

**GRITIM-UPF Research in Progress Session**

Tuesday, May 23th 2017

12.00-14.00

Room 24.400

**1. “Political mobilization towards home: A cross-movement and cross-context comparison of Catalan and Spanish emigrants”****Authors:**

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**Abstract**

This paper aims to explore dynamics of emigrants’ transnational political mobilization through studying collective claims-making of Spanish citizens residing in four different European cities (London, Paris, Berlin, and Brussels) towards their homeland. By focusing on two transnational organizations -*Assemblea Nacional Catalana* and *Marea Granate*- formed by Spanish/Catalan emigrants at around the same time, it examines how and why emigrants’ political mobilization towards their homeland takes place at different levels of intensity and follows different political strategies. Comparative studies on migrant transnationalism have often inquired either a single movement in multiple contexts or multiple mobilizations in a single context. While movement-centric approaches have prioritized the effects of groups’ resources, organizational structure, and pursued goals; cross-context studies have examined the role of existing opportunities in different contexts. This paper aims to make a contribution to the field by inquiring how cross-movement and cross-context based factors come together and shape the dynamics of emigrants’ movements. We propose that opportunities provided by home and host contexts are not fixed, but take different forms and levels depending on characteristics of migrant movements. Emigrant groups are not passive

in this process, but strive to exceed the surrounding constraints by tapping into different resources at local, national, and transnational levels, forming different alliances, and searching for public visibility through innovative strategies. Our empirical research draws on political claims analysis of two organizations retrieved from home and host country press and social media and in-depth interviews with organization leaders.

## **2. “The Politics of Integration of Moroccan Immigrants in Spain, 1985-2014”**

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### **Abstract**

In general, Spain is considered to be more immigrant friendly than many other countries in Europe that have shown extreme xenophobic and racist reactions against immigrants. However, this does not mean that immigrants do not experience any form of discrimination in Spain. Social integration is particularly challenging in case of Moroccans due to wide difference in religion, language and cultural beliefs. Discourses against immigrants in general and Moroccans in particular are spread through multiple channels like political speeches, media and wider public perception. Therefore, the case of Moroccan migrants provides us with a classic case for study of discourse on migrants in Spain. The main aim of the study is to find out how the identity issues of Moroccan immigrants has led to the politicization of issue of integration of immigrants and how marginalization and discrimination in everyday life has proved to be a challenge to their integration process. Within the methodology of critical discourse analysis, the study attempts to examine various political, social and cultural discourses would be investigated. The study will analyse and link these discourses to the integration process of Moroccan immigrants living in Spain.