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MIGLOBA NEWSLETTER | MAY & JUNE 2025

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD OF MIGRATION RESEARCH

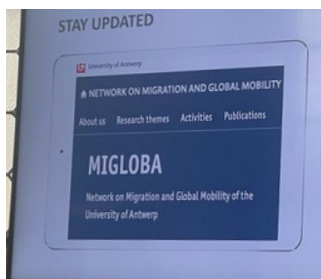
MIGLOBA is the Network on Migration and Global Mobility of the University of Antwerp.

The newsletter is our tool to help you stay on top of what's happening in migration research, disseminate your research within the MIGLOBA network and learn about upcoming events.

MIGLOBA core team firmly stands in solidarity with Palestine and against the genocide that is taking place in Gaza. Responding to a call by BelgianUniversitiesforPalestine (see the recent [press release](#) and [VRT article](#)), we encourage our members to consider joining the EU-wide email campaign initiated by the European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine (ECCP). Citizens in 20 member states are demanding the suspension of the EU-Israel agreement. You can participate by contacting the Belgian government [[HERE](#)]



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>>> UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the date: MIGLOBA/GOVTRUST symposium on administrative limbos

Administrative Limbos: Exploring Conditions of Entrapment Among Racialised Citizens, Ethnic Minorities and Migrants

In this cross-over event between migration studies and public administration, we will examine how racialised citizens, ethnic minorities and migrants can become stuck in liminality due to government policies and bureaucratic (in)action, and what the impacts of experiences of limbo are.

During the Day | Academic Workshop

A workshop with paper presentations for academics.



Time: 09:30–15:30 – Registration at 09:00



Date : 4 September 2025



Location: S.E.122 Lessius Room, Grote Kauwenberg 2, 2000 Antwerpen, Belgium

In the Evening | Open Session

Open session for experts, policymakers, practitioners and all interested audience to discuss the contemporary relevance of limbo for policymakers and academia alike.



Time: 17:00–20:30 – Registration at 16:30



Date: 4 September 2025



Location: Hof Van Liere, F. Tassis Room, Prinsstraat 13, 2000 Antwerp

Further details and registration links for both the day and evening sessions will be forwarded in the near future.



>>> UPCOMING PANELS, CONFERENCES AND INITIATIVES

PhD & Postdoc Positions

Join the ERC funded project ReWorkChange, Remote Work and Social Change: An Anthropological Approach

PI: Prof. Elisabetta Costa

We are looking for:

- One PhD, 4 years, fieldwork in the Netherlands
- One PhD, 4 years, fieldwork in India
- One PhD, 4 years, fieldwork in Turkey
- One post-doc, 3 years, fieldwork in Mexico
- One post-doc + teaching and project management (70%), 3 years, fieldwork in Belgium

Successful candidates are expected to join the team by 1st October 2025.

Internships at MIGLOBA

We're happy to welcome interns at MIGLOBA, but as we are a small team, we can only host candidates who already have a clear project in mind that fits with our mission and research themes.

We welcome interns from a range of backgrounds and skill sets. Experience with video-making or editing is particularly appreciated, as it can support our communication work.

**VIEW OTHER CONFERENCES
AND PANELS**



>>> ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

IMISCOE PODCAST

Check out Season 5 of The Migration Podcast!

Latest episodes

Episode 4: Migration and Mental Health: A Look at Latin America

Itzel Eguiluz interviews Ietza Bojorquez and Sylvia Dantas about their work with migrants in Mexico and Brazil.

Episode 3: Migration & Russia

Kate Dearden speaks with Rustam Urinboyev and Nodira Kholmatova about life for Central Asian migrants in Russia, before and after the invasion of Ukraine.

Episode 2: Film & Digital Storytelling in Migration Research

Silindile Mlilo talks to Isabel Rose Soloaga and Ntokozo Yingwana about using film and digital storytelling to explore migration, identity, and gender.

Episode 1: Dublin, Solidarity & Age

Liberty Chee discusses the EU asylum system with Ulrike Bialas and Eleonora Milazzo, focusing on age, solidarity, and the Dublin Regulation.

LISTEN TO THE
LATEST EPISODES

MIGLOBA BLOG

Latest Blog Post

Shrinking spaces of refuge leave displaced Eritreans asking, 'Where to next?' By Aron Tesfai, Dr Georgia Cole, Dr Milena Belloni

As conflict and instability spread across the Horn of Africa, Eritrean refugees are being displaced again — pushed out of countries that once offered safety.

In this blog article, Dr. Aron Tesfai, Dr. Georgia Cole, and Dr. Milena Belloni draw on findings from MMC's latest report to explore the urgent realities of secondarily displaced Eritreans — and what needs to change to better support them.



>>> ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

PAST EVENTS

FWO-Tournesol conference and workshop in Paris

What happens to families when they migrate, or some members cross borders and others stay behind?

To explore this question, MIGLOBA team members from the Departments of Sociology and Linguistics joined researchers from the Institut Convergences Migrations (ICM) in France for a two-day research exchange on the 3rd and 4th April, 2025.

Funded by the FWO-Tournesol project Investigating Separated Families, the event featured a public conference at Campus Condorcet on how migration reshapes family structures, gender roles, and caregiving. It also included a guided tour of the Musée de l'Histoire de l'Immigration and a workshop on the ethics and methodology of researching transnational families.

For early-career researchers, it was a valuable opportunity to learn from leading scholars, share ideas, and receive feedback on their work.




WELCOME TO ANTWERP
EVENTS


>>> PAST EVENTS

Postgraduate & PhD Workshop by Raktim Ray - MIGLOBA x USI

Reimagining Otherness through Critical Ethnography

This workshop plans to unsettle our understandings of vocabularies and visual metaphors from a Eurocentric perspective and unpacks how otherness is imparted to non-European and Southern/Eastern contexts in the normative discourse of development. Through engaging with visual and spatial metaphors, the workshop will explore ethics of ethnographic fieldwork, visual metaphors and individual biases. This participatory workshop is designed for postgraduate and PhD students.

 **Date: 10 June 2025**

 **Time: 14:30-16.30**

 **Location: M.107, City Campus, Antwerp**





MIGLOBA Feedback Sessions

From the Darkness of Blasphemy to the Light of Revelation:" Women-Only Spaces as Crucibles for Islamic State Mobilization in Turkey

This article examines the role of women-only spaces in shaping women's pathways to global jihad, focusing on Turkish jihadi women who joined the Islamic State (IS) and the localized IS networks responsible for their preparation. I argue that these spaces play a critical role in the shift from local to global mobilization, serving as environments where women assert their agency. Specifically, the study investigates a jihadi community in Istanbul, which functioned as a gateway to IS until 2015, providing both ideological preparation and logistical support. Drawing on fieldwork in Istanbul, including interviews, focus groups, participant observation, court case analysis, and biographical lenses to explore women's militant trajectories, this article locates women's agency in counterintuitive militant spaces.

Speaker: Anna Rajkowska

 **Date: 12 June 2025**

 **Time: 11:00 – 12:00**

 **Location: CRESC Social room, Z-building, 5th floor**

Nb: No feedback sessions in July and August due to conferences and summer break. If you would like to attend one or more MIGLOBA Feedback Sessions, reach out to Lena Richter at lena.richter@uantwerpen.be with migloba@uantwerpen.be in cc.

>>> ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

PAST EVENTS

Seminar with Prof Ábel Bereményi

The seminar was held on March 12th and explored how families in Spain who experienced downward mobility after the 2008 economic crisis navigated school choices. Drawing on semi-structured interviews and a Bourdieusian lens, the study examined how these families—previously upwardly mobile through economic gains—responded to the loss of social status. Findings highlighted the tensions they faced when selecting schools, balancing perceptions of quality, ownership, and social makeup as they viewed education as a crucial investment in their children's future.



[VIEW PREVIOUS
EVENTS](#)



>>> ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

PAST EVENTS

Lunch seminar with Dr. Lauren Wagner

The lunch seminar took place on Monday 26th of May. During the seminar, Lauren Wagner gave us insights on her fieldwork on mobility patterns of the Moroccan diaspora and argued why we should take leisure seriously in Migration and Mobility studies. We learned that when individuals from a migration background travel 'home', they may be motivated by grand and important intentions to maintain connections. Yet, often, what they actually do while they are visiting is 'hang out'. This discussion reviewed some of the ways diasporic leisure practices and pursuits can be more consequential than they may appear.



[VIEW PREVIOUS
EVENTS](#)



>>> LATEST PUBLICATIONS

DIVERSITY AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Van Dam, S., Schrooten, M., Vermeulen, E., Bety, A., Reyntjens, R., Van de Vorst, D. (2025). Refugee reception and housing in Belgium. In: S. Van Dam, M. Schrooten (Eds.), Reinforcing integration through sponsorship enhancement: Insights from Belgium, Italy and Lithuania., (15-29). Vilnius: International Organization for Migration. [Open Access](#)

Schrooten, M., Van Dam, S., Naessens, L. (2025). Insights and recommendations on Community Sponsorship: Perspectives from volunteers, forced migrants and key stakeholders in Belgium, Italy and Lithuania. International Organization for Migration. (URL) [Open Access](#)

GLOBAL MOBILITY AND GOVERNANCE

Ahimbisibwe, F. (2025). The 2014 law relating to refugees in Rwanda: Between theory and reality (IOB Working Paper 2025.08). Institute of Development Policy (IOB), University of Antwerp.

Aru, S., & Belloni, M. (2024). Deserving or undeserving? Governing 'migrant irregularity' and squatting in Amsterdam. Cities, 153, 105199. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CITIES.2024.105199>



>>> LATEST PUBLICATIONS

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND MIGRANT POPULATIONS

Bruni, V., & Sterck, O. (2025). The welfare and market effects of delays in humanitarian assistance. SSRN. Peisakhin, L., Stoop, N. & Van der Windt, P. (2024). Here's what motivates people to host refugees. Good Authority. <https://goodauthority.org/news/refugee-migrant-idp-host-june20-displaced-people/>

Peisakhin, L., Stoop, N. & Van der Windt, P. (2024). Who hosts? The correlates of hosting the internally displaced. American Political Science Review. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055424000923>

Van der Windt, P., Stoop, N., & Zhai, H. (2024). A meta-analysis of attitudes towards migrants and displaced persons. Immigration Policy Lab Working Paper Series. <https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/u8ks6>

Claus, L., Braakman, M., Schouler-Ocak, M., Van de Vliet, L., Sabbe, B., & van den Ameele, S. (2025). The voices not heard: thematic analysis of asylum seekers' explanatory models of mental illness as elicited by the Cultural Formulation Interview. BJPsych Open, 11(2), e62. [doi:10.1192/bjo.2024.866](https://doi.org/10.1192/bjo.2024.866)

Wood J. Differential formal childcare uptake amongst migrants and their descendants in Europe and Australia: the role of socio-economic status, employment and work–family attitudes. Journal of Social Policy. Published online 2025:1-22. [doi:10.1017/S004727942500008X](https://doi.org/10.1017/S004727942500008X)

Maombi, E. N., Lunanga, E., Stoop, N., & Verpoorten, M. (2025). You go, I stay: Intrahousehold evacuation behavior upon a disaster. World Development, 192, 107032. Peisakhin, L., Stoop, N. & Van der Windt, P. (2024). Here's what motivates people to host refugees. Good Authority. <https://goodauthority.org/news/refugee-migrant-idp-host-june20-displaced-people/>

Peisakhin, L., Stoop, N. & Van der Windt, P. (2024). Who hosts? The correlates of hosting the internally displaced. American Political Science Review. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055424000923>

Van der Windt, P., Stoop, N., & Zhai, H. (2024). A meta-analysis of attitudes towards migrants and displaced persons. Immigration Policy Lab Working Paper Series. <https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/u8ks6>

Budginaite-Mackine, I., Albert, I., Schrooten, M., Stanojevic, D., Wojtynska, A. with Budginaite-Mackine, I. (corresp. author) (2025). Defining transnational families across countries and time: an analysis of academic discourse on the phenomenon between 2003 and 2023. JOURNAL OF FAMILY STUDIES. doi: 10.1080/13229400.2024.2449103 Open Access

VIEW OTHER
PUBLICATIONS



>>> MEMBERS NEWS

JOIN US IN GIVING A WARM WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBER OF MIGLOBA'S ORGANISATION AND COMMUNICATION TEAM!

Sarah Adeyinka

Sarah is an affiliated post-doctoral researcher at the University of Antwerp at the department of Sociology, where she is part of the Network on Migration and Global Mobility, MIGLOBA. Her research focus is on human trafficking, reintegration, irregular migration, and sexual violence. Her current research is the ERC-funded Reintegrate Study- a study on reintegration governance, led by Dr. Katie Kuschminder at the University of Amsterdam. There she leads the Nigeria part of the study and also focuses on a sub-group of return-migrant victims of human trafficking.

Gabriele Vitale

Gabriele is a PhD student at the University of Torino and visiting research student at the University of Antwerpen. His research focuses are situated in the field of medical and political anthropology, and cultural history. For his MA he conducted an urban ethnography on vaccine hesitation during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the moment, he is conducting fieldwork in Flanders on youth participation in politics and the category of populism.

Anke De Malsche

Anke is a doctoral researcher at the University of Antwerp, supervised by Prof. Stijn Oosterlynck and Prof. Milena Belloni. Her current research is centred around urbanisation dynamics, feelings of home and mobility decision-making in Belgium. She is part of Centre for Research on Environmental and Social Change (CRESC) and MIGLOBA.

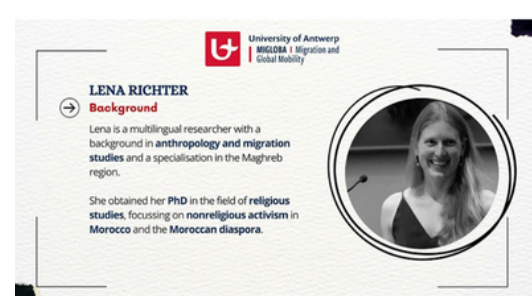
Stay tuned for exciting updates and projects as we grow together. Let's continue building a vibrant, global network!

MIGLOBA TEAM IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Meet the team: spotlight on Giovanni Penna



Meet the team: spotlight on Lena Richter



>>> JOIN US- BECOME A MEMBER OF MIGLOBA AND STAY UPDATED

Get involved with MIGLOBA!

Looking to be more engaged with MIGLOBA? We offer plenty of exciting opportunities for you to participate:

- Share your articles with us and get featured on the [MIGLOBA blog](#)!
- Send us a [poster](#) outlining your research and let us showcase your work!
- Sign up to be a guest on the [MIGLOBA podcast](#).

Collaborate with us by emailing us at migloba@uantwerpen.be and telling us about your research projects and ideas for future collaborations!

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