



International Sociological Association

Research Committee on Sociology of Migration (RC-31)

## RC-31 Newsletter, Autumn 2010

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### From the President

#### Sociology of Migration: towards new partnerships

**Marco Martiniello**

Immediately after his election at the World Congress in Gothenburg in July, I approached the new ISA President, Michael Burawoy, to congratulate him. I introduced myself as the President of RC 31 "Sociology of Migration" since we had never met before. I remember clearly one sentence of our brief conversation: "migration is THE issue of the 21<sup>st</sup> century". Well, our new ISA President is not the first observer to say so. All of us, sociologists specialized in the study of migration and related issues, are convinced of the centrality of migration in the contemporary world. Every day, somewhere in the world, the news confirms that migration and human mobility indeed remain at the top of the media, political and policy agenda. In the recent month, we can name the immigration law in the Arizona, the Roma issue in France, the electoral success of the far-right in Sweden thanks to an openly anti-immigration programme to illustrate this statement.

Consequently, the social and political demands explicitly or implicitly presented to us, are enormous. A lot of pressure is put on our shoulders to help solve "the problem of immigration" as it is too often still framed nowadays. What can we do? What should we do? As sociologists, permanent reflexive thinking is in my view, an obligation. We need

to question our position in a rapidly evolving migration field including different worlds (academia, media, politics, policy, NGO's, migrant associations, corporations, etc.).

In my view, two extreme positions are totally inadequate. The first one would be to refuse dialogue and discussion with all these other

worlds in order to defend some idealistic vision of a pure sociology of migration. There are at least two reasons for that. The first reason is that we need that dialogue in order to better our sound understanding of global migration dynamics. Theorizing migration without first-hand knowledge of the experiences and expertise of all the other actors involved in migration would be suicidal. The second reason is that most of us are paid by public money. We therefore have an obligation to work for the public. The second position would be to allow the social and political demands to determine our research agenda, the ways to construct our objects of enquiry and sometimes even our “research” results. That would be the end of sociological research, transformed into consultancy.

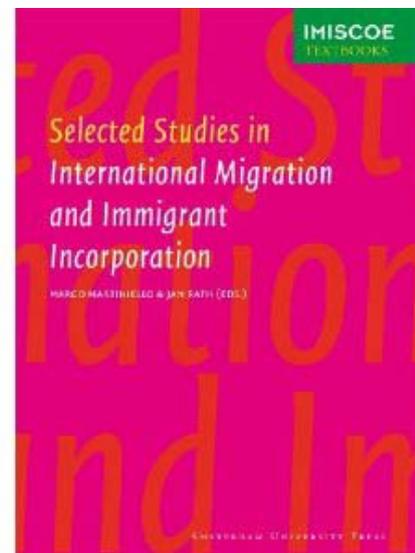
The only realistic position is to be open and available to rethink the partnership with journalists, NGO’s, politicians and policy makers and often migrants themselves. Obviously, there are many reasons why this is not easy at all. But I don’t think we have any choice. We should try to convince all our partners that research that combine theoretical and methodological rigour, as well as empirical wealth is most likely not only to generate the advancement of knowledge but also to generate policy-relevant results in the long run and maybe also keys for social and political action.

Marco Martiniello  
FRS-FNRS and CEDEM –  
University of Liège (Belgium)  
RC-31 President

## MEMBERS’ NEW BOOKS

**Marco Martiniello and Jan Rath**, editors: *Selected Studies in International Migration and Immigrant Incorporation*, Amsterdam University Press/IMISCOE Textbooks, March 2010 ([link to publisher](#))

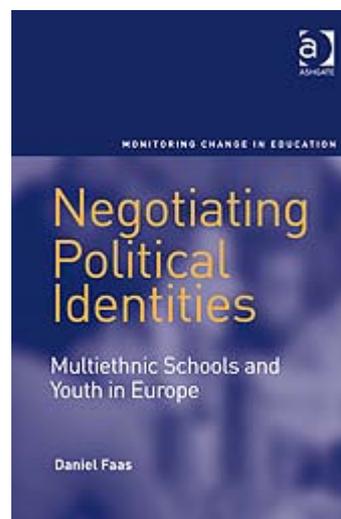
The multidisciplinary IMISCOE-AUP Textbook Series encompasses, at present, four volumes, and aims to present both an international comparison of the development of international migration and immigrant integration in Europe and an assessment of theoretical approaches with regard to this issue. Materialisation of this objective strengthens the development and dissemination of a body of common knowledge in this field and consequently boosts the growth of a European research area. The current volume encompasses 25 theoretical papers that have had an impact on research in Europe or reflect a European perspective on international migration and immigrant integration.



Contributors: Stephen Castles & Godula Kosack, Tomas Hammar, Thomas Faist, Steven Vertovec, Russell King, Virginie Guiraudon, Abdelmalek Sayad, Hans van Amersfoort, Tariq Modood, William Rogers Brubaker, Marco Martiniello, Michel Wieviorka, Rainer Bauböck, Robert Kloosterman, Joanne van der Leun & Jan Rath, Patrick Simon, Hassan Bousetta, Adrian Favell, Fredrik Barth, John Rex, Floya Anthias & Nira Yuval-Davis, John Solomos, Frank Bovenkerk, Robert Miles & Gilles Verbunt, Robert Miles & Victor Satzewich, Etienne Balibar, and Ceri Peach

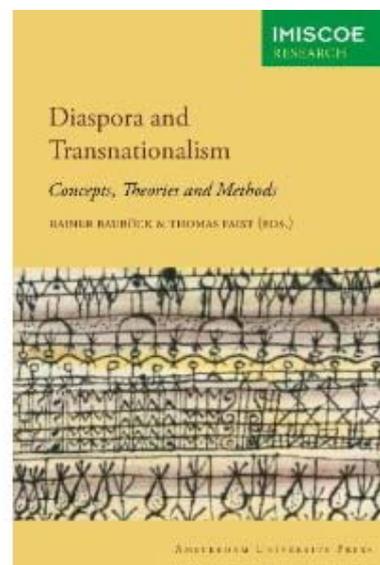
**Daniel Faas:** *Negotiating Political Identities: Multiethnic Schools and Youth in Europe*, Ashgate, April 2010 ([link to publisher](#))

Globalization, European integration, and migration are challenging national identities and changing education across Europe. The nation-state no longer serves as the sole locus of civic participation and identity formation, and no longer has the influence it once had over the implementation of policies. Drawing on rich empirical data from four schools in Germany and Britain, I examine how schools mediate government policies, creating distinct educational contexts that shape youth identity negotiation and integration processes. The study is the first of its kind to bring together between-country and within-country differences in identity formation among young people. By delving into the discourses of ethnic majority and Turkish minority youth, I unravel a wide range of factors shaping contemporary identities and offer new insights into the particular role school policy approaches play in this process. The talk situates these discussions within broader European and transatlantic theoretical and empirical debates on immigrant incorporation and offers a much-needed synthesis of European and American scholarship.



**Rainer Bauböck and Thomas Faist**, editors: *Diaspora and Transnationalism: Concepts, Theories and Methods*, Amsterdam University Press/IMISCOE Research, July 2010 ([link to publisher](#))

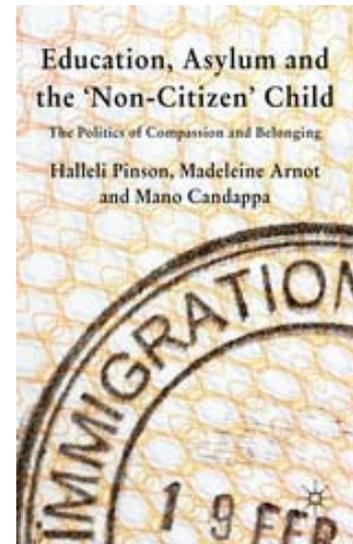
Diaspora and transnationalism are widely used concepts in academic as well as political discourses. Although originally referring to quite different phenomena, they increasingly overlap today. Such inflation of meanings goes hand in hand with a danger of essentialising collective identities. This book therefore analyses diaspora and transnationalism as research perspectives rather than as characteristics of particular social groups. Its contributions focus on conceptual uses, theoretical challenges and methodological innovations in the study of social ties that transcend nation and state boundaries. Bringing together authors from a wide range of fields and approaches in the social sciences, this volume is evidence that studying border-crossing affiliations also requires a crossing of disciplinary boundaries.



Contributors: Rainer Bauböck, Paolo Boccagni, Michel Bruneau, Anastasia Christou, Janine Dahinden, Thomas Faist, Nina Glick Schiller, Uwe Hunger, Koen Jonkers, Laia Jorba, Russell King, Kathrin Kissau, Maria Koinova, Valentina Mazzucato, Laura Morales, Karsten Paerregaard, Myra A. Waterbury, Agnieszka Weinar

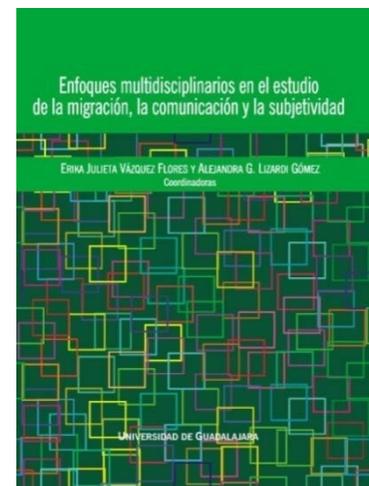
**Halleli Pinson, Madeleine Arnot, and Mano Candappa**, *Education, Asylum and the Non-Citizen Child: The Politics of Compassion and Belonging*, Palgrave Macmillan, April 2010 ([link to publisher](#))

This book draws on 10 years of empirical research to assess for the first time the politics of compassion and belonging associated with immigration policy and its impact on the education system in the UK. The authors expose significant tensions between restrictive government asylum policies and the responses by schools and local government to the presence of asylum-seeking and refugee children. They reveal a compassionate professionalism amongst teachers and an emergent 'new politics' which challenges the forcible removal by government of children to detention centres and the deportation of families. This innovative research exposes the forms of exclusion which 'non-citizen' children experience within inclusive schools and the ways in which the empathy of 'citizen' students towards those seeking asylum is at risk of being overridden by defensive national identities. This book is essential reading for courses on children's rights, equality and migration studies and for teachers and other professionals in the field of refugee education, immigration and community and social work.



**Erika Julieta Vázquez and Alejandra Lizardi (coords)**, *Enfoques multidisciplinares en el estudio de la migración, la comunicación y la subjetividad*. Guadalajara: Universidad de Guadalajara, 2010 (ISBN:978-970-27-2003-4)

El libro que el lector tiene en sus manos es el resultado de un esfuerzo colectivo entre profesores-investigadores de diferentes centros universitarios del país, con formaciones profesionales distintas y en líneas de investigación que no necesariamente implican el estudio de la migración como eje de análisis. Sin embargo, gracias a la conformación de redes de investigación interdisciplinaria, que hoy se denominan Cuerpos Académicos y Redes de Cuerpos Académicos, hemos coincidido en el interés de presentar algunos ensayos y reflexiones que se desprenden, directa e indirectamente de nuestra investigación: la migración. Una publicación más que hable sobre migración pudiera parecer redundante. El tema ha sido muy frecuentemente tratado por diversos especialistas de las ciencias sociales, antropólogos, historiadores, economistas, sociólogos, entre otros. De ello han resultado trabajos que tienen que ver con reportes etnográficos, estudios comparativos y un numeroso grupo de aquéllos que hablan sobre aspectos locales e internacionales.



No obstante, lo particular de este esfuerzo colectivo no es hablar propiamente del fenómeno migratorio centrado en un fenómeno particular, ni siquiera partir de un espacio geográfico, ni tampoco desde un enfoque teórico o una disciplina, es más bien la propuesta a favor de la interdisciplinariedad como una necesidad de sustituir la historia fragmentada de los estudios sociales sujetos a un solo paradigma, por una historia más continua y acumulativa. Se trata también de ver y analizar otros fenómenos que se desprenden de procesos migratorios, fenómenos que atañen tanto a colectividades como a individuos.

Contributors: Carlos Filiberto Cuéllar Dávila, Adriana Elizabeth Morales Sánchez, Rubén Soltero Avelar y José Albero Becerra Santiago, Erika Julieta Vázquez Flores y Horacio Hernández Casillas, Zarina Aguirre Lozano, Macarena Machín Álvarez y Olivia Magdalena Santiago Ceto, Ma. Raquel Carvajal Silva, Alejandra Lizardi Gómez y Matilde Blas Huerta, Antonio Higuera Bonfil, and Virginia Guadalupe Reyes de la Cruz

## CALLS FOR PAPERS

The Institute for Migration, Ethnicity and Society (REMESO) at Linköping University, Sweden, has a call for papers for a conference titled “**After the Crisis: Rebuilding Citizenship and Social Solidarity in Post-Communist Societies**”, to be held at the University of Vilnius, Lithuania, 12-13 May 2011, organized by Charles Woolfson and colleagues in Vilnius (expressions of interest before 20 December, deadline for abstracts 28 February 2011). More details [here](#).

The **Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Network** of the **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics** (SASE) invites abstracts for papers and panels at next year's annual meeting at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, June 23-25, 2011 (deadline for abstracts: January 15, 2011); network organizers Maritsa Poros (City College of New York-CUNY) and David Bartram (University of Leicester). More information [here](#).

The Asia Research Institute of the National University of Singapore has a call for papers on a migration conference called “**Householding in Transition: Emerging Dynamics in ‘Developing’ East and Southeast Asia**”, to be held in Singapore, 25-26 July 2011 (deadline for submission: 1 December 2010). Organizers: Katherine Brickell (Royal Holloway, University of London), Shirlena Huang, Gavin Jones, Brenda Yeoh (all of National University of Singapore). More details [here](#).

The International Association for the Study of Forced Migration has a call for papers for a conference on “**Governing Migration**”, to be held in Kampala, Uganda on July 3 - 6, 2011 (deadline for abstract submissions: 31 October 2010). More details [here](#).

**MIGRACIONES INTERNACIONALES** (International Migrations) is a journal published by El Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Tijuana, Mexico. The editors accept articles in English and Spanish which after review are published in the original language. The editors welcome articles from all over the world. At present many researchers from different regions of the world have had their articles published in this journal which after nearly 10 years of existence has been gaining a wide audience in many countries. Authors can send their articles to [miginter@colef.mx](mailto:miginter@colef.mx), and they can also consult the webpage of the journal [here](#) (in Spanish and English). The journal is in the Mexican Index of academic journals of excellence which is constantly reviewed by experts under the supervision of the National Council for Science and Technology.



*International Journal of Work Organization and Emotion* will host a special issue on **Emotion and Migration**, edited by Geraldine Lee-Treweek (Manchester Metropolitan University, UK) Stephen Taylor (Northumbria University, UK), Åsa Wettergren, (Gothenburg University, Sweden) and Basia Gorna (Independent Social Researcher, UK). Deadline for papers: 2 February 2011. More details [here](#).

Edited book on **Gender and Rural Migration: Realities, Conflict and Change**, edited by **Glenda Tibe Bonifacio**, University of Lethbridge. Globalization and the ensuing neoliberal thrust of governments around the world heightened the mobility of people across local, national, and international borders. While most migration flows are from rural to urban, periphery to the metropole contexts, the movement towards rural areas present new realities and challenges to local communities. Concerns about the entry of newcomers in rural areas pertain to the ability of existing social structures to facilitate their settlement and integration. Local governments have limited resources to offer services or undertake activities similarly found in cities. The presence of (im)migrants of different ethnic backgrounds, national origins, or religion, among others, may bring tension with other rural residents. Often the result of rural migration is the perceived strain in community relations. Women and men have differing experiences of migration. This collection aims to explore new research directions on

gender and rural migration from scholars across disciplines. It seeks to highlight the significance of migration to non-urban centres for research, policy, and practice. Topics related to the theme “Realities, Conflict and Change” of rural migration that critically examine the relationship of gender in the migration process in all areas of interest are welcome. Scholars and practitioners working on rural migration are invited to submit a title, a full-page abstract and short biography to [glenda.bonifacio@uleth.ca](mailto:glenda.bonifacio@uleth.ca) before **October 30, 2010**. Successful contributors will be notified by December 30, 2010 and final papers (6,000 words) are expected by March 30, 2011. All submissions must be original and written for this book project.

Edited book on **Cartografías del movimiento (Cartographies of Movement)**, edited by Alejandra G. Lizardi Gómez and Kenia Ortíz Cadena, University of Guadalajara. La dinámica actual de numerosos fenómenos sociales precisa visualizarlos sin asentamientos. El espacio entendido como movimiento y no como contenedor (Low 2001) ha provocado la idea de volatilidad, y por ello de imposibilidad para cartografiarlo. Comprender el movimiento de individuos o acciones obliga a interpretar el significado de aquello que lleva a la movilidad. Elaborar una imagen gráfica de los puntos por los que transita la subjetividad de los sujetos entre y sobre estructuras localizadas, es una tarea que ha quedado soslayada. Para crear cartografías del movimiento se requiere el establecimiento de escalas. Algunas propuestas establecen a las prácticas como escalas, resultando en cartografías de espacios transnacionales o en escalas geográficas de manifestaciones religiosas. Otras como las topografías de la migración, hacen uso de la identidad como escala. Por esta variedad de escalas es que no resultan mapas, sino formas espaciales que agrupan y muestran la relación entre lugar, espacio, y la experiencia del movimiento entre cada punto. Ante la necesidad de difundir propuestas para visualizar las relaciones creadas entre puntos del espacio por quienes transitan en él con experiencias de migración, de manifestaciones religiosas, de acuerdos comerciales, de expresiones artísticas o intercambios académicos entre otras múltiples formas de movimiento, se invita a profesores-investigadores a enviar sus manuscritos para conformar un volumen editado sobre el tema. El libro se publicará en español, editado por Universidad de Guadalajara en México, con un tiraje aproximado de 300 ejemplares, y fecha tentativa a octubre de 2011. Los manuscritos originales pueden ser enviados en español, inglés o italiano para ser publicados en su versión definitiva traducida. Las normas de elaboración son las siguientes: tipo de letra Times New Roman 12; espacio doble; no más de 50,000 caracteres incluyendo cuadros, gráficos y notas de pie de página; referencias estilo Harvard. Elaborados en Word Microsoft. Los manuscritos serán recibidos a partir del lanzamiento de esta convocatoria hasta el **31 de enero de 2011** a los correos electrónicos: [alizardi@cunorte.udg.mx](mailto:alizardi@cunorte.udg.mx) y [kenia.ortiz@cunorte.udg.mx](mailto:kenia.ortiz@cunorte.udg.mx). Papers welcome in English and Italian (will be translated to Spanish for publication).

## PAST and UPCOMING EVENTS

- **“Transnationalism from below: Migrant families and intergenerational relations in the era of globalisation”**, Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lisbon, 13th October 2010, 14h30 - 18h30. Chairs: Prof. Karin Wall & Dr Laura Merla, ICS, with participation by Loretta Baldassar, Claudio Bolzman, Marzia Grassi and Luena Marinho. Program [here](#).
- **IMISCOE 2010**, “New Migration in Industrial Cities and Regions of Europe”, held in September 2010 at the University of Liege, organized jointly with CEDEM (Centre d'Etudes de l'Ethnicité et des Migrations). Program available [here](#).
- **"Beyond Methodological Nationalism"**, conference held in April 2010 at Bielefeld University, Center on Migration, Citizenship and Development, COMCAD, with contributions from Gilberto Rescher, Bruno Meeus, Kyoko Shinozaki, Stephen Castles,

Wolfgang Knöbl, Sabrina Gross Kettler, Mieke Schrooten, Bruno Dupeyron, Elisabeth Scheibelhofer, Chaitali Das, Bernadette Brunner & Kathrin Oester, Eva Geharz, David Fitzgerald, and Paolo Boccagni. Working papers available [here](#).

- **Network of Migration Research in Africa (NOMRA)**, training workshop for young researchers held in July 2010 at the Univ. of Lagos, attended by Oluyemi Fayomi (et al.).

## RECENT ARTICLES

### David Bartram

2011. "Economic Migration and Happiness: Comparing Immigrants' and Natives' Happiness Gains from Income." Forthcoming in *Social Indicators Research* (article available [here](#)).

2010. "International Migration, Open Border Debates, and Happiness." *International Studies Review*, 12:3, 339-361 (article available [here](#)).

### Ivan Light

2010. "Federal/State Cost Sharing of Immigrant Welfare," *California Journal of Politics and Policy*, 2:1, Article 19. (article available [here](#))

### Alejandra Lizardi-Gómez

2010. "Redes de atención a un padecimiento crónico en una comunidad transnacional." *REDES, Revista Hispana para el Análisis de Redes Sociales*, 18(3). (article available [here](#))

### Caroline Plüss

2010. "Baghdadi Jews in early colonial Hong Kong: Social capital and converting cultural, social and economic resources in trans-regional networks under conditions of globalization", *Global Networks: A Journal of Transnational Affairs*, vol. 11, no. 1.

**Laura Merla & Loretta Baldassar** coordinated a special issue of *Recherches sociologiques et anthropologiques*, vol. 2010/1. (2010): Les dynamiques de soin transnationales: entre émotions et considérations économiques (Transnational care dynamics: between emotions and rationality), including the following papers (available [here](#)):

- Loretta Baldassar, *Ce "sentiment de culpabilité". Réflexion sur la relation entre émotions et motivation dans les migrations et le soin transnational*
- Laura Merla, *La gestion des émotions dans le cadre du devoir filial. Le cas des migrants salvadoriens vivant en Australie occidentale*
- Maria Vlček, *Iron Curtain? Care, Desire and Emotional Conflict*
- Louise Ackers, *Internationalisation and Equality. The Contribution of Short Stay Mobility to Progression in Science Careers*
- Mary Holmes, *Intimacy, Distance Relationships and Emotional Care*

The English edition of *Forced Migration Review* 35, with a major feature on **Disability and Displacement**, is now online, [here](#). It is not common practice to include people with disabilities among those who are considered as particularly vulnerable in disasters and displacement and who therefore require targeted response – yet statistics tell us that up to 10% of all displaced people will have a disability. The 27 feature theme articles in this issue

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE OFFICERS

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Visit the [RC-31 web site](#).

MEMBERSHIP dues are \$20 for a four-year period: to join, visit the ISA web site [here](#).

## SUBMIT YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS!

(Not only announcements – there is also scope for longer pieces in the form of op-eds, etc.)

Send submissions for the next issue to David Bartram, [d.bartram@le.ac.uk](mailto:d.bartram@le.ac.uk)

show why disabled people who are displaced need particular consideration and highlight some of the initiatives taken locally and globally to change thinking and practices so that their vulnerability is recognised, their voices heard – and responses made inclusive. The issue includes an introduction by Shuaib Chalklen, UN Special Rapporteur for Disability, and a mini-feature (of four articles) on Brazil and five general articles on accountability, mobility, reproductive health in Darfur, repatriation decision-making and protection in natural disasters. It will also be published in French, Arabic and Spanish, and English audio is available.