



**Universitat
Pompeu Fabra
Barcelona**



GRITIM-UPF Research in Progress Session

Thursday, October 18th 2018

10:00 – 12:00

Room 24.400

1. Confronting the mass detention of immigrant children in the United States

[John Palmer](#)

Senior Researcher at GRITIM-UPF

Abstract

After forcibly separating nearly 3,000 immigrant children from their parents last spring and then stepping back under pressure, the Trump administration is now expanding the use of immigration detention for both unaccompanied and accompanied minors. There are currently more than 13,000 children being held in immigration detention in the United States, an all-time high and a fivefold increase over last year. The average length of detention for these kids is also going up, nearly doubling since last year to reach 59 days. This talk will provide the background and legal context for these alarming developments, including the history of child detention in the US immigration system, the executive branch's attempts to circumvent legal constraints through the courts, and its latest attempt to do so through administrative regulation -- with a proposed rule currently in the notice and comment period.

2. Social Inclusion, Interculturalism and Public Space

[İren Eylül Karaoğlu Tunç](#)

Ph.D. Candidate at GRITIM-UPF

Abstract

Today, diversity management has gained importance in European countries because of the growing international migration. The diversity in the migration-receiving cities brings significant challenges for both policy and research. Recently, city administrations have become important actors on turning this from challenge to an advantage to live in a peaceful coexistence through integration policies, which marks a turn away from national models to local models of integration (Scholten 2013, Scholten et.al 2016, Zapata 2015 and 2016a). The diversity management continues to be

perceived as a challenge since recently xenophobia, racism and negative public opinion towards immigrants had increased (Modood, Meer and Triandafyllidou 2011, Zapata and Triandafyllidou eds. 2012). This research focuses on the city-immigrant relationship, and emphasizes the importance of public spaces for the social inclusion of immigrants. It will be a qualitative comparative analysis that tries to explore at least two cities following interculturalist and multiculturalist policies, concerned with the interplay between public spaces, social inclusion and urban policies within diversity management. The main purpose is to explore how city governments use public spaces as a tool for social inclusion of immigrants. And the main hypothesis is that; H1: In order to decrease negative public opinions with contact and knowledge exchange, the diversity in the public spaces can be increased with the support of integration policies and urban policies.

3. Building Solidarity in Practice

Gulce Ozdemir

Ph.D. Candidate at GRITIM-UPF

Abstract

In this PhD thesis, solidarity practices for refugees in Spain and Catalonia are scrutinized by looking at individual (micro level), organizational (meso level) and governmental level (macro level). Volunteers, activists, and mentors will be considered for the individual level; Non-Governmental Organizations and Associations for refugees will be taken into account as an organizational level; and Spanish Government, Catalan Government and local authorities will be taken as a governmental level. The methodology is based qualitative research methods, conducting interviews, content analysis and participant observation. The main aim is first (*descriptive analysis*) to understand the motivations/expectations of each actor from different levels and (*explanatory analysis*) to explore the different potential factors explaining these expectations/motivations. The initial Hypothesis of this empirical research is that the general political narrative produced at European and State levels, and the different debates that follows at the social and political arena on refugees over time influence decisions to practice or not Solidarity and in which terms. The purpose is that the findings of this research give lights to the current debate on refugees by stressing two main contributions: a) to highlight the possible ways to build a solidarity social context, and b) to provide an insight and common sense for a welcoming attitude.