



Universiteit Utrecht

# EU at the crossroads of migration: critical reflections on the ‘refugee crisis’ and new migration deals

International Migration Conference | 7-8 May 2018 | Instituto Cervantes, Utrecht, NL

In 2018, the EU finds itself on the crossroads of migration management. On the one hand, there is an impression that the so-called refugee crisis is over, on the other hand, the dramatic images in the (social) media present a different reality. Although the local and national authorities have emphasized the need for a coordinated, centralized governance on supranational level, many Member States are unwilling to share the burden of asylum protection defined by the European Commission. The EU migration agenda is increasingly externalizing its responses to the growing migration flow and pushing the responsibilities of Member States outside of the Schengen borders.

The aim of this conference is two-fold; firstly, to critically reflect on different aspects of the ‘so-called refugee crisis’ in the last three years from an international, multidisciplinary perspective, secondly to share theoretical and empirical knowledge on different issues in migration process. What can we learn from the discrepancies between the policies and realities, on the one hand, and from the positive initiatives and best practices on the other hand?

The conference provides a forum to address the following (but not limited to) issues: public and private actors in managing migration flows, legal frameworks, criminalization of migration, human smuggling and/or human solidarity, the social consequences of refugee flows in the host societies in terms of labour exploitation, media representation, the role of social media to facilitate migration, gender and sexuality in migration trajectories, the tension between human rights and security, geopolitical challenges in the aftermath of EU-Turkey deal, policing.

## Keynote speakers

Demetrios Papademetriou (Migration Policy Institute (MPI), Washington, USA); Evthymios Papataxiarchis (University of the Aegean, Greece); Peter R. Rodrigues (Institute of Immigration Law, Leiden University, Netherlands).

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We welcome policy-makers, academics (criminologists, sociologists, lawyers, economists, social geographers, anthropologists), NGO representatives, law enforcement officials and other persons interested in migration issues to participate in the conference.

## Call for abstracts

You are invited to send panel proposals and individual paper abstracts before **1st of February 2018** to n.kavur@uu.nl. Individual paper abstracts should not exceed 150 words. Please also mention your affiliation, address, email-address and discipline. Panel proposals include a short panel abstract (about 150 words), several paper abstracts, and names of organizers/chairs, presenters and a possible discussant. Please mention the affiliation, address, email-address and discipline of each participant. Participants will be notified by **1st of March 2018**.

## Registration

There is no registration fee. To complete registration, all invited participants are required to confirm their participation by sending an email to wpi-congres@uu.nl before **10th of March, 2018**. (Please make sure to mention the title of the conference, “EU at the crossroads of migration: critical reflections on the ‘refugee crisis’ and new migration deals” in your email.)

The programme will be available in March 2018.

Organizers are Prof. Dr. Dina Siegel, Dr. Veronika Nagy and Dr. Nilay Kavur (Willem Pompe Institute for Criminal Law and Criminology, Utrecht University), Dr. Hanneke van Eijken (Utrecht University School of Law-International and European Law), Prof. Dr. Annelies Zoomers and Dr. Ilse van Liempt (Human Geography and Planning, Faculty of Geosciences, Utrecht University). Please see the link of the ongoing project Migratiedeals: <https://migratiedeals.sites.uu.nl/>

For additional questions, please contact Veronika Nagy (v.nagy@uu.nl) and Nilay Kavur (n.kavur@uu.nl).