

Master Student Workshop Migration and Conflict: Researching in Unsettled Times

June 27, 2016 Monday

Room: 40:213

Organized by GRITIM-UPF working group on refugees

12:00 – 14:00

Session 1: Refugee Question in International and National Perspectives

Chair: Lorenzo Gabrielli- GRITIM-UPF

Nahid Steingress Carballar - *Master in Political Philosophy at UPF*

“Arendt and the Right to Have Rights”

Maéva Despaux - *Master in International, European and Comparative Law at Université Toulouse I Capitole*

“Article 18 of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights and the Recognition of an Individual ‘Right to Asylum’”

Lara Soria Morente - *Master in International Security at IBEI*

“Understanding Different Political and Social Responses to Refugees: The cases of Sweden and France”

Hanna Safronava - *Master in Immigration Management at UPF*

“The Determinants of State Response to Ukrainian Refugees in Poland and Russia”

14:00 - 15:00

**** Lunch Break****

Light refreshments will be served

15:00 – 16:00

Keynote Address by Robert Templer- Central European University

“The Challenges of Research in Times of Crisis and Conflict”

16:00 – 18:00

Session 2: Refugees and their Host Societies: Policies, Perceptions, and Practices

Chair: Evren Yalaz - GRITIM-UPF

Nadine June Graham - *Master in Immigration Management at UPF*

“The Dynamics between Policy, Practice and Perception: A Media Analysis Regarding the Accessibility of Support Services for Syrian Refugees in Canada”

Johanna Hase - *Master in Immigration Management at UPF*

“Integration of and by the Majority Population in Neighborhoods Receiving Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Hamburg, Germany”

Ezgi Irgil - *Research Assistant at the Swedish Research Council Project*

“Multi-level Governance as an Alternative Solution to Refugee Influx in the EU: Cuitat Refugi and City-to-city Network”

Begüm Dereli - *Master in Immigration Management at UPF*

“Crossing the Border Questioning the Belonging: Syrian Turkmens’ Changing Perceptions of National Identity”

** Free attendance. Registration is required. Please confirm your attendance by June 22. [Click here to register](#) **

Keynote address by

**Robert Templer
Central European University**



The Challenges of Research in Times of Crisis and Conflict

Researching in times of crisis or conflict presents important ethical, logistical and personal challenges. How should you deal with vulnerable populations? What is the role of the researcher in these situations? How does one address ethical dilemmas during research such as security, confidentiality and psychological trauma, both for the subjects of research and those involved in it? What responsibility do researchers have to particularly vulnerable populations such as female-headed households and children and how can they be incorporated into research? How do you ensure that the voices of those caught in conflicts are heard and what are the best ways to communicate with policymakers? What are political decision makers looking for from research and how can you make it most effective? There are no easy answers to many of these issues but there are ways to reduce the risk of harm coming to those already under great stress.

Robert Templer is professor of practice at the School of Public Policy at the Central European University in Budapest and the Director of the Center for Conflict, Negotiation and Recovery. He was formerly Asia Director of the International Crisis Group and a news correspondent in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Vietnam and China.

**** The keynote address will take place via Skype****

Workshop Program

Session 1: Refugee Question in International and National Perspectives

Nahid Steingress Carballar - *Master in Political Philosophy at UPF*

Arendt and the Right to Have Rights

Arendt has received a vast amount of attention within scholars in regards to her analysis of Totalitarianism and evil. Nevertheless, she is not usually considered as a theorist concerned with human rights, probably because she avoided using a juridical or analytical approach. For her, the human rights problem was not a legal, but a political one. I argue that her analysis of the stateless and the refugee contains very interesting reflections about human rights. She points out some failures and lacks of human rights theories and claims that a new guarantee is needed in order to protect such rights. We can also find some very interesting political proposals in her work that enable us to think about human rights in a new frame. The current refugee crisis has awakened an alert within the academic and political sphere about the efficacy and relevance of human rights. Now, more than ever, is the moment to reconsider them and look for new political and intellectual foundations that guarantee their respect. In this regard, Arendt can offer us a new perspective to avoid making the same mistakes as in the past.

Maéva Despaux- *Master in International, European and Comparative Law at Université Toulouse 1 Capitole*

Article 18 of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights and the Recognition of an Individual “Right to Asylum”

In international law, migration control and the possibility to grant refugee status are classically interpreted as prerogatives and discretionary powers of States in the exercise of their sovereignty. This seems to conflict with the 'right to asylum' that appears in article 18 of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights (ECFR) as an individual right. However, the fact that member states of the EU are now very reluctant to cooperate to deal with the so-called “crisis of refugees”, the difficulties to manage the mixed afflux of migrants in the Mediterranean sea, or the tendency to externalize the European migration policy, grow some concerns for the fundamental rights of refugees.

Knowing that the Charter of Fundamental Rights has the same legal value than the other fundamental Treaties of the European Union since the Treaty of Lisbon, it is interesting to question the role of article 18 in the protection of forced migrants.

Article 18 appears to be at the core of a complex and fragmented international legal framework protecting refugees and refers explicitly to the Geneva Convention of 1951 relating to the status of refugees. Hence, this article seems to be embedded in the traditional idea that the sovereignty of States reserve them the right to grant asylum.

On the contrary, it will be showed that the Charter, being a catalogue of fundamental rights, has created an individual right to ask for and to be granted an international protection. Though, the efficiency of this article can be discussed given its marginal place in the Common European Asylum System and the jurisprudence of the Court of Justice.

Lara Soria Morente - *Master in International Security at IBEI*

Understanding Different Political and Social Responses to Refugees: The cases of Sweden and France

Hundreds, thousands of refugees are fleeing from Syria. Some try to find shelter in neighboring countries while others try to get to Europe. Some of these countries were willing to receive high number of asylum-seekers in their territories while others were not that open. Societies and political actors in that countries had different points of view regarding refugees.

However, after the first fluxes arrived to some of these countries, social and cultural tensions arise. The political view and the societal view changed. But, in what direction were this change? Were they equal in all European countries?

So, the question remains: Regarding refugees in their territories, **why countries' political leaders' opinions and societies opinions may differ and how?** To answer this question, I am focusing in two particular cases, Sweden and France.

Sweden is traditionally a country of migration, with around 15% of the population being foreign-born and it's receiving 75.000 to 100.000 foreigners every year. In integration, since 2013 undocumented migrants that need medical attention can access to the same healthcare as recognized asylum-seekers. On the other hand, France is one of the oldest countries in Europe regarding migration. Around a quarter of its population have immigrant background, with second and third generation migrants, but although migration policies have changed, integration remains a pending subject. According to several surveys, societies and decision makers in those countries have experienced shifts in the perception of migrants and their welcoming will.

Hanna Safronava- *Master in Immigration Management at UPF*

The Determinants of State Response to Ukrainian Refugees in Poland and Russia

The escalation of Russian-Ukrainian conflict has produced more than 1, 6 million internally displaced people from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine. Political instability and economic crisis further pushed people to seek refuge in economically stable countries. The biggest recipients turned to be Russia and Poland, yet both asylum systems failed to recognize Ukrainians as refugees and pushed them to seek legal status through other channels.

The paper seeks to study the nature of state responses to Ukrainian asylum seekers in Poland and Russia through analysis of laws, official statements and research reports. The results of the analysis are expected to explain why despite multiple differences Poland and Russia had a similar reaction towards the flow. Both countries are starting to play a bigger role in reception of refugees, yet have not been covered in existing academic literature. The paper is expected not only to identify key factors shaping asylum policies in Poland and Russia, but also to possibly draw some parallels between reception policies in post-communist states.

Session 2: Refugees and their Host Societies: Policies, Perceptions, and Practices

Nadine June Graham - *Master in Immigration Management at UPF*

The Dynamics between Policy, Practice and Perception: A Media Analysis Regarding the Accessibility of Support Services for Syrian Refugees in Canada

Generally, this master thesis project aims to look at the dynamics between perception, policy and practice in the context of representations that surround support service accessibility focusing on Syrian refugees in articles from Maclean's magazine. This exploration aims to look at whether there are distinctions made between the three main waves that have arrived as well those who will arrive in the future as well as refugees from other nationalities. Specific nationalities will be specified once the media analysis is conducted. Other nationalities are included as to question whether the media attention surrounding Syrian refugees has enabled differential access to support services. To attempt to gain a holistic picture, this exploration will include not only look at how various groups are represented but also who is considered to fall within those groups (Who is counted as Canadian?) and how support services and refugee assistance are understood and represented. By focusing on support services, this can highlight the existence or non-existence of gaps, misunderstandings, misrepresentations and how policy, perception and practice align with one another. Media is an importance focus as it is an importance information source of how to understand society in general and the events that occur within it. Maclean's is a useful focus as it has a high readership throughout English Canada. A literature review will focus on challenges that the Canada's refugee assistance program faces while the conceptual framework will explore ideas to related colonialist discourse, welfarism and concepts related to discourse, power and identity.

Johanna Hase - *Master in Immigration Management at UPF*

Integration of and by the Majority Population in Neighborhoods Receiving Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Hamburg, Germany

The local level of integration processes has gained attention in the research and policy-making community in the past decades and its importance is by now widely recognized. Migration scholars and politicians additionally frequently emphasize that integration is at least a two, if not a three-way process. However, this theoretical observation is not as much translated into research projects and mostly the integration process is investigated on the basis of the immigrants' part of the equation only. This thesis aims to take a different approach, placing the question of how members of the majority population see and take (maybe no) part in the integration process at the very local level at the core of its interest. The issue will be analyzed using the example of Hamburg, Germany. As a consequence of a large number of asylum seekers and refugees arriving in the city, many new accommodations had to be constructed quickly. This generated both organized opposition and support on neighborhood and city level, for and against both very small and very large accommodations and in neighborhoods with both a high and low socio-economic status. Interestingly, all sides argue with the objective of a successful integration process. Based on the analysis of official documents of the neighbors' associations and interviews with the involved actors, this thesis will aim at giving a clearer picture about how integration is perceived and lived by the majority population in a politicized context and thus shed some light on the less discussed side of the equation.

Ezgi Irgil - *Research Assistant at the Swedish Research Council Project*

Multi-level Governance as an Alternative Solution to Refugee Influx in the EU: Ciutat Refugi and City-to-city Network

This paper analyzes the response of the municipality of Barcelona to the Syrian refugee crisis in Europe. The municipality of Barcelona challenges the national government's restrictive approach by introducing the plan of "Ciutat Refugi" with a city-to-city basis. In lieu with multi-level governance theory, I argue that local governments can increase the possibility of putting pressure on the national governments in transforming migration policies from restrictive to inclusive, mainly during humanitarian crisis. I will demonstrate the importance of municipalities in opening up spaces for more humanistic political responses to refugee crisis and municipal level constitutes another important layer of migration-policy debate. I will test this argument by relying on the in-depth interviews, media context analysis, and critical discourse analysis.

Begüm Dereli - *Master in Immigration Management at UPF*

Crossing the Border Questioning the Belonging: Syrian Turkmens' Changing Perceptions of National Identity

This study mainly explores perceptions of identity among the Syrian refugees of Turkish descent, Turkmens. It analyses the migrants' changing perception of Turkey from imagined motherland into a host country. It explores the way they define their ethnic, cultural, and national belonging after almost five years of residence in Turkey. Both Syria –as their birthplace- and Turkey –as the land of their ancestors- constitute essential parts of their identity. In the literature, national identity is defined through sameness i.e. common language, ethnicity, descent, culture, territory or ancestry and through difference. Moreover, it is largely accepted that the process of identity construction hinges on continuous (re)marking of "us" versus "them". Previous experiences of Turkey display that if migrant groups are close to Turkish descent or culture, e.g. Bulgarian Turks arriving in the late 1980s they are more favoured than non-Turkish migrants e.g. Iraqi Kurds arriving in the aftermath of the First Gulf War. This discourse of Turkish descent is welcomed in Turkey has kept alive long distance nationalism among Syrian Turkmens and has motivated them to take refuge in Turkey where they have seen as their homeland. This study examines how crossing the real border after the civil war in Syria challenges Syrian Turkmens' perceptions on belonging to a long imagined community.