

Program DiaMiGo Autumn Research Academy, 16-20 October, Cologne

Infrastructuring Migration | Migrating Infrastructures?

*Dialogue on Migration Governance
in the Euro-Mediterranean Region*

Autumn Research Academy

16-20 October 2023, University of Cologne



Organizational Committee

Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Department of Languages and Cultures of the Islamicate World, Division of International Affairs

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General description

Welcome to the Dialogue of Migration Governance (DiaMiGo) Autumn Research Academy "Infrastructuring Migration | Migrating Infrastructures?" in Cologne. This coming week, we will together explore from an interdisciplinary perspective current changes and debates related to the Mediterranean as a border region and, in this context, to migration and mobility in the wider Mediterranean region. Our overarching conceptual focus is on the infrastructuring of migration. This entails a praxeological perspective that sees (infra)structures not as fixed entities, but as mutually shaped and shifting in the process of migration itself. Migrants and refugees not only actively rely on and build their own infrastructures - infrastructuring migration - but also adapt, intervene, and change border regimes according to specific local situations and demands. Could one even speak of migrating infrastructures of control and migration? This approach implies a focus on localized settings and situated practices of bordering and calls for a broad understanding of migration that includes not only the movement of people, but also the movement of objects, ideas, and more-than-human (MTH) entities (such as viruses, toxins, plants, and animals). Such an understanding of the infrastructures of migration emphasizes the entanglement of human beings with material aspects involved in migration and its governance. This DiaMiGo Autumn Research Academy will explore this approach through three distinct yet intertwined areas of interest that co-structure contemporary practices and debates on migration and governance in the Mediterranean: 1) Human Mobility and the Autonomy of Migration; 2) Religion and Migration; and 3) More than Human Migration. We are looking forward to, together with students and expert speakers, exploring these themes and having fruitful discussions and exchange to gain a deeper understanding from multiple perspectives regarding this important theme of migration.

The DiaMiGo Research Academy is a collaboration between the University of Cologne and the American University in Cairo. It consists of two parts: this Autumn Research Academy, held in Cologne (October 16-20, 2023), focuses on an actor/object-centered perspective on migration infrastructures. The second part, to be held in Cairo (2024), will shift its focus to governance perspectives on migration infrastructures, such as recent changes in legal infrastructures and border regimes that implement policies and regulate different kinds of mobility in the Mediterranean. By consistently focusing on the three areas of interest throughout both events, the DiaMiGo Research Academy aims to provide a comprehensive discussion of current approaches and dynamics of migration.

Monday 16 October **Opening & General Framing**

Venue: Sky Fall at a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne
(3. Floor, Aachener Str. 217, 50931 Cologne)

09:30 **Walk-in and registration**

10:00 – 10:30 **Welcoming and opening remarks**
Karim Zafer

Introductory Lectures by the Organizers (Moderation: Karim Zafer)

10:30 – 11:00 ***Infrastructuring Migration | Migrating Infrastructures***
Martin Zillinger (University of Cologne)

11:00 – 11:30 ***Current Trends in Migration Research: Aspirations-Capabilities Framework***
Michaela Pelican (University of Cologne)

Coffee break

12:00 – 12:30 ***Religion and Migration***
Nina ter Laan (University of Cologne)

12:30 – 13:00 ***More-Than-Human Migration***
Christoph Lange (University of Cologne)

Lunch

14:00 – 14:30 ***Sea Watch: Search and Rescue, Criminalization and Human Rights Violations***
Dorothee Krämer & Giulia Messmer

Student Group Work

14:30 – 16:00 ***Introduction & First Inputs***
Facilitators: Elena Habersky (Migration), Emmanuele De Simone (Religion), Burak Sezer & Christoph Lange (MTH)

Tuesday 17 October**Human Mobility & Autonomy of Migration**

Venue: International Guesthouse,
(Kringsweg 6, 50931, Cologne)

Lectures (Moderation: Ibrahim Abu Sena, Discussant: Maya Ayoub)

09:00-10:00 ***Keynote I: A Perspective from the Global South on Concepts in Migration Studies***
Ibrahim Awad (American University in Cairo)

Coffee Break

10:30-11:00: ***Knowledge Politics and Migratory Justice: Design Principles for Critical and Actionable Migration Research***
Jill Alpes (Ghent University)

11:00 – 11:30 ***Assisted Migration or Human Trafficking? A Case Study from Eastern Sudan***
Abdallah Ounour (Gadarif University Sudan)

11:30 – 12:00 ***Refugee Entitlements in Egypt: Discrepancies between Law and Practice and Community Response***
Elena Habersky (American University in Cairo)

12:00 – 12:30 ***Discussion***

Lunch Break

Keynote II

Venue: Dozentenzimmer, Main Building (Albertus Magnusplatz 1, 50931, Cologne)

14:00 - 15:00 ***Migration Infrastructure – Turkey's Immigration and Emigration Policies (online)***
Damla Aksel Bayraktar (Bahçeşehir University Istanbul)

Student Group Work

15:00 – 16:30 ***Human Mobility & Autonomy of Migration***
Facilitator: Elena Habersky,

Evening Program

19:30 – 21:30 ***Concert with [Göksel Yilmaz Ensemble](#) & [Luis Gimenez Amoros](#)***
[Integrationshaus](#), [Demokratie Space](#) (Kalker Hauptstrasse 170, 51103 Cologne)

Wednesday 18 October **Migration & Religion**

Venue: Dozentenzimmer, Main Building (Albertus Magnus Platz 1, 50931, Cologne)

Student Group Work

10:00 – 12:00 ***Crafting Connections between Migration and Religion***
Organization: Emmanuele de Simone & Nina ter Laan

Lunch Break

Lectures (Moderation: Nina ter Laan, Discussant: Martin Zillinger)

14:00 – 15:00 ***Keynote: Religious Place, Presence, and Sense-Making in African Migrant Trajectories within and beyond Morocco***
Johara Berriane (Universität der Bundeswehr, Munich)

15:00 – 15:30 ***Worshipping Along the Routes of Migration: Religion as Infrastructure***
Gerda Heck (American University in Cairo)

16:00 – 16:30 ***Racism and anti-Muslim Racism in the German Border Regime***
Sabine Damir Geilsdorf (University of Cologne)

16:30 – 17:00 ***Discussion***

Evening Program

18:00 – 20:30 ***Film screening & discussion with film maker Talib Shah Hossaini***
(Moderation: Karim Zafer)

Picknick in Moria (directed by Lina Lužyte, 81 minutes, 2022, Germany)
Cinema [Filmpalette](#) Köln (Lübecker Straße 15, 50668 Cologne)

Thursday 19 October
More-Than-Human Migration

Venue: Sky Fall at a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne
(3. Floor, Aachener Str. 217, 50931 Cologne)

Lectures (Moderation: Christoph Lange, Discussant: Burak Sezer)

09:30 – 10:00 ***Aliens in the Mediterranean: On Fish Migrants, Questions of Belonging, and Emotional Attachments to the Sea***
[Karin Ahlberg](#) (University Stockholm)

10:00 – 10:30 ***Migration and Circulation of Cannabis Hybrids in Morocco's Rif region***
[Khalid Mouna](#) (University of Moulay Ismail)

Coffee break

11:00 – 11:30 ***The Agency of the Great Ethiopian Renaissance Dam in the Daily Lives of Ethiopian Migrant Workers in the UAE: A More-Than-Human Perspective***
[Saleh Seid](#) (University of Cologne)

11:30 – 12:00 ***“Items that Speak”: Tracing and Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Migrants and Refugees***
[Amira Ahmed](#) (American University Cairo)

12:00 – 12:30 ***Discussion***

Lunch break

Student Group Work

14:00 – 15.30 ***Multispecies Storytelling and More-Than-Human Migration in the Mediterranean***
Organization: [Burak Sezer](#) & Christoph Lange

Friday 20 October
Concluding Roundtable

10:00 – 12:00: ***Concluding roundtable for students' working groups***

Farewell