

GRITIM-UPF Research in Progress Session

Thursday, November 22nd, 2018

12.00-14.00

Room 24.400

1. Citizenship and immigrant anti-rumour strategies: a critical outlook from the Barcelona case

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Abstract

This article analyses the case of the Barcelona Anti-Rumour Network, an initiative promoted by the City Council and social organizations, in order to deal with the uncontrolled proliferation of rumours, prejudices and stereotypes about immigration. Rumours convey false information with the aim of exploiting the fears of citizens often disconcerted in the face of the changes brought about the arrival of a considerable number of foreign immigrants. The article analyses, through policy analysis and in-depth interviews, the role of communication in immigration policies and the concept of citizenship that exists behind this strategy. Such policies can run the risk of focusing too much on the denial of rumours rather than on the affirmation of rights, as this may question the eligibility of the immigrant population to obtain the status of citizenship.

Keywords: *Immigration, citizenship, communication, rumours, stereotypes*

2. Moroccan Second-Generation Entrepreneurs & Self-Employed in Catalonia: transnational dynamics and diaspora policies

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Abstract

This research deals with the Second-Generation Moroccan diaspora entrepreneurship in Catalonia, as a case-study of the transnational entrepreneurship between Catalonia and Morocco. It analyses how young Moroccans of Second-Generation develop social capital through cultural and linguistic understanding, and how personal factors and opportunity structures are related and explain the entrepreneurship and the motivation for becoming transnational. The research would fill out the gap in this area of study at the micro level, as there is no data regarding the second generation entrepreneurs and self-employed in Spain. The need to contribute to this gap and to focus on the transnational entrepreneurship and self-employment of a migrant second-generation from a qualitative insight is also relevant. The main focus is on young entrepreneurs as they are considered potentially to have an impact in Catalan society and to be the future leaders of their communities. This information would provide a good opportunity to adapt policies for governments.

This ongoing study will also try to highlight the potential of these Moroccan diaspora entrepreneurs, who can therefore perform as economic and social investors in Catalonia. It additionally aims to explore their transnational dynamics and the Moroccan diaspora policies, which target this profile of second generation, among the opportunity structures analysis. How do countries of origin deal with ‘their’ second-generations in a broad sense, and to the entrepreneur ones in a more specific sense? Research on sending countries’ diaspora policies that target next generation migrants is also scant. This research also seeks to identify tools and good practices that can contribute to the improvement of the policies targeting this specific profile. Data will be gathered through in-depth semi-structured interviews with Moroccan second generation entrepreneurs and self-employed, and key-informants; as well as through participant observation. This study is also significant in the framework of contemporary Catalan-Moroccan international relations.

Keywords: *Second Generation, Moroccan Diaspora, Transnational Entrepreneurship (TE), Catalonia, Social and Cultural Capital, Diaspora Policies*