



Sociology  
of Migration

RC-31 Newsletter, Spring 2022

From the RC31 president:

### In this issue:

From the President	1
Member's new books	3
Recent Articles / Chapters	5
PhDs	7
Conferences, Workshops and other Calls	7
Other News	8
Research Committee Details	9

All RC31 members no doubt feel deep revulsion about the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the appalling suffering it has caused. We do not currently have members based in Ukraine, so, no immediate basis for offering support in connection with professional activities. More broadly, of course, the enormous new flow of refugees across Europe is directly relevant to the core mission of RC31. In time, we will seek to offer a platform for scholarly engagements with this topic.

If you have plans to develop a research focus on these events and would like to explore ways to use RC31 as a 'venue' for it, I invite you to get in touch with me. A movement of refugees is first and foremost a tragedy, not a research opportunity – but as migration scholars we should play our part in ensuring that this episode is represented accurately and insightfully (especially given the likelihood that it will become fodder for the usual disinformation machines).

The invasion/displacement is currently dominating the news cycle. The media focus on these events crowds out a number of other 'stories' that would otherwise demand our attention. That dynamic (which was also evident in earlier phases of the COVID19 pandemic) leads me to ask: what else is going on in the world? I'm struck by the fact that another large movement of refugees is getting very little media attention: approximately 3 million

Somalis have been forced to move elsewhere (mostly within Somalia) in recent years as a consequence of drought and crop failure. At one level, the root cause is climate change. Climate change itself is a political matter. But as with other refugee flows the political context is important in other respects – i.e., the absence of a functional government, which means that Somalis as a people are impaired in their ability to press for aid and assistance, either to prevent displacement or to organise better lives following displacement.

Many commentators have noted that European countries' willingness to welcome Ukrainian refugees forms a contrast with the 'crisis' resulting from flight by Syrians to Europe in the mid-2010s. My point is that the contrast is not merely historical – it is current, something evident right now in the way we know a great deal about the Ukrainian situation but probably very little about Somalia. (I include myself in that latter description.) Most Somalis are unlikely to make their way to Europe (still less to North America and other long-distance destinations) – which means the extent of need (including life-threatening malnutrition) is not something we will see unless we look. The media won't offer us much help here.

In the next few months you will get more frequent communications from RC31 as we prepare for the World Congress in Melbourne next year. In addition to the usual program activities, we will organise our publication awards. We will also hold elections for the next slate of officers and board members – using (for the first time) a system of open nominations and votes, following the change to our statutes approved (overwhelmingly) by members last year.

Finally, I'd like to express my gratitude to Oshrat Hochman, our newsletter editor for the last four years (this issue is her last). Oshrat has done an excellent job of organizing the information we all send her about our activities. Having done this role myself, I know how much time and effort is required to produce the newsletter; Oshrat's contribution to our RC has been generous and invaluable.

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## MEMBERS NEW BOOKS

Bermudez A. & Oso L. (Eds.) (2022). *New Trends in Intra-European Union Mobilities. Beyond Socio-Economic and Political Factors*. London and New York: Routledge. [Link](#) to publisher

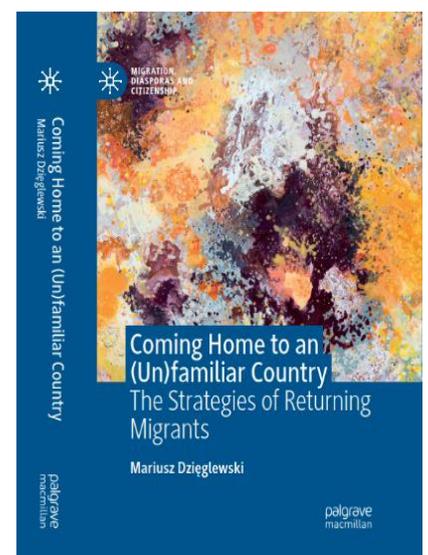
Mobilities within the European Union (EU) have changed significantly since the classical intra-regional migrations of the 1950s–1970s. After a period of reduced, less visible flows in the 21st century mobilities increased again, first linked to EU expansion towards the East, and from 2008, with renewed South-North flows following the impact of the Great Recession on Southern European countries. It is in this context that the current volume explores how these recent migrations reflect new and more complex patterns of mobility, increasingly uncertain and unstable, involving both natives and naturalised migrants. It also seeks to unpack the multiple connections between these new migration systems and other systems affecting social protection, gender and citizenship, and how these intersect with other factors such as class, age, race and ethnicity.



The different chapters of the book examine this covering a wide variety of cases, including intra-EU flows from Portugal and Spain, recent Spanish and Latin American migrants in London, Paris and Brussels, and Romanian migration to the UK and France, thus adding to its richness. This book will be of interest to academics, researchers and advanced students of Sociology, Anthropology, Geography, Gender Studies, Public Policy, and Politics. It was originally published as a special issue of *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.

Dzięglewski, M. (2021). *Coming Home to an (Un)familiar Country. The Strategies of Returning Migrants*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan. [Link](#) to publisher

This volume focuses on the process of return migration, from a holistic and policy-oriented perspective. Studies in return migration, which remains a vibrant field for academics, researchers, and policy-makers, have provided a large body of knowledge on particular issues, but generally fall along two lines: they are either broad macro analyses and models (especially economic ones) or narrow ethnographic views (anthropological, sociological, or psychological). This volume attempts to chart a course between these two approaches, combining returning migrants' life trajectories, as seen by themselves, with analysis of the structural processes that have taken place in the last three decades in Europe and in Poland, as a new EU country. In analyzing the social and cultural changes reflected in the biographies of returning migrants, the author uses a framework based on an original synthesis of Alfred Schütz's phenomenological approach, focusing on the returnees' "life words," with the social realism of Margaret Archer, focusing on the concerns and projects of individuals interacting with social and cultural structures.



Heath, M., Darkwah, A., Beuku-Betts, J., & Purkayastha, B. (Eds.). (2022). *Global Feminist Autoethnographies During COVID-19: Displacements and Disruptions*. London and New York: Routledge. [Link](#) to publisher

Global Feminist Autoethnographies bears witness to our displacements, disruptions, and distress as tenured faculty, faculty on temporary contracts, graduate students, and people connected to academia during COVID-19.

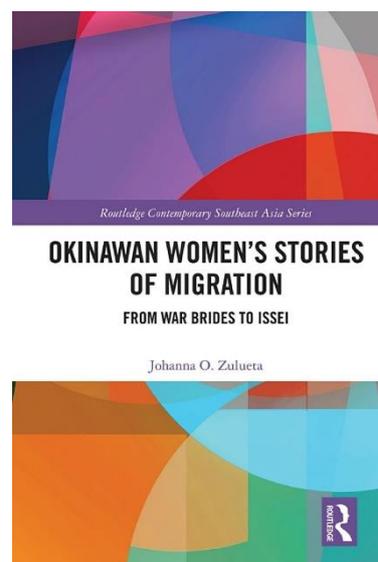
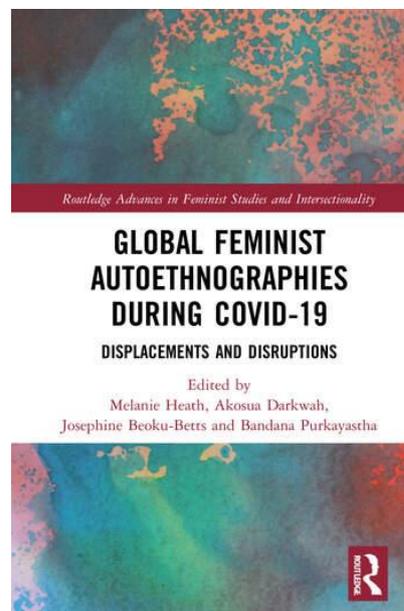
The authors document their experiences arising within academia and beyond it, gathering narratives from across the globe—Australia, Canada, Ghana, Finland, India, Norway, South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States along with transnational engagements with Bolivia, Iran, Nepal, and Taiwan. In an era where the older rules about work and family related to our survival, wellbeing, and dignity are rapidly being transformed, this book shows that distress and traumas are emerging and deepening across the divides within and between the global North and South, depending on the intersecting structures that have affected each of us. It documents our distress and trauma and how we have worked to lift each other up amidst severe precarities.

A global co-written project, this book shows how we are moving to decolonize our scholarship. It will be of interest to an interdisciplinary array of scholars in the areas of intersectionality, gender, family, race, sexuality, migration, and global and transnational sociology.

Zulueta, J. O. (2022). *Okinawan Women's Stories of Migration: From War Brides to Issei*. London and New York: Routledge. [Link](#) to publisher

The phenomenon of “war brides” from Japan moving to the West has been quite widely discussed, but this book tells the stories of women whose lives followed a rather different path after they married foreign occupiers. During Okinawa’s Occupation by the Allies from 1945 to 1972, many Okinawan women met and had relationships with non-Western men who were stationed in Okinawa as soldiers and base employees. Most of these men were from the Philippines.

Zulueta explores the journeys of these women to their husbands’ homeland, their acculturation to their adopted land, and their return to their native Okinawa in their late adult years. Utilizing a life-course approach, she examines how these women crafted their own identities as first-generation migrants or “Issei” in both the country of migration and their natal homeland, their re-integration to Okinawan society, and the role of religion in this regard, as well as their thoughts on end-of-life as returnees.



This book will be of interest to scholars looking at gender and migration, cross-cultural marriages, ageing and migration, as well as those interested in East Asia, particularly Japan/Okinawa.



## RECENT ARTICLES/CHAPTERS

Anish, K.R., Borrmann, S., Nguyen-Meyer, N., Zhao, Y., Moen, H. B. & Liu, W. (2021). The Art of Not-knowing: Valuing Diversity and Intercultural Competences in International Social Work Education. *International social work*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00208728211065708>

Brücker, H., Goßner, L., Hauptmann, A., Jaschke, P., Kassam, K., Kosyakova, Y. & Stepanok, I. (2022). Die Folgen des Ukraine-Kriegs für Migration und Integration: Eine erste Einschätzung. *IAB-Forschungsbericht*, 2/2022, Nürnberg. [ISSN 2195-2655](https://doi.org/10.1177/0192513X211054472)

Chávez, S., Robin, P. & Edelblute, H. (2021). Emotion Work in Divided Households: Mitigating the Effects of Spousal Absence. *Journal of Family Issues*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0192513X211054472>

Del Real, D. (2022). Seemingly Inclusive Liminal Legality: The Fragility and Illegality Production of Colombia's Legalization Programs for Venezuelan Migrants. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2022.2029374>

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Doña-Reveco, C. (2021). Chile's Retooled Migration Law Offers More Restrictions, Less Welcome. *Insights, Latin America & the Caribbean Migration Portal*, MPI, May 21. <https://www.migrationportal.org/insight/chiles-retooled-migration-law-offers-more-restrictions-less-welcome/>

Edelblute, H. & Altman C. (2021). The Interaction and Impact of Social Support and Father Absence on Breastfeeding. *Breastfeeding Medicine*, 16(8), 796–804. <https://doi.org/10.1089/bfm.2020.0202>

Edelblute, H. & Altman, C. (2021). Socioeconomic Determinants of Planned and Emergency Cesarean Section Births in Mexico. *Springer Nature Comprehensive Clinical Medicine*, 3(3), 796-804. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42399-021-00784-9>

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Faist, T. (2021). Migration and Unequal Social Positions in a Transnational Perspective. *Social Inclusion*, 9(1). Complete issue: [www.cogitatiopress.com/socialinclusion/issue/view/226](http://www.cogitatiopress.com/socialinclusion/issue/view/226)

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Freier, F. & Doña Reveco, C. (2022). Introduction: Latin American Political and Policy Responses to Venezuelan Displacement. *International Migration*, 60(1), 9-17. [10.1111/imig.12957](https://doi.org/10.1111/imig.12957)

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- Jasso, G. (2021). The Methods and Surprises of Sociological Theory: Ideas, Postulates, Predictions, Distributions, Unification. In: Abrutyn, S. and Lizardo O. (eds.), *Handbook of Classical Sociological Theory*. New York, NY: Springer, pp. 17-36. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-78205-4\\_2](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-78205-4_2) .
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- Purkayastha, B., Beoku-Betts, J., Heath, M. & Darkwah, A. (2022). Displacements, Disruptions and Distress: Global, feminist, autoethnographies of COVID-19. In: Heath, M., Darkwah, A., Beoku-Betts, J. & Purkayastha, B. (co-edited) *Global Feminist Autoethnographies During COVID-19: Displacements and Disruptions*. London and New York: Routledge. [ISBN 9781032122625](https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2021.1999795)
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- Zhao, Y. & Moen, H. B. (2022). Shaping transnational learning positions and understanding social work in context – students’ experiences of a short-term exchange program. *Social work education*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2022.2039114>



## PHDS

Tibajev, Andrey. 2021. The value of immigrants' human capital for labour market integration. PhD in Ethnic and Migration Studies, Linköping University. (Supervisors: Zoran Slavnic and Moa Bursell) <https://doi.org/10.3384/9789179291181>

Diekmann, Isabell. 2022. Good Muslims, bad Islam? Zur differenzierten Betrachtung feindlicher Einstellungen gegenüber Menschen und Religion. Bielefeld University. (Supervisors: Thomas Faist and Andreas Zick). In English: Good Muslims, bad Islam? A differentiated analysis of hostile attitudes towards humans and religion.

Okada, Tricia. 2021. The Migration Pathways and Gender Performance of Transpinay Entertainers in Japan. Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University, Tokyo. (Chief Advisor: Prof. Gracia Liu-Farrer; Deputy Advisor: Prof. Glenda Roberts)



## CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND OTHER CALLS

Special Issue in *Frontiers of Political science*: “Migration and Integration: Tackling Policy Challenges, Opportunities and Solutions.” <https://www.frontiersin.org/my-frontiers/overview>

Contact persons: Agnieszka Kanas and Yuliya Kosyakova

Migrants’ skills wastage in the labor market: a multidisciplinary approach for policy formation

<https://www.springer.com/journal/11205/updates/20219924>

Submission deadline: July 31, 2022

Contact person: Didier Ruedin, [didier.ruedin@unine.ch](mailto:didier.ruedin@unine.ch)

### **Graduate Student Summer School on Research Design and Asian Migration "Innovative Research Designs and Methods in Asian Migration Research: Embarking on Fieldwork in the 2020s" 18-19th July 2022, at Goethe University Frankfurt**

The summer school targets participation of early PhD students and late MA students from different social science disciplines, and we welcome applicants who examine methodological issues related to migration, mobility, and ethnic diversity in Asia. The deadline for abstract (250–300 words) and short-bio (100–150 words) is **15 April 2022** (via email to [quamafa@gmail.com](mailto:quamafa@gmail.com)). The abstract needs to mention your (potential) research design or preliminary findings of your research. Once your abstract is accepted, we ask you to submit a short paper (1500–3000 words) discussing your methodological concerns or fieldwork challenges. Costs for transportation and accommodation during the workshop are fully covered by the organizer of the workshop.

The summer school is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). This event is part of the BMBF-funded project “Qualification and Skill in the Migration Process of Foreign Workers in Asia (QuaMaFA)”, organized at the Interdisciplinary Centre for East Asian Studies (IZO) at Goethe University Frankfurt.

More information can be found here: <https://quamafa.de/upcoming-event/>

Contact email for questions: [quamafa@gmail.com](mailto:quamafa@gmail.com)

**CfP: Summer school "Migration, Integration, and Networks" 20-24 June 2022, University of Groningen (NL)**

The nexus between international migration and social networks is crucial in understanding different phases of migration experience. It is well-established that personal links to previous migrants increase the propensity for others to migrate, whereas networks in the settlement phase have a variety of roles going beyond a mere information transmission. Social networks surrounding migrants and their significant others have important roles, for example, in supporting each other during finding accommodation, employment, and education places. Local and transnational networks also play a major role in migrants' well-being through providing emotional support and an environment for belonging. Nonetheless, because every inclusion in one network entails an exclusion from another, they can be divisive and result in segregation in schools and neighbourhoods which poses a great risk for societies to be cohesive and sustainable. While the network approach in migration studies has always been on the agenda, application of network analysis in different phases to different ends has only recently been on the rise.

In this 'Migration, Integration, and Social Networks' Summer School we aim to bring together scholars and excellent Master and PhD students who work on similar topics from different theoretical perspectives and methodologies (qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods) in order to learn from each other and foster discussion about how to study network effects on international migration, migrants, and their local and transnational networks. These aims will be realized through lectures on cutting-edge research on migration and networks and discussion of on-going work by the students. Accepted students will receive feedback on their work from key scholars in the field. Selected papers will be published in an edited volume such as a journal special issue. Student papers/dissertation chapters are expected to be about, but not limited to the following topics:

- What are the roles of social networks in different phases of international migration?
- How do migrants organize social support within and across borders?
- How do negative ties affect migrants' integration?
- How do social networks change over time and what are the main implications of such changes?
- How can we study tie formation and tie dissolution across borders?
- What are the main contributions of using social network analytical tools in studying migrant integration and transnationalism?
- What are the fieldwork challenges in using social network analytical tools?

Keynote speakers: Prof. Dr. Miranda Lubbers, Prof. Dr. Louise Ryan, Dr. Raffaele Vacca, and Dr. Tobias Stark

## **OTHER NEWS**

At the NCCR on the move, we're currently hiring 6 postdoctoral and 9 PhD researchers: <https://nccr-onthefmove.ch/jobs/>. Deadlines in April, May, June 2022.



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