



International Sociological Association

Research Committee on Sociology of Migration (RC-31)

## RC-31 Newsletter, Spring 2012

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## From the President

### Remembering John Rex

by Marco Martiniello

John Rex passed away in December 2011. Most of us know his very influential work on race, ethnicity and multiculturalism. With Michael Banton, he was a pioneer in ethnic and racial studies not only in the United Kingdom, but also worldwide. John was a real theoretician critically inspired amongst others by the work of Max Weber.

I first met John when I was a PhD student back in 1988. I visited CRER, the leading research center on ethnicity, race and migration in the UK at the time with scholars like Robin Cohen, John Solomos, John Wrench, Danièle Joly and many others. He was very supportive and we kept regularly in touch for more than 2 decades, meeting many times at conferences or simply for dinner when he was in Brussels.

Besides his wonderful intelligence and theoretical sophistication, John had a great sense of humour. But he was also a complex character, one of a kind. You were with him or against him and he would not accept "double allegiances". My mistake was precisely to do that and work with a scholar he deeply disliked for mysterious reasons. In his view, I had then ceased to be a follower. Even though he never did anything to harm me or to offend me, our relationship had clearly changed.

When I heard he had passed away, I felt very sad and bad. I will always remember a unique personality and a great mind with all his positive and negative sides. May he rest in peace forever.

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

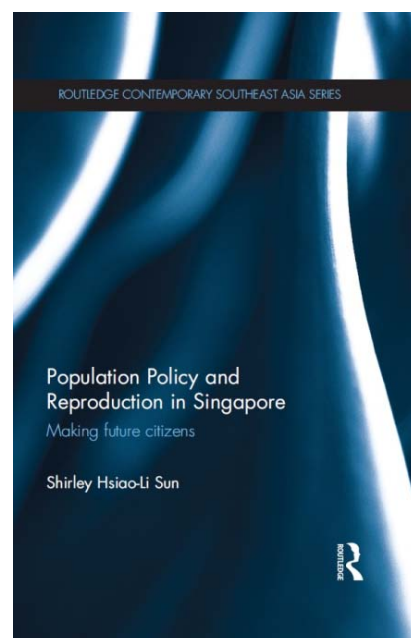
## MEMBERS' NEW BOOKS

**Anna Amelina, Devrimsel D. Nergiz, Thomas Faist, and Nina Glick Schiller (eds):** *Beyond Methodological Nationalism: Research Methodologies for Cross-Border Studies*, Routledge, 2012 ([link to publisher](#))

Cross-border studies have become attractive for a number of fields, including international migration, studies of material and cultural globalization, and history. While cross-border studies have expanded, the critique on nation-centered research lens has also grown. This book revisits drawbacks of methodological nationalism in theory and methodological strategies. It summarizes research methodologies of the current studies on transnationalization and globalization, such as multi-scalar and transnational approaches, global and multi-sited ethnography, as well as the entangled history approach and the incorporating comparison approach. This collected volume goes beyond rhetorical criticism on methodological nationalism, which is mainly associated with the ignorance and naturalization of national categories. It proffers insights for the systematic implementation of novel research strategies within empirical studies deployed by young and senior scholars. The novelty lies in an interdisciplinary lens ranging from sociology, social anthropology and history.

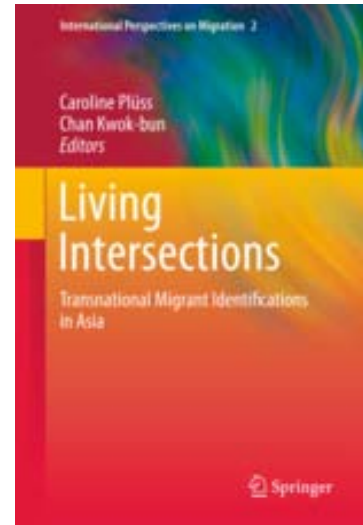
**Shirley Hsiao-Li Sun,** *Population Policy and Reproduction in Singapore: Making Future Citizens*, Routledge, 2011 ([link to publisher](#))

This book examines the relationship between population policies and individual reproductive decisions in low-fertility contexts. Drawing on personal interviews and focus groups with more than 200 Singaporeans, it demonstrates that the effectiveness of population policy is a function of competing notions of citizenship, and the gap between seemingly neutral policy incentives and their perceived and experienced disparate effects. The need to take individuals' perceptions of state policies seriously gains greater urgency in the context of potential conflict of interest between the state and citizens regarding human reproduction. Should citizenship status confer rights independent of an individual's economic standing? Who is the idealized citizen and idealized by whom? What is the relationship between a particular conceptualization of citizenship and the nation-state's challenge of confronting the global order? This book answers these questions and offers a significant contribution to the literature on population studies, sociology of reproduction, citizenship and development, public and social policy, East Asian and Southeast Asian studies.



**Caroline Plüss and Kwok-bun Chan (eds.), *Living Intersections: Transnational Migrant Identifications in Asia*, Springer, 2012 ([link to publisher](#))**

This book presents ground-breaking theoretical, and empirical knowledge to produce a fine-grained and encompassing understanding of the costs and benefits that different groups of Asian migrants, moving between different countries in Asia and in the West, experience. The contributors—all specialist scholars in anthropology, geography, history, political science, social psychology, and sociology—present new approaches to intersectionality analysis, focusing on the migrants’ performance of their identities as the core indicator to unravel the mutual constitutivity of cultural, social, political, and economic characteristics rooted in different places, which characterizes transnational lifestyles. The book answers one key question: What happens to people, communities, and societies under globalization, which is, among others, characterized by increasing cultural disidentification?



**Catherine Wihtol de Wenden**, guest editor of *Gérontologie et Société*, issue 139 (2011) on “Vieillesse et migrations” (aging and migration), more information [here](#)

Longtemps associées au développement industriel des pays développés, les migrations humaines ont changé de visages au cours des trois dernières décennies. Tout d’abord les déplacements de population, subis ou désirés par les migrants, ne se font plus seulement dans le sens Sud-Nord, mais aussi Est-Ouest et Sud-Sud. Ils se sont mondialisés. Ensuite, l’allongement de la durée de la vie et le vieillissement démographique des pays développés entraînent un flux migratoire nouveau dont les impacts économiques et sociaux sont de plus en plus forts dans les pays d’origine des migrants. Ce numéro, coordonné par Catherine Wihtol de Wenden (CNRS-CERI), avec la collaboration de Martine Dorange (FNG), propose une double approche de ce phénomène. Dans une première partie, il analyse le « dévieillessement » des populations européennes et les défis auxquels l’allongement de la durée de la vie les confronte. Si le système migratoire du care répond aux besoins immédiats des personnes âgées, de leurs familles et des institutions spécialisées, il pose de manière renouvelée la question



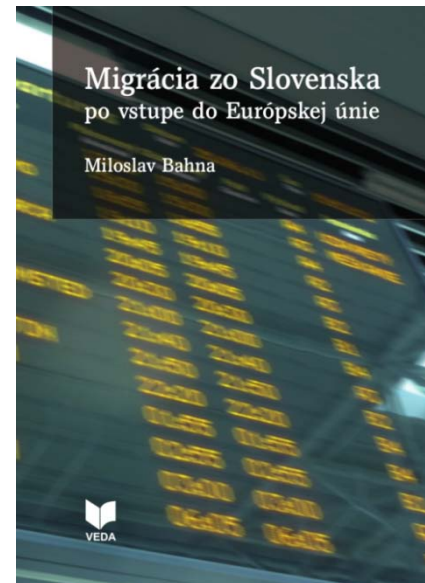
de la confrontation des « blancs » dépendants aux personnes immigrées dans la prise en charge et le soin. Ainsi que celle de leur intégration temporaire ou durable dans les pays d’accueil. Une seconde partie porte le regard sur les difficultés rencontrées par les immigrés venus en France au cours des Trente Glorieuses. Aujourd’hui âgés ou très âgés, ces hommes et ces femmes sont pris dans une oscillation souvent faite d’arrachements entre deux cultures. Comment ces personnes, leurs enfants mais aussi les professionnels qui les accompagnent composent-ils avec la réalité d’un double enracinement ? Chercheurs et acteurs de terrain apportent des réponses dont on voit les échos se prolonger jusque dans la vie de leurs enfants et petits-enfants. Des échos qui viennent interroger le poids du passé dans le vivre ensemble d’aujourd’hui, les expériences de la diversité et l’articulation possible, ou non, des choix personnels et des choix collectifs. Enfin, une dernière partie détrompe le fantasme du « vivre au sud » des retraités aisés des pays développés.

**Miloslav Bahna**, *Migration from Slovakia after Accession to the European Union (Migrácia zo Slovenska po vstupe do Európskej únie)*, VEDA Publishing House of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, 2011 (in Slovak with English summary; [link to publisher](#))

The book focuses on migration from Slovakia before and after its accession to the European Union in 2004. In the theoretical part a conceptualization of middle range migration theories within the systems theory of Niklas Luhmann is presented. The rich analytical work with many unanalysed data on migration from Slovakia and other new EU countries poses the question of whether the observed migration flows can be explained by theories of international migration.

The book offers answers to the following questions:

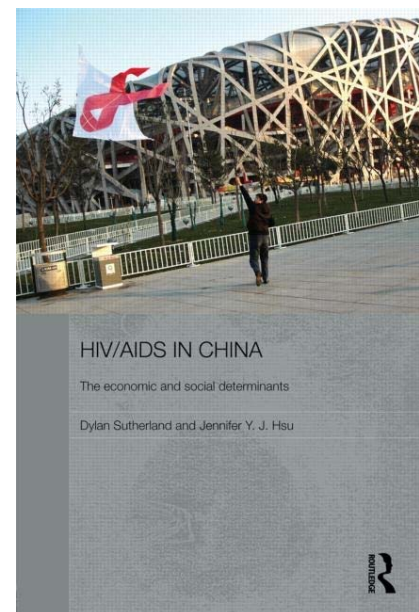
- How reliable are data used to describe the extent of migration from Slovakia?
- Can post 2004 migration from Slovakia and other new EU members to the UK and Ireland be explained by their income levels?
- Does regional income level have an influence on individual migration decision making?
- How does Slovak migration to the UK differ from migration to the Czech republic?
- Compared to other European countries, is there too much or too little internal migration in Slovakia?



Dylan Sutherland and **Jennifer YJ Hsu**, *HIV/AIDS in China - The Economic and Social Determinants*, Routledge, 2012 ([link to publisher](#))

South and East Asia may well become the epicentres of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic. More than three-quarters of a million people are now estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS in China. In 2009, AIDS had already become the leading cause of death by infectious disease. Yet, even despite China's recent economic and social progress, a number of development issues - not least the emergence of glaring inequalities - have also emerged. The expansion of the HIV/AIDS epidemic is also an important longer term development challenge.

This book analyses China's HIV/AIDS epidemic, with particular attention to the nature and impact of current economic and social changes and how these changes may be driving the epidemic. It examines aspects of income and gender inequality; rural-urban migration; commercial sex work; healthcare and civil society organizations. Health care reforms and the role of NGOs are also considered as well as general government policy. Overall, this book provides a full discussion of the most critical aspects of the current HIV/AIDS situation in China and its impact on Chinese society.



**Micheline Labelle, Jocelyne Couture and Frank W. Remiggi, *La Communauté Politique En Question: Regards croisés sur l'immigration, la citoyenneté, la diversité et le pouvoir*, Presses de l'Université du Québec, 2012 ([link to publisher](#))**

Avec l'accélération de la mondialisation, une opinion qui aurait, jusqu'il y a peu, été taxée d'incongruité semble avoir gagné le statut d'évidence : le système étatique mondial serait menacé et appellerait à une profonde redéfinition des attributs, des structures et du rôle traditionnellement dévolus aux États. Malgré un échiquier géopolitique modifié, où les frontières s'évanouissent et où les cultures et les traditions nationales s'amalgament jusqu'à l'extinction, il faut cependant reconnaître que la mondialisation n'est pas (encore) venue à bout des États, des sociétés qui les composent et des divers problèmes que pose la cohabitation au sein de leurs institutions traditionnelles. Bien au contraire, la mondialisation a souvent contribué à enclencher en série des situations qui se répercutent sur les plans social et étatique. Dans toutes ces situations, c'est aux États, à leur gouvernement et à la société toute entière qu'il appartient de restaurer, voire de réinventer la trame des communautés politiques. Non pas en érigeant des barrages à la mondialisation, mais en contribuant à la création des institutions d'une gouvernance globale juste et efficace.



Rassemblant des collaborateurs de l'Europe, du Québec, du Canada anglais et des États-Unis, ce livre questionne, sous des angles différents, la pertinence théorique de la notion de communauté politique lorsqu'il s'agit de penser le pluralisme résultant de l'immigration internationale. Il pose aussi un regard critique sur le rôle que cette notion joue dans les approches courantes des phénomènes liés à la diversité. Car plusieurs questions se posent maintenant, dont celle, au premier chef, de la capacité des appareils d'États contemporains de cimenter des communautés politiques dans un contexte de mobilité spatiale accrue et de transnationalisme croissant.

## **CALLS FOR PAPERS & PARTICIPATION**

Midterm Conference of **European Sociological Association** network on **Sociology of Migration** (RN35), 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012, Paris

Local Organiser: Prof. Catherine de Wenden

Co-organiser: CERI CRS Paris, Centre d'études et de recherches internationales

Themes: 1. "Managing migration in a world of economic crisis"; 2. "New profiles of migrants"

Call for papers available [here](#); send abstracts (half-page) to [esa.migration@yahoo.com](mailto:esa.migration@yahoo.com), deadline **1 May 2012**.

**Refugee Studies Centre** 30th Anniversary Conference, '**Understanding Global Refugee Policy**', University of Oxford, 6-7 December 2012.

Call for papers [here](#); abstracts of no more than 200 words should be submitted to: Heidi El-Megrissi: [rsc-conference@geh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:rsc-conference@geh.ox.ac.uk) by **1 July 2012**.



International Conference

# MIGRATION

## AND WELL-BEING:

## RESEARCH FRONTIERS

January 8-10, 2013 At Tel Aviv University

Organized by  
Tel Aviv University and the  
International Sociological Association  
Research Committee on Sociology of Migration (RC31)

### Save the dates!

Call for papers will begin at the end of January.

Registration will open in July.

For more information, visit our website:  
<http://socsci.tau.ac.il/migration/conference/>  
For any questions, contact us at  
[migration.conference@gmail.com](mailto:migration.conference@gmail.com)



Photos from the Anna Lindh Foundation exhibition

**Immigrants and Civil Society: 16th Nordic Migration Research Conference & 9th ETMU Days, 13-15 August 2012, University of Turku, Finland.**

The focus of much research of immigrants in the Nordic countries has been on the economic circumstances and state policies regarding migration and integration. Far less attention has been devoted to the role of the institutions of civil society in facilitating or impeding the incorporation of newcomers into Nordic societies. The theme of this conference is intended to be a response to that imbalance in research priorities. The conference organizers are inviting papers that address issues related to the incorporation of newcomers into receiving societies in the developed world, with special emphasis on the Nordic countries, and on issues related to fair means of inclusion. Furthermore, the conference also welcomes all proposals within the broader field of ethnic and migration studies. The conference language is English. More information [here](#); Deadline for paper proposals is **15 April 2012**.

**ESF-ZiF-Bielefeld University** Research Conference in cooperation with the Collaborative Research Centre “From Heterogeneities to Inequalities” (CRC 882) and GICC-EXCLIM, “**Tracing Social Inequalities in Environmentally-Induced Migration**”; 9-13 December 2012. Chaired by T. Faist, J. Schade, C. Vlassopoulos, F. Gemenne, and A. Baldwin. Further information on the call for papers, deadlines and requirements for participation are soon available [here](#).

The Editorial Board of **Crawford Journal of Politics** is coming up with a publication. The Editorial Board therefore welcomes scholarly contributions (papers/articles/essays etc.) from Social Sciences, Humanities, and other related fields/disciplines for consideration and publications. Contributions must be accompanied with an abstract of not more than 150 words to be followed by 5 key words which should not be a repetition of the title. The papers/articles should be prepared with New Times Romans (12 fonts) and two–line space typed. It must not be more than 15 pages and the referencing must conform to the APA style. Please send your articles by E. Mail as attachments in MS-Word format. Also enclose two hard copies of your papers/articles, and the sum of Three Thousand Naira (N3, 000) cash for peer review should be sent to the Editor:

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**International Summer School**, Bielefeld University: “**The Transnational Social Question: Implications for Concepts and Methods**”, 3–7 September 2012. Organizers: Thomas Faist and Eveline Reisenauer. No conference fees, and external masters and PhD students can apply for a contribution towards travel and accommodation costs. More information [here](#). Application deadline: **31 March 2012**.

**REMESO Graduate School**, Linköping University, Sweden: “**International Migration, Ethnicity and Gender: Intersectional Perspectives on Labour, Power and Citizenship**”, 2 April – 4 May, 2012; Intensive on-campus week: 16-20 April. These are courses for Swedish and International PhD candidates and Master students, offering 7.5 ECTS. No course fee. More information [here](#). Deadline for applications: **2 March 2012**.

**GRITIM-UPF / IMISCOE PhD Summer School 2012**, “**Theoretical and Methodological Approaches in Migration Studies**”, at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona) 2nd to 13th July 2012. The teaching staff includes RC31 members e.g. Marco Martiniello and Sebastian Chauvin. More information [here](#). Application deadline: 18 March 2012.

**Complément de bourse postdoctorale, 2012-2013**, offert par la Chaire de recherche en immigration, ethnicité et citoyenneté (CRIEC) de l'Université du Québec à Montréal, en collaboration avec l'Association internationale des études québécoises (AIEQ): 10 000 \$ CA pour un stage de 4 à 8 mois. Les demandes doivent être envoyées au plus tard le **31 mai 2012**. Plus de détails et formulaire de demande [ici](#).

## **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Submit to "**Sociopedia.isa**". It sounds like Wikipedia, but in fact there are important differences – mainly, it is not a "wiki" in the sense that anyone can make edits to the content – instead it is a peer-reviewed publications vehicle sponsored by ISA (launched at the World Congress in Gothenburg) with rapid turnaround/publication. The only real similarity to Wikipedia is that entries (consisting of review articles) will be regularly updated so that they do not become "dated" in the way a regular publication might.

The editors are specifically inviting articles on international migration; in a message received in November, the publisher (Sage) was also offering \$250 on acceptance of an article (you might want to verify that this offer still stands). More information [here](#). I will also shortly circulate some additional documents the ISA is disseminating about this initiative. (DB)

**Alicia Girón** is conducting a research project entitled "**Entrepreneurial Experiences Beyond The Border: Capital Return For Development**" with colleagues Eugenia Correa, Ma. Luisa González Marín, Patricia Rodríguez, Alejandra Arroyo. An interdisciplinary group of researchers from the Economics Research Institute from the UNAM and the UAM- Iztapalapa are realizing a study on the entrepreneurial capacities and experience of Mexican migrants in Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles. This institutional project is financed and fostered by the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT, for its name is Spanish) aimed at analyzing the options for entrepreneurial development in their communities and regions of origin, as well as to know of financial services demand associated to investment-savings projects, and obstacles they face to realize them. It is also studied the environment to insert themselves into savings and investment processes to increase trans-border potential of their enterprises towards their regions of origin (remittances). This research is also studying conditions that might provoke growth and development from financial demand for productive projects in their communities of origin. The grant of this research includes represents \$150,000 from 2010-2013.

Débat public: « **La situation des travailleurs migrants temporaires : au crible des enjeux de citoyenneté et de justice sociale** », Université du Québec à Montréal. Invités: Stéphanie Bernstein, Département de sciences juridiques, UQAM; Jill Hanley, École de service social, Université McGill; Mouloud Idir, Secteur Vivre ensemble, Centre justice et foi. Animé par Micheline Labelle et organisé par l'Observatoire international sur le racisme et les discriminations de la Chaire de recherche en immigration, ethnicité et citoyenneté (CRIEC) avec le Centre justice et foi et la Semaine d'actions contre le racisme. **Jeudi 22 mars 2012**, 19h00 à 21h00, Salle D-R200, Pavillon Athanase-David, UQAM; Accès par le 1440, rue Saint-Denis (Métro Berri-UQAM). Plus de détails [ici](#).



Colloque de la Chaire de recherche en immigration, ethnicité et citoyenneté (CRIEC) 80<sup>e</sup> congrès de l'Acfas : « **Flux et Régimes Migratoires: Tendances Nouvelles et Mutations Qualitatives** ». Sous la responsabilité de: Micheline Labelle, professeure titulaire, Département de sociologie et titulaire, Chaire de recherche en immigration, ethnicité et citoyenneté (CRIEC), UQAM ; et Rachad Antonius, professeur, Département de sociologie et directeur adjoint, Chaire de recherche en immigration, ethnicité et citoyenneté (CRIEC), UQAM. **Les 10 et 11 mai 2012**, Palais des congrès de Montréal. Plus de détails [ici](#).

**Syllabus bank for migration courses:** RC31 is compiling a “syllabus bank” for courses on international migration, as a resource for others who teach on this topic (particularly those developing their own new courses). We invite you to submit a syllabus for a course you teach related to migration; we will then compile them into a single PDF document and make them available for free download to RC31 members (or indeed anyone). If you would like to have your syllabus considered for inclusion, please send it as an MS-Word document to Ephraim Shapiro (New York University) at [eas247@nyu.edu](mailto:eas247@nyu.edu). (Depending on how many submissions we get, we might have to be selective; on the other hand the final product will not be a printed document.) We will not do any editing – we will publish the syllabi exactly as they are received – so please be sure you are happy to offer the document for public consumption (if you wish, you can remove your name and affiliation).

## RECENT ARTICLES

### Paolo Boccagni

2011. “The framing of return from above and below in Ecuadorian migration: a project, a myth, or a political device?”, *Global Networks* 11(4): 461-80 (article available [here](#))

2011. “Reminiscences, Patriotism, Participation: Approaching External Voting in Ecuadorian Immigration to Italy” *International Migration* 49(3): 76-98 (article available [here](#))

2011. “Migrants' social protection as a transnational process: public policies and emigrant initiative in the case of Ecuador”, *International Journal of Social Welfare* 20(3): 318–325 (article available [here](#))

### Francesca Degiuli

2011. “Laboring Lives: The Making of Home Eldercare Assistants”, *Modern Italy* 16(3): 345-361 (article available [here](#))

### Thomas Faist

2012. Guest editor (with A. Amelina and D. Nergiz), special issue on: Methodologies on the Move: Transnational Turn in Empirical Migration Research, forthcoming in *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.

### Lanre Ikuteyijo

“Illegal Migration and Policy Challenges in Nigeria”, *Africa Portal*, 26 January 2012 (article available [here](#))

### Matthew R. Sanderson

2011. “Occupations as Channels for Migration: Food-Processing and New Destinations in a Bi-National Context.” *Rural Sociology* 76(4): 461-480 (with Matthew A. Painter II; article available [here](#))

## 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)