



EuroMedMig Doctoral Lectures Series 2025-2026

in Partnership with the
European Institute for the Mediterranean (IEMED) Aula Mediterrània

This lecture series is part of the programme's advanced training activities for EuroMedMig Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) and doctoral students across the Network. Between 2025 and 2026, beneficiary universities will host a total of six doctoral lectures, each delivered by renowned researchers and experts on the programme's core themes.

The lectures will be organized in hybrid format, ensuring participation both in person and online, and will be open not only to ESRs but also to other PhD and Master students from the Network universities. Each lecture will be recorded and made freely available on the project website, enhancing outreach and long-term accessibility.

Those interested in joining the whole Seminar Series are kindly asked to register [here](#).

The lectures and roundtables will take place at:

- **UPF: Campus Ciutadella, Building 40 Roger de Llúria, Calsamiglia Room. Barcelona, Spain.**
- **IEMed: Carrer Girona, 20. 08010 Barcelona, Aula Mediterrània. Barcelona, Spain.**
- **University of Sousse, Tunisia** (classroom to be confirmed)
- **Online**

Inaugural Session– IEMed*

Seminar: “Integrating migrants for integrating regions - Shared challenges around the Mediterranean”

Thursday 21 October 2025 | 18:30–20:00 | Aula Mediterrània (IEMed) and Online

Invited Speaker:

- Philippe Fargues (Robert Schuman Centre of the EUI, Florence)

Chair: Ricard Zapata-Barrero (GRITIM-UPF)

Synopsis

Focusing on two supranational entities with a history of political construct and a sense of shared identity --the European Union and the Arab world --the presentation will address the following question: is migration working for integration from within, at national level in each country, and from without, at the Mediterranean regional level? It will review the most pressing migration-related challenges, whether they are common to all countries or specific to some of them, and conclude on issues to overcome for migration to fully work for progress.

Bio



Philippe Fargues is a Fellow at the European University Institute (Florence), where he was Robert Schuman Chair and Founding Director of the Migration Policy Centre. He held senior positions at the American University in Cairo and at the French national institute for demographic studies. He taught at Sciences Po-Paris, Harvard, and various universities in the Middle East, Europe, and Africa. He served as a consultant to international organizations including ILO, IOM, The World Bank, UNESCO, ESCWA, and the European Commission. His research interests include demography, migration, politics and development. He has published more than 200 academic books, articles and chapters.

Session 2 – UPF

“Missing, manipulated, or meaningful? What data (doesn’t) tell us in Mediterranean migration politics”

Thursday, 04 December 2025 | 14:30–16:00 | UPF, Ciutadella Campus, Room: 23.S05 and Online

Invited Speaker:

- Gerasimos Tsourapas (University of Birmingham)

Chair: Stefania Panebianco (University of Catania - UNICT)

Synopsis

Across the Mediterranean and wider Global South, migration researchers have long encountered the challenges of limited, inconsistent, or politically mediated data. From Egypt and the Maghreb to Türkiye and the Levant, the governance of migration often unfolds in environments where population figures are inflated, registration systems suspended, or migration categories blurred. These constraints are commonly treated as technical problems to be managed or bypassed. This lecture proposes a different reading: that the ambiguities, absences, and calibrations of migration data are themselves politically productive and, therefore, analytically significant.

Focusing on the Mediterranean as a regional field of practice, the lecture explores how states construct migration statistics to shape international perceptions, institutional recognition, and material outcomes. Rather than treating data limitations as barriers to research, these dynamics can be used to surface discrete, underlying structures of power, conditionality, and governance. For early-career researchers, the lecture offers a framework for engaging more critically with the knowledge infrastructures that underpin migration studies across settings where data may serve both evidentiary and performative functions.

In this light, the talk argues that the Mediterranean should not be approached merely as a zone of transit or containment; rather, it may serve as a region that reveals how knowledge about human mobility is constructed, circulated, and contested.

Bio



Gerasimos Tsourapas is 125th Anniversary Chair and Professor of International Relations at the University of Birmingham, and 2025–26 Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute. He is Editor-in-Chief of Migration Studies (Oxford University Press) and leads the ERC-funded project Migration Diplomacy in World Politics (MOBSANCT), examining the intersections of human mobility and international politics. His research spans the international relations of the Middle East and the broader Global South, particularly the politics of migrants, refugees, and diasporas. He has advanced the concepts of migration diplomacy, migration interdependence, and refugee rentierism to theorise the political economy and foreign policy dimensions of cross-border mobility.

Session 3 – IEMed

"The Mediterranean's Atlantic route: the African-Canary Islands Necrocorridor"

Thursday, 29 January 2026 | 18:30–20:00, Aula Mediterrània (IEMed) and Online

Invited Speaker:

- Mohammed Ouhemmou (Ibn Zohr University, Agadir, Morocco)

Chair: Luisa Faustini (GRITIM-UPF)

Synopsis

This lecture focuses on one of the most deadly corridors in the Mediterranean: the African-Canadian Atlantic route, which can take 1,600 km and several weeks of navigation. If migration corridors in a broader sense refer to the routes taken by migrants, which can be influenced by various factors, including geopolitical, social and environmental conditions, the concept of "necrocorridors" could imply routes that are particularly dangerous or deadly for migrants. This means that not all migration corridors are necrocorridors. Therefore, we are interested in proposing a model that can help us understand the processes of necrocorridor formation. Namely, what are the conditions that

make a corridor a particular necrocorridor, and then to contribute to the already broader debate on necropolitics. By highlighting the specificity of the Canary Corridor, we will combine necropolitics with Butler's suggestive theory of grievability to discuss how structural, political and media neglect serve to systematically prevent mourning and remembrance. Also we will take some arguments put forward by global justice debates. The chapter will have three main parts. A more conceptual and theoretical one, in which we will introduce the category of necropolitics and justify why the Canary Island corridor is particularly illustrative. A second part, in which the methodology and data sources will be presented, together with the theoretical model of the necrocorridor that we are trying to construct. And then a third part, more evidence-based, where we will try to propose a model of the necrocorridor using the data and ethnographic information from an empirical study. The basic argument we will put forward is that a necrocorridor is politically constructed and banalised by the same politics that provoke it, together with the media and public opinion.

Bio



Mohammed Ouhemmou is an assistant professor at Ibn Zohr University in Agadir, Morocco. His fields of interest include public policy analysis, migration and internationalization policies. His research investigates the link between foreign policy and the politics of mobility. He has published a number of articles on international mobility and migration policies in Morocco and North Africa, including "Tense Neighbors, Algeria and Morocco Have Divergent Migration Histories" (2023), "Migration, Governance and Geopolitical Conflicts in Africa: A Comparative Analysis of Moroccan Algerian Migration Policies" (2021), "Moroccan Migration and Integration Policy: The Intersection of Culture and Public Policy Making" (2020), and "Comparative Analysis of Migration Policies and Social Transformations in the MENA Region" (2020). Mr. Ouhemmou is also interested in policies of educational mobility from sub-Saharan Africa into Morocco and he particularly focuses on how African students in Moroccan universities navigate symbolic and social borders.

Session 4

"DL at the Annual Network Conference"

16-17 April 2026 | Date and Time TBC | University of Sousse and Online

Invited Speakers: TBC | Chair: TBC

Session 5

"Borders control and SAR obligations in the Mediterranean: Between Human Rights and Security"

Tuesday, 21 April 2026 | 18:30–20:00 | Aula Mediterrània (IEMed) and Online

Invited Speaker:

- Silvia Morgades (GRITIM-UPF)

Chair: Emilien Miner (GRITIM, UPF)

Synopsis

Dr. Sílvia Morgades-Gil is a Serra Hunter Associate Professor of International Public Law at the Department of Law, Pompeu Fabra University (Barcelona, Spain), and a member of the Research Group on Public International Law and International Relations and GRITIM-UPF. She teaches EU Law, Asylum and Refugee Law, and International Migration Law at UPF and CEI-International Affairs. Since 2019, she has been a Research Affiliate at the Refugee Law Initiative, University of London. She received the Extraordinary Doctoral Prize at UPF and the 2008 Human Rights First Prize from the Generalitat de Catalunya. She has conducted postdoctoral research at Université Paris 1-Sorbonne and IHEID Geneva. Her publications include articles in leading journals and the monograph *De refugiados a Rechazados* (Tirant Lo Blanch, 2021). ORCID: <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1255-9285>.

Bio



Irregular migration has been securitised in the context of preventing irregular entries of third-country nationals to the European Union (EU) Area of Freedom, Security and Justice. In the maritime sphere, preventing irregular migration from arriving in the EU must ensure the respect for the right to life enshrined in a number of international instruments applicable to the EU and to its member states. This article will examine the tension between preventing irregular migration and ensuring the human rights of migrants in two areas: first, rescues in Frontex-led operations at sea; and second, search and rescue operations within the framework of the EU's integrated border management activities in the Mediterranean. Finally, the article will include some final reflections on the measures that could be taken in order to address

human insecurity and the weakening of human rights at the European sea borders.

Session 6

" Migration policies in France. Between metropolitan France and the colonies, France as a case study"

Tuesday, 28 May 2026 | 15:00–17:00 | UPF, Ciutadella Campus, Room:
Calsamiglia

Speaker: Eric Savarese (Université de Montpellier – CEPEL)

Chair: Demetra Santagati (GRITIM-UPF)

Synopsis

Migration policies in France are part of a long history. Indeed, while the right of asylum was invented during the French Revolution, France became, since the end of the 19th century, a country of immigration. Under these conditions, it's possible to explain how migration policies are chosen, from which public action instruments they are made, and how France has been able to experiment, for 150 years, all immigration policies. But migration policies do not concern only metropolitan France. They also concern colonial Algeria: with the colonization beginning in 1830, and the dynamics of the settler colony, Algeria was progressively populated by French People, but also with Spanish, Italians and Maltese. Organized for the purpose of territorial occupation, this migration policy reflects the logic of colonial governance, for which demography is the main science of government.

Bio



Eric Savarese is a professor of political science at the University of Montpellier. His research focuses on the question of citizenship, considered in the colonial (especially Algerian) and postcolonial contexts. Algerian independence left to the emergence of new groups of individuals (« pieds-noirs », « harkis », repatriates, former soldiers), and influenced migration policies and the politics of memory. His current research focuses on the governance of colonial Algeria through demography, viewed from the perspective of the production of ethnic statistics in the former settler colony.