating how knowledge on migration is produced, circulated and utilised – both by us as researchers as well as by other actors in the field. This endeavour tackles the embeddedness of the field of migration studies in wider societal and power relations and the risk of reproducing hegemonic structures.

Activities of SC Reflexivities in 2025

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris-Aubervilliers including the special sessions “*Decentring and/or reflexivity—a critical conversation*” co-organised with the Global (DE)Centre, and “*Towards reflexivity in the study of mobility and diversity: Theories, positionality, and the political economy of knowledge production*” organised by Iva Dodevska and Maïssam Nimer. During the conference, the SC also organized its members’ meeting.
- › Promoting PhD peer feedback sessions online for PhD students interested in and working with a reflexive approach within migration studies.
- › Organization of an online writing retreat offering an opportunity for researchers to come together and engage in focused writing sessions. The retreat includes a 24/7 Online Space that ensures continuous access to the retreat’s resources and community; weekly online sessions to ensure focused writing times; monthly sessions including extended inputs; and Resource Sharing through an exclusive online material sharing platform.
- › Organization of the hybrid workshop “*Reflexivities in migration studies: Heading towards the future!*” at the Centre of Migration Research in Warsaw (May 2025). The SC’s governing board, together with two invited keynote speakers – Anna Amelina (TU Chemnitz) and Kudakwashe Vanyoro (University of the Witwatersrand) – led discussions about the SC’s aims, scope, and future activities and fields of action. A significant outcome was that the SC established 3 action-oriented working groups (WGs) to focus more in-depth on important issues: the WG on reflexivity in teaching, the WG on research and activism, and the WG on visions on migration.
- › Publication of the edited volume “*Reflexivities and knowledge production in migration studies. Pitfalls and alternatives*”, edited by the SC co-directors Janine Dahinden and Andreas Pott and published in the IMISCOE Research Series with Springer.
- › Publication in the journal Migration Studies of the Special Issue “*Towards reflexivity in the study of mobility and diversity: Theories, positionality, and the political economy of knowledge production*” edited by the members of the SC governing board Iva Dodevska and Maïssam Nimer.

- › Publication in the journal *Geographische Zeitschrift* of the Special Issue “*Reflecting on the geographies of migration research*” edited by Andreas Pott and Christine Lang, including contributions from several SC members.
- › Social media presence via Bluesky ([@reflexivities.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/reflexivities.bsky.social)), LinkedIn, a semi-annual Newsletter, the SC blog and the SC news section on the IMISCOE website.

Planned activities of SC Reflexivities for 2026

- › Organization of SC sessions at the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona, including the special workshops “*Towards de-exceptionalizing engaged and activist scholarship and exceptionalizing ‘non-engaged’ research*” and “*Bottom-up epistemologies: Decentering and reflexivity in knowledge production through community-based research?*”.
- › Continuation of PhD peer feedback sessions.
- › Continuation of the online writing retreat.
- › Activities of the Working Groups: WG on Teaching is planning collaborative seminars for students in migration-related programmes on what it means to read, write, research and think reflexively. The WG on Visions on Migration launched a call for a blog post series exploring the political dimensions of migration research and reflecting on futures visions for the field and migration societies, as well as the role of research in shaping them. The WG on Activism is organizing a workshop for the 2026 IMISCOE conference.

For more information on SC Reflexivities, please visit:

www.imiscoe.org/research/standing-committees/reflexivities-in-migration-studies

8.2 MIGRATION RESEARCH HUB

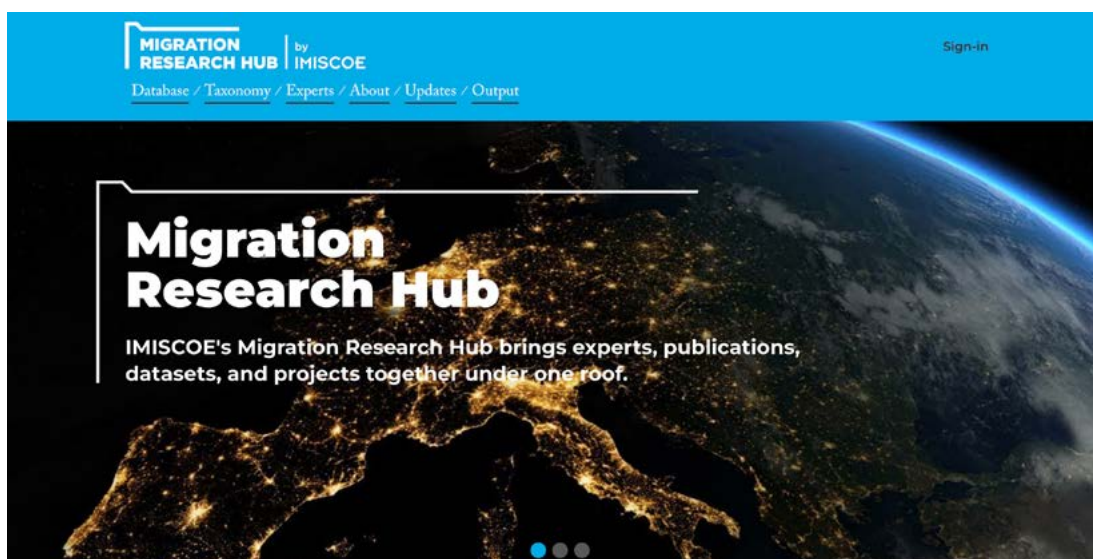
IMISCOE’s **Migration Research Hub (MRH)** is an interactive research database that brings publications, datasets and projects together under one roof. This constantly growing database lists profiles of experts in the field of migration studies, highlighting the topics, methods and disciplines of their expertise. With this tool, scholars and stakeholders can easily find relevant literature, data and other information structured according to the taxonomy of migration studies. As such, the Migration Research Hub database is particularly useful for (and extensively used by) both knowledge users and producers.

The Migration Research Hub was developed in collaboration with two IT companies: YoungMinds (led by Bogdan Taut) and Dotdesign (led by Alexandru Butică). The information gathered in the Hub relies on a number of connections with databases that feed the MRH and researchers’ profiles automatically. One such database is Clarivate Web of Science, with which the University of Liège (as Coordinating Institute of IMISCOE) has signed a service agreement.

The excellent cooperation with the companies YoungMinds and Dotdesign allowed IMISCOE to maintain the MRH up-to-date and introduce new developments of the database. Moreover, the IMISCOE Network Office at the University of Liège and the service provider DesignServer (led by René de Ree and Marco Legemaate) also worked on reinforcing the articulation of the Migration Research Hub with the IMISCOE Annual Conference platform. In 2025, the developments introduced in the Migration Research Hub have also benefited from the support of the project “*Consolidating Open Science and Data Initiatives on Ethnic and Migrant Minorities in Europe*” (OPENMIN), supported by the grant CHIST-ERA-22-ORD-07.

As the Migration Research Hub is an Open Access tool that is extensively used by researchers and stakeholders, all migration scholars are invited to create a profile on the MRH to further increase the visibility of their work. More details on the MRH can be found here:

<https://www.migrationresearch.com>



8.3 IMISCOE AWARDS

8.3.1 MARIA BAGANHA AWARD

Since 2010, the [Maria Ioannis Baganha Dissertation Award](#) has stimulated and recognized excellent PhD research in the field of migration. The competition is open to all PhD recipients whose dissertation was defended within the 24 months preceding the submission deadline.

Maria Ioannis Baganha was a leading migration scholar at the University of Coimbra's Centre for Social Studies. She was one of the IMISCOE's founding members and the chair of its Board of Directors until she passed away in June 2009. To commemorate her work in the field of migration studies and her commitment to the network, the IMISCOE Board of Directors has dedicated the IMISCOE dissertation award to her.

The winner of the award is selected through a careful review process conducted by the Maria Baganha Award Committee. Every year, members of the committee go through great length

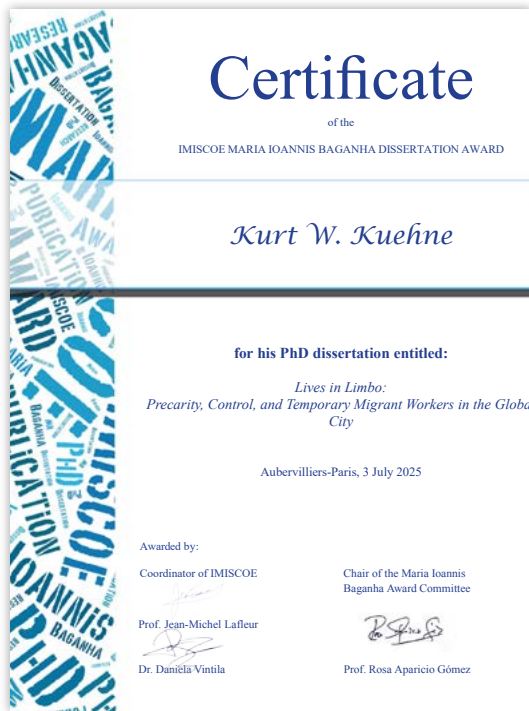
to read and discuss a large number of manuscripts. Their work has been and continues to be critical in making this Award one of the most coveted prizes for young scholars in the field of migration studies.

IMISCOE Award Committee Members in 2025

- Rosa Aparicio (Chair) – Instituto Universitario Ortega Marañón
- Han Entzinger - Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Thais França – Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES-Iscte), Lisbon University
- Paweł Kaczmarczyk – Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw
- Russell King – Sussex Centre for Migration Research, Sussex University
- Marco Martiniello – Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM), University of Liège
- Lena M. Näre – Faculty Common Matters, University of Helsinki
- Adam Nemeth – Institute for Urban and Regional Research (ISR), Austrian Academy of Sciences
- Giuseppe Sciortino – Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento
- Endre Sik – Institute for Sociology, Centre for Social Sciences
- Zana Vathi – Edge Hill University

In 2025, the Award Committee evaluated the 43 applications submitted to the IMISCOE Network Office. After deliberation, the jury decided to award the prize to the thesis receiving the highest score after two rounds of careful evaluation. The winner of the 2025 Maria Ioannis Baganha Dissertation Award was Dr. Kurt W. Kuehne. His dissertation entitled “*Lives in limbo: Precarity, control and temporary migrant workers in the global city*”, was defended at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in August 2023.

Dr. Kuehne’s work, based on 18 months of field research—complemented by the author’s longer experience both as teacher and NGO caseworker in Singapore—, analyzes the semi-hidden migrant labor force of male construction workers and female domestic workers in Singapore. Although there has been abundant research on migrants to Singapore, nothing approaches the scale and originality of this study. It manages to combine into a single, powerful analysis the circumstances and experiences of both the two gendered labor migrations—of men from Bangladesh and India into the construction sector and of women from Indonesia, Myanmar and the Philippines into domestic work. The analysis of the spatial and temporal settings and strategies by which these two large migrant populations are managed, exploited, kept vulnerable and also effectively ‘hidden’ are ground-breaking. The thesis is theoretically robust. In the terms used by one of the evaluators (who borrows the concept from the past history of Dutch ‘total football’), this thesis is ‘total sociology’ which operates across a wide range of conceptual realms within sociology and cognate social sciences (notably political economy and human geography) and involves analysis at a variety of scales from the global to the individual embodied experience. It is methodologically extensive and plural providing a wealth of empirical material to back up the theoretical framework. In sum, this is an extraordinary thesis: wide ranging, hard-hitting, theoretically and empirically rich and well written.



8.3.2 RINUS PENNINX AWARD

The **Rinus Penninx Best Paper Award** was established in 2014, when Rinus Penninx retired as coordinator of IMISCOE. The IMISCOE Annual Conference in Amsterdam in late August 2014 was the first occasion on which the Award was assigned.

Rinus Penninx is the chair of a jury of 8-10 experienced IMISCOE scholars. The jury decides on the winner in a last meeting during the IMISCOE Annual Conference. Overall, the jury counted 10 members in 2025: Gianni d’Amato, Blanca Garcés Mascareñas, Pedro Gois, Anja van Heelsum, René Kreichauf, Laura Oso, Marta Pachocha, Jens Schneider, Deniz Sert, and Rinus Penninx.

Once the Call for applications ended, the IMISCOE Network Office informed the jury that 6 papers had been nominated. By June 15, the first evaluation round was finished (all papers were read by three jury members) and resulted in a shortlist of three papers. The shortlisted papers have been evaluated by each member of the jury.

During the IMISCOE Annual Conference, the jury unanimously decided on the winner of the Award: the paper by Fabio Santos entitled “*Decolonizing the migration archive: Haitian refugees in Puerto Rico*”.

The jury noted that the paper stands out for several reasons. First, it speaks directly, and most creatively, to the theme of the 2025 IMISCOE Annual Conference: decentering and decolonizing migration studies. Secondly, it does so from an historical discipline, by excavating a “forgotten” historical episode and reframing a marginal site, the U.S. military base at Ford Allen in Puerto Rico, through a decolonial lens. In doing so, the paper makes several conceptual interventions into how migration studies can be done. Geographically, by recentering the Caribbean as a key site of imperial bordering practices; methodologically, by challenging presentist and nation-centered tendencies in migration studies, and epistemologically, by showing

how migrant experiences are erased or made illegible in dominant archives. In addition, the originality of the paper lies not only in its empirical focus, but even more in its broader critique of the field's assumptions, categories, and silences, particularly in historical research on migration. The author emphasized «fugitive» and unofficial archives (scattered traces, private collections, subaltern memory) as key evidence in migration research, which resonates with current efforts to decolonize the archives and broaden the scope of legitimate sources. Finally, rather than reinforcing the Caribbean as a space of emigration, the article reframes it as a central node in the architecture of U.S. imperial bordering, experimental governance, and humanitarian carcerality. This helps recast the region's role in migration studies from peripheral to foundational — and it enables us to draw ideas and approaches for other regions and cases.

The Prize-Certificate was handed to Fabio Santos (via an online connection) during the award ceremony at the IMISCOE Annual Conference.





IMISCOE EVENTS



9.1 IMISCOE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Decentering Migration Studies, 1-4 July 2025, Paris-Aubervilliers & online

The 22nd IMISCOE Annual Conference took place between 1-4 July 2025 at Campus Condorcet in Paris Aubervilliers, hosted by the **Institut Convergences Migrations** (IC Migrations).

The overall theme of the conference — *Decentering Migration Studies* —, a timely and critical topic, was explored through five plenary sessions featuring a diverse group of 15 keynote speakers and 1 international chair (4 of them being international IC Migrations fellows) from South Africa, Senegal, China, India, the US, France, Switzerland, Brazil, Canada, and Italy. In collective reflection with the scientific committee of IC Migrations, the selected theme mirrored how we conduct research: cross-disciplinary, critically engaged, and field-connected. While migration studies have expanded through new theories and methods, the field remains heavily centred in the Global North, privileging English-language scholarship and Western immigration contexts.

Decentering is both a necessity and a call. Geographically, it shifts the focus beyond «South-to-North» narratives. Historically, it challenges ideas of exceptionality around events like the 2015 so-called “migration crisis.” Politically, it expands analysis to include a broader range of actors. Epistemologically, it brings non-Western perspectives to the core of knowledge production.

This theme reflects the ambition of IC Migrations and IMISCOE to foster critical, pluralistic, and creative dialogue in migration studies.

In terms of format, the 2025 edition of the IMISCOE Annual Conference was innovative also in its construction and presentation of plenary sessions: one of them was in French and, with speakers' permission, all plenaries were filmed and made available on IC Migrations' YouTube channel, enhancing accessibility and scholarly exchange.

The conference program was extensive, including 314 parallel sessions composed of 250 panels (137 on-site, 69 online, 44 hybrid) and 64 workshops (47 on-site, 3 online, 14 hybrid). This broad offering allowed for deep engagement across a range of formats, reflecting the conference's commitment to interdisciplinary and geographically inclusive approaches.



2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference: “*Strengthening Migration Studies through Community Engagement*”, 29 June–2 July 2026, Girona & online (event hosted by the Migratory Movements Group at the [University of Girona](#)).

2027 IMISCOE Annual Conference: “*United for Human Rights and Global Equity*”, from 6-9 July 2027 (event hosted by: [Brussels Institute for Social and Population Studies](#) (BRISPO) and [Brussels Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Migration and Minorities](#) (BIRMM) of the Vrije Universiteit Brussels).



9.2 IMISCOE SPRING CONFERENCE

The Regularity of Irregularity: Rethinking Migration Paradigms, 17–19 March, 2025, Krems & online

The 2025 IMISCOE Spring Conference, entitled “*The Regularity of Irregularity: Rethinking Migration Paradigms*”, was organized between 17–19 March in Krems (Austria) and hosted by the [University for Continuing Education Krems](#). The event gathered a dynamic and interdisciplinary group of scholars. Organised against the backdrop of intensifying global migration dynamics, the conference focused on the complexities of irregular migration, a phenomenon marked by fluid legal statuses, policy ambiguities, and diverse migrant experiences.

The conference sought to advance critical conversations around irregular migration, including its drivers, governance mechanisms, and the social realities of those navigating life in legal limbo. Through a series of keynotes, panels, and roundtables, the event examined how irregularity is constructed, governed, and contested in various national and regional contexts.

Over three days, participants engaged in more than 25 thematic sessions (eight online and 18 hybrid on-site panels) covering topics such as migration decision-making, labour exploitation, return policies, regularisation pathways, local governance responses, and the politics of knowledge production. The event also featured a keynote session by renowned scholars, including Ferruccio Pastore (FIERI), Caroline Wanjiku Kihato (Visiting Fellow at Oxford’s Department of International Development and Research Associate at Wits University’s African Centre for Migration), and Kamal Sadiq (University of California, Irvine), which provided a critical framework for rethinking current paradigms in migration studies. Additionally, the programme included two high-profile roundtables.

In addition to scholarly exchange, the conference emphasised capacity-building and ethical research practices through a vibrant PhD Network programme, including sessions, workshops and networking activities.

The conference took place in a hybrid format, allowing passive participation in all conference activities for both online and on-site participants. There were 180 registrations for on-site attendance and 149 people actually attended the conference. In addition, 332 people registered for online participation.

By the end of the event, attendees gained deeper insights into the structural, institutional, and personal dimensions of migrant irregularity. The discussions laid the groundwork for more evidence-based and inclusive migration policies, aiming to better reflect the lived realities of irregular migrants while informing future research and governance practices.



2026 IMISCOE Spring Conference: “*Governing and Experiencing Migration in Contentious Times*”, 16-18 March 2026, Liège & online (event hosted by the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies-CEDEM of the University of Liège).

2027 IMISCOE Spring Conference: “*Studying Migration in the Digital Era: Innovation, Regulation, Ethics, and Rights*”, 10-12 March 2027, Toronto & online (event hosted by the **Global Migration Institute** at Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU)).

9.3 IMISCOE PHD SCHOOL

Developing a Sensory Methodology in Migration Studies, 25–29 August 2025, Lisbon

The 2025 IMISCOE PhD School was co-organized by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning (IGOT) at the University of Lisbon and the Critical Heritage Studies Hub at Jagiellonian University. The event was hosted by **IGOT in Lisbon**. The scientific and logistic coordinators of the PhD School were Amandine Desille and Karolina Nikielska-Sekuta.

The PhD School brought together 24 PhD candidates from diverse institutions and disciplinary backgrounds, providing an interdisciplinary platform for developing visual and sensory methodologies in migration research. The programme aimed to enable students to critically assess the theoretical, empirical, and ethical implications of their methodological choices, while fostering practical skills in four visual media: photography, film, cartography, and participatory visual methods. The training emphasized multisensory research approaches, encouraging participants to integrate visual techniques with other qualitative methods, such as interviews, discussion groups, walk-alongs, and observational practices.

The programme combined keynote lectures, workshops, fieldwork, and working group activities. Students participated in intensive fieldwork in the Lisbon neighborhood “Bairro das Colónias”, where they applied the visual and sensory methods learned to produce collective outputs. Their productions included maps illustrating neighborhood dynamics, visual essays exploring gentrification through homing practices, a short documentary reflecting the past and present of the area, and visual performances addressing positionality in urban qualitative research. This hands-on experience helped students connect methodological training to their own PhD projects, articulate research challenges, and receive feedback from both experienced trainers and peers.

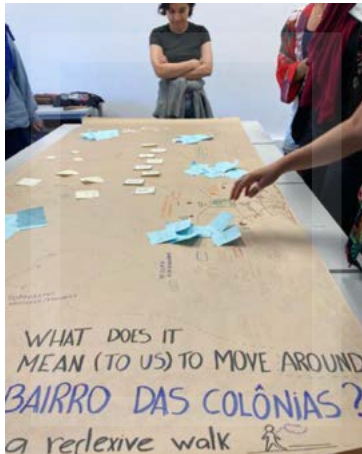
Keynote lectures and workshops were delivered by an interdisciplinary team of trainers and invited speakers, including Amandine Desille, Karolina Nikielska-Sekuta, Magdalena Banaszkiwicz, Franz Buhr, Nagehan Uskan, Kitti Baracsi, Stefano Piemontese, Lucie Bacon, Carlota Matos, Lucía Andújar, Daniel Paiva, Camilo León Quijano, İlke Şanlıyer, Patricia Prieto-Blanco, Maryam Janikhushk, and others. The event was officially opened by Helena Esteves (vice-president of IGOT, Universidade de Lisboa) and Maciej Mikuła (Head of the Critical Heritage Studies Hub at Jagiellonian University). Sessions covered a wide range of topics, including ontologies and epistemologies of the visual and the sensory, the design of multisensory methodologies, ethical considerations in research, dissemination strategies, and the social impact and community-oriented research.

In line with the IMISCOE PhD School’s principles of inclusivity, diversity, and accessibility, support was provided for travel, visas, and registration fees, fostering inclusivity. Participants, trainers and guest speakers represented a wide range of disciplines, career stages, institutions, and socialization backgrounds, ensuring a pluridisciplinary and geographically diverse learning environment. Affordability was further supported through registration fees for participants, grants, and access to university residences.

A collective publication entitled *People Could Live Her* was created by PhD students and trainers participating in the photography working group of the 2025 IMISCOE PhD School. The

publication authored by Hend Aly, Gaëlle Aminata Colin, Iryna Gokhman, Eurídice Hernández Gomes, Maria Kim, Joanna Li, Karen Villanova Lima, Karolina Nikielska-Sekuła, and Patricia Prieto-Blanco, captures the creative and reflective journey undertaken during an intensive week dedicated to multisensory research methods.

The 2025 IMISCOE PhD School was highly valued by participants, trainers, and guest lecturers alike. It reinforced connections between participants and provided a platform for ongoing



2026 IMISCOE PhD School: *“Peripheries in Motion: International Migration and Migrant Inclusion beyond the Urban Spheres”*, 18–23 May 2026, Bolzano/Bozen (event hosted by the [Center for Migration and Societal Change, Eurac Research](#)).

2027 IMISCOE PhD School: *“Regional Migration Studies: Dynamics of Human Mobility, Governance and Socioeconomic Transformations”*, 13-17 September 2027, Barcelona, Spain (event hosted by [GRITIM- Universitat Pompeu Fabra](#), in collaboration with the [EuroMedMig PhD Network](#))

9.4 IMISCOE FORUM

During the year 2025, the IMISCOE Board of Directors decided on the launch of a new type of event: the IMISCOE Forum.

The first edition of the IMISCOE Forum will take place in October 2026, co-organized by the Faculty of Languages, Arts and Human Sciences at Ibn Zohr University, and GRITIM at Pompeu Fabra University, with the support of EuroMedMig. The event will be hosted at Ibn Zohr University in Agadir (Morocco) and focus on the theme “[Promoting Afro-European Mediterranean Dialogue: Shifting Geographies of Migration](#)”.

The launch of the IMISCOE Forum is inspired by a shared vision within the IMISCOE community for strengthening connections among migration researchers across various world regions, with the aim of supporting the development of engaged networks for future collaborations and partnerships. The Forum also seeks to contribute towards building a broader regional research agenda on migration, while consolidating exchanges between the IMISCOE community and scholars, institutions, and NGOs based in various parts of the world.

The first edition of the Forum, to take place in 2026, aims to explore how research, practices, and decision-making can be decentralized to reduce inequalities, power asymmetries, and ideological or cultural biases. It seeks to foster an equitable and inclusive Afro-European dialogue on migration that is attentive to the lived realities of people on the move and grounded in regional knowledge production. A central objective of the 2026 edition is to highlight how the Mediterranean region—understood not as a boundary, but as a bridge—can function as a space for intellectual exchange and collaborative research connecting Africa and Europe. By strengthening connections among researchers, universities, and NGOs across Africa, the Mediterranean, and Europe, the 2026 edition of the Forum aspires to support sustained collaboration, co-production of knowledge, and meaningful engagement among stakeholders. It is conceived as an open and inclusive platform that encourages diagnostic reflection and actionable regional cooperation.

10

SPONSORSHIPS, COLLABORATIONS, AND AGREEMENTS WITH THIRD PARTIES



10.1 COMPARATIVE MIGRATION STUDIES (CMS)

The journal [Comparative Migration Studies \(CMS\)](#) was established in 2013 as the first Open Access journal in the field of migration studies. Since 2015, the journal has been associated with IMISCOE and since 2016, it is published by Springer and part of the SpringerOpen platform. Over a period of 10 years, it has become a key journal in the publication landscape of migration studies, with a significant contribution to the promotion of comparative research and the development of the research field.

CMS is an international, peer-reviewed Open Access journal that provides a platform for articles focusing on comparative research in migration, integration, and race and ethnic relations. The journal presents readers with an extensive collection of comparative analyses, including studies between countries, groups, levels, and historical periods. CMS publishes research based on qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods studies. Contributions cover a wide range of disciplinary angles across the social sciences and the humanities. Topics covered by the journal include migration and integration in relation to citizenship, national identity, refugee and asylum policy, social movements (pro and anti-immigration), gender, racialization, whiteness, ethnic and religious diversity and (post)colonialism.

CMS is published and owned by Springer. Yet, given IMISCOE's priority to support open and inclusive publication models, the University of Liège, as Coordinating Institute of IMISCOE, concluded a Sponsorship Agreement with Springer through which IMISCOE fully supports each year a number of Open Access articles published by IMISCOE members, while also providing some fee waivers for authors based in institutions outside of the EU/OECD.

Over 2024, CMS received a citation impact factor of 3.7, putting it amongst the top #5 journals in the field. CMS is very grateful to its Editorial and Advisory Board members for making this happen, and to all the contributors and reviewers for their support. CMS also remains firmly committed to Open Access, with probably one of the lowest fees for full OA. In 2025, this resulted in more than 1.000.000 downloads from the journal page, ensuring that all submitted work gets read as widely as possible.

The 10 years anniversary of CMS was celebrated with a special issue on *Critical Developments in Migration Studies*. This issue addressed key aspects in migration studies to which CMS has contributed, and set an agenda for future key developments to which the journal could and should contribute further. In 2025, the journal has also made further steps to globalize its editorial board, with 8 new board members from across the world. This strengthens the globalization of the journal, while also bringing more diverse disciplinary perspectives. CMS will also be present during the 2026 IMISCOE Annual Conference in Girona, to join discussions, together with other journals, on how to address critical developments in the research field.

CMS publishes individual articles, special issues, paper clusters and comment series. There are two special issue calls per year, of which one is thematically and regionally targeted, and one is open. The open call is always announced during or shortly after the IMISCOE Annual Conference. Paper clusters are groups of max. 4 papers that are published together on a common theme without an introductory or concluding paper. These can be submitted on a regular basis via the journal webpage. Comment series are issues that are targeted at a specific debate within migration studies and consist of a series of commentaries in mutual dialogue. These comment series are organized by the journal's editorial board.

All articles published by CMS are accessible in Open Access on the Publisher's website:

<https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com>

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10.2 EUMIGS

The European Master in Migration Studies (EuMIGS): Studying migration while on the move: In 2025, the EuMIGS network involved 13 Member Institutes that offer a master programme in the field of migration. The network continued to enable one to two-semester student exchanges and shorter teaching mobilities in the framework of an Erasmus+ multilateral agreement. Eleven partners within the network are part of the EuMIGS Double Degree programme – two of which joined the programme in 2025. Students enrolled in the migration master programme at any of the eleven partner universities in A Coruña, Côte d’Azur, Paris (joint master between EHESS and Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), Liège, Linköping, Malmö, Neuchâtel, Osnabrück, and Salzburg can apply to spend their second year at another partner university abroad and obtain a master diploma from both their home and host university. EuMIGS is closely connected to IMISCOE and has collaborated and exchanged experiences with other IMISCOE members throughout 2025.

The EuMIGS Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership project: Seven EuMIGS Double Degree partners were awarded an Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership grant by the European Commission in 2022 for a duration of three years. With this funding, the EuMIGS partners developed new activities for both Double Degree and regular migration master students. EuMIGS organized its third Winter Workshop on Knowledge Transfer with a focus on mapping as a research method in February 2025 at the University of Osnabrück. During the spring semester 2025, a virtual master thesis colloquium provided a space for EuMIGS Double Degree students to present their master thesis projects and receive feedback from peers. In July 2025, 16 Double Degree students participated in two EuMIGS workshops at the IMISCOE Annual Conference in Paris. The students presented their recently finished or ongoing master theses and reflected, in a roundtable discussion, on the implications of doing migration research while being on the move themselves. Based on the experiences of the Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership project, which ended in August 2025, EuMIGS published [guidelines](#) on how to build sustainable cooperations for student mobility, and a [policy brief](#) on the challenges and opportunities of international student mobility.

Diversifying and decentering student mobility: With the end of the Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership project, the EuMIGS consortium has worked to maintain the most promising formats implemented during the project’s duration, such as the Joint Course which also allows master students whose financial, family or legal situation makes it difficult to move abroad to benefit from the network. At the same time, EuMIGS started reflecting on how to develop cooperations, activities and a focus beyond the European continent. In October 2025, a new cohort of EuMIGS Double Degree students kicked off their second year abroad in a three-day meeting at the University of Salzburg. During the kick-off meeting, EuMIGS launched a Lecture Series and Joint Course on the topic of De-Centering Migration: Approaches from the Global South. Scholars based in and researching migration and (im)mobility in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Oceania and Europe contributed to this online Lecture Series and Joint Course. Finding ways to expand the EuMIGS network beyond Europe and to make student mobility more inclusive, despite limited financial means, remain key challenges that the consortium is set to address.



10.3 CONFERENCE PLATFORM, WEBSITE & WEBEX

Two important online components of IMISCOE's research infrastructure are the [IMISCOE website](#) and the [Annual Conference Platform](#). For both the website and the conference platform, the IMISCOE Network Office works closely with the IT provider DesignServer, led by René de Ree and Marco Legemaate.

The updates introduced in 2024 to the website and conference portal continued to provide significant value in 2025. Several sections were added and reorganized on the IMISCOE website to better reflect the network's evolving activities and events. The Conference platform, which became a central tool for participants of the IMISCOE Annual Conference, enabled users to filter, select, and save the panels and workshops they wished to attend, creating a personalized conference schedule. This development marked an important step towards reducing paper use at conferences while enhancing the overall participant experience.

Another fundamental element of IMISCOE's online infrastructure is its subscription to Cisco Webex. In 2025, the IMISCOE research community continued to make extensive use of this tool for all online and hybrid events organized by the Network, including the Annual Conference. IMISCOE's governance bodies and committees also make recurrent use of Webex for their events and meetings.

Colophon

IMISCOE (International Migration Research Network) is the largest interdisciplinary network of scholars in the field of migration. The **Network** currently consists of 73 research institutes **and around 1500 individual members** from different countries around the world and from various disciplines including sociology, political science, anthropology, economics, law, demography, public administration, geography and history.

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