From the President: 
Trump and his ignorance

by Gustavo Verduzco

I believe that most of us never thought that such a person as Mr. Trump would become president of the United States. But he did, and as a Mexican I feel the obligation to speak some truths and realities that Mr. Trump either doesn’t know or pretends not to know.

It is a dramatic paradox to realize that Mr. Trump intends to build a wall between our countries with the purpose to stop undocumented migration from Mexico – when this kind of flow is at its lowest level in 50 years! But not only this: legal

Mexican migration to the United States has been increasing during the last decade. The average number of workers going legally to the United States to work temporarily in either agriculture or services (H2-A, H2-B programs) during the last 5 years has consisted of 248,326 admitted persons. The number of Mexican professionals going to work legally and temporarily (including family members) has been 386,520 admitted persons during the same period. Therefore, Mexico has been supplying legally a substantial number of qualified and unqualified workers (634,646 admitted persons in total, families included).  

Mexican migrations to the U.S. have changed from being mostly undocumented to become legal.¹

Mexico is the second recipient of American goods in the world. Mexico receives 16% of all American exports to the world.²

Trump insisted that Mexico was the cause of the American commercial deficit. However: from the total economic deficit of the United States, 48% is
Chinese, 20% concerns the European Union; 9.4% is German and 9% is Mexican.

Mexican tourists to the U.S. are the second-largest national group visiting the U.S. with 18.4 million tourists (2015). Mexican tourists in the United States spend more money (US$19.7 billion, in 2015) than either Japanese tourists or tourists from U.K.\(^3\)

American tourists are the largest group of tourists in Mexico (nearly 16 million persons in 2015), but some more 6 million tourists (mostly Americans) arrive by cruiser yearly to a Mexican port.

The United States and Mexico share a border of 3,142 kilometers long, with a border area inhabited by more than 15 million inhabitants in at least 20 twin urban centers (each one on each side).

In just 2 of the states (California in the U.S. and Baja California in Mexico), there were 70 million crossings of people between the two countries in 2015.

Every day $US1 billion worth of merchandise crosses the border either going to the U.S. or going to Mexico.

These are a few facts pretended to be ignored by the President of the United States.

Gustavo Verduzco
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El Colegio de México

Sources:
2. (www.census.gov/foreign-trade/balance by partner country)

RC31 AWARDS AT THE VIENNA CONFERENCE

At the ISA conference in Vienna (summer 2016), the RC31 Board made the following awards:

- **Best book**: Christof Van Mol (2014) *Intra-European Student Mobility in International Higher Education*, Palgrave ([link](#))


Congratulations to Christof, Paolo, and Martijn! We hope to repeat the awards in connection with the Toronto conference and will provide details at a later point.
MEMBERS’ NEW BOOKS


In Politics of Precarity: Migrant Conditions, Struggles and Experiences, the contributing authors look into precarity. Precarity has become a buzzword in as well academia as among activist. The book depicts precarity as being both a condition and a mobilizing force for resistance. The volume asks questions that investigate conditions and resistance across diverse cases such as first generation urbanites in China, migrant pensioners and unemployed youth in Sweden and Spain, refugees in Germany, irregular and regular migrants in Southern Europe, Turkey, Russia the United States and South Africa.

Contributors are: Susanne Bregnbæk, Ines Calzada, Maribel Casas-Cortés, Anna Gavanas, Gregoris Ioannou, Martin Bak Jørøgensen, Irina Kuznetsova-Morenko, Ronaldo Munck, Dimitris Parsanoglou, John Round, Carl-Ulrik Schierup, Peter Schultz Jørøgensen, Nazlı Şenses, Vassilis Tsianos, Nicos Trimikliniotis, and Mimi Zou.


The New Southern European Diaspora: Youth, Unemployment, and Migration uses a qualitative and ethnographic approach to investigate the movement of young adults from areas in southern Europe that are still impacted by the 2008 economic crisis. With a particular focus on Spain, Portugal, and Italy, Ricucci examines the difficulties faced by young adults who are entering the labor market and are developing plans to move abroad. Ricucci further investigates mobility and its drivers, relationships among mobile youth and their social networks, perceptions of intra-European Union youth mobility, and the role of institutions, especially schools, in the development of mobility plans. This book is recommended for scholars of anthropology, political science, and economics.
Anna Amelina (2017): Transnationalizing Inequalities in Europe: Boundaries, Assemblages and Regimes of Intersection, New York/London: Routledge (link to publisher)

Unequal life-chances became a key feature of cross-border migration to, and within, the enlarged Europe. Combining transnational, intersectional and cultural-sociological perspectives, this book develops a conceptual tool to analyse patterns, contexts and mechanisms of these cross-border inequalities.

This book synthesizes the theories of social boundaries and of intersectionality, approaching cross-border relations as socially generated and as an inherent element of contemporary social inequalities. It analyses the mechanisms of cross-border inequalities as ‘regimes of intersection’ relating spatialized cross-border inequalities to other types of unequal social relations (in terms of gender, ethnicity/race, class etc.). The conceptual arguments are supported by empirical research on cross-border migration in Europe: migration of scientists and care workers between Ukraine and Germany.

This book integrates the analysis of space – including cross-border categories of global and transnational – into intersectionally-informed studies of social inequalities. Broadly, it will appeal to scholars and students in the areas of sociology, political sciences, social anthropology and social geography. In particular, it will interest researchers concerned with transnational and global social inequalities, the interplay of the categories ‘gender’, ‘ethnicity’ and ‘class’ on the other hand and global and transnational relations on the other, theories of space and society, and migration and mobility in Europe.

Anna Amelina, Kenneth Horvath, and Bruno Meeus, eds (2016): An Anthology of Migration and Social Transformation. European Perspectives, Springer Science

The contributions of this book examine contemporary dynamics of migration and mobility in the context of the general societal transformations that have taken place in Europe over the past few decades. The book will help readers to better understand the manifold ways in which migration trends in the region are linked to changing political-economic constellations, orders of power and inequality, and political discourses. It begins with an introduction to a number of theoretical approaches that address the nexus between migration and general societal shifts, including processes of supranationalisation, EU enlargement, postsocialist transformations and rescaling. It then provides a comprehensive overview of the political regulation of migration through border control and immigration policies. The contributions that follow detail the dynamic changes of individual migration patterns and their implications for the agency of mobile individuals. The final part challenges the reader to consider how policies and practices of migration are linked to symbolic struggles over belonging and rights, describing a wide range of expressions of such conflicts, from cosmopolitanism to racism and xenophobia. This book is aimed at researchers in various fields of the social sciences and can be used as course reading for undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate courses in the areas of international migration, transnational and European studies. It will be a beneficial resource for scholars looking for material on the most current conceptual tools for analysis of the nexus of migration and societal transformation in Europe.

In *Indonesia's Overseas Labour Migration Programme, 1969-2010*, Wayne Palmer offers for the first time a detailed, critical analysis of the way in which Indonesia's Overseas Labour Migration Programme is managed and how that fits with other developments within the Indonesian government. Commonly portrayed as a corrupt bunch of officials out to line their own pockets at the expense of migrant workers' welfare, here we are shown that they also make exceptions to rules when the law and political climate are not on their side. Wayne Palmer used interviews with over 120 officials in six Indonesian provinces and three diplomatic missions in the Asia-Pacific region to understand motivations for corrupt and other illegal behaviour.

Glenda Tibe Bonifacio and Julie Drolet, eds (2017). *Canadian Perspectives on Immigration in Small Cities*, Springer (link to publisher)

This book examines immigration to small cities throughout Canada. It explores the distinct challenges brought about by the influx of people to urban communities which typically have less than 100,000 residents.

The essays are organized into four main sections: partnerships, resources, and capacities; identities, belonging, and social networks; health, politics, and diversity, and Francophone minority communities. Taken together, they provide a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary perspective on the contemporary realities of immigration to small urban locations.

Readers will discover how different groups of migrants, immigrants, and Francophone minorities confront systemic discrimination; how settlement agencies and organizations develop unique strategies for negotiating limited resources and embracing opportunities brought about by changing demographics; and how small cities work hard to develop inclusive communities and respond to social exclusions.

In addition, each essay includes a case study that highlights the topic under discussion in a particular city or region, from Brandon, Manitoba to the Thompson-Nicola Region in British Columbia, from Peterborough, Ontario to the Niagara Region.

As a complement to metropolitan-based works on immigration in Canada, this collection offers an important dimension in migration studies that will be of interest to academics, researchers, as well as policymakers and practitioners working on immigrant integration and settlement.

This book offers a brand-new perspective on human trafficking as an illegal business. It also proposes a new form of networked action: combining the perspectives of academic researchers with those of highly skilled professionals involved in policymaking in this area, this book is a unique contribution and a first step toward a networking paradigm, promoting collaboration in preventing and combating human trafficking crime, and in raising awareness of this ongoing problem.

This book was born within the CINETS group – Crimmigration Control International Net of Studies (www.crimmigrationcontrol.com), which was established in 2011 with the aim of bringing together expertise from different fields, professions, universities and countries. It aims to form a new paradigm for sharing knowledge and advancing research on topics related to human trafficking, crimmigration control, immigration and crime, immigrant detention and all types of violence that may affect victims of crimes, helping to create a fairer society.

Maria João Guia, Robert Koulish, and Valsamis Mitsilegas, eds (2016) Immigration Detention, Risk and Human Rights, Springer (link)

This book offers a brand new point of view on immigration detention, pursuing a multidisciplinary approach and presenting new reflections by internationally respected experts from academic and institutional backgrounds. It offers an in-depth perspective on the immigration framework, together with the evolution of European and international political decisions on the management of immigration. Readers will be introduced to new international decisions on the protection of human rights, together with international measures concerning the detention of immigrants.

In recent years, International Law and European Law have converged to develop measures for combating irregular immigration. Some of them include the criminalization of illegally entering a member state or illegally remaining there after legally entering. Though migration has become a great challenge for policymakers, legislators and society as a whole, we must never forget that migrants should enjoy the same human rights and legal protection as everyone else.
Anna Gansbergen, Ludger Pries, and Juliana Witkowski, eds (2016) Versunken im Mittelmeer? Flüchtlingsorganisationen im Mittelmeerraum und das Europäische Asylsystem, Transcript (link)

Since decades, public and civic organisations are of crucial importance for refugee protection in the EU member states along the Mediterranean Sea. Based on field work this book explores how refugee oriented organisational networks are operating and embedded in the corresponding local and national migration regimes in important cities of Spain, Italy, Malta, Cyprus and Greece. These country reports are compared and related to the Common European Asylum System. A main finding is that networks of public and civic organisations are complying with important aspects of European claims, where state agencies and governments are acting in an "organised non-responsibility" for refugee protection.


This book offers a unique and innovative way of looking at the paradoxical consequences of human mobility. Based on a three-year transnational multi-sited longitudinal research project, it demonstrates that not all migrants acquire, transfer and implement social remittances in the same way. Whilst the circulation of ideas, norms and practices is an important aspect of modernity, acts of resistance, imitation and innovation mean that whilst some migrants become ordinary agents of social change in their local microcosms, others may contest that change. By putting this individual agency centre stage, the authors trace how social remittances are evolving, and the ambiguous impact that they have on society. This thought-provoking work will appeal to students and scholars of sociology, geography and anthropology.

Loretta Baldassar, Raelene Wilding, Paolo Boccagni, and Laura Merla, guest editors of the special issue of Transnational Social Review (7:1, 2017) on “Aging in place in a mobile world: New media and older people’s support networks” (link)

Despite the increasing evidence of aging beyond national borders, "aging in place" belongs to the persistent orientations of old-age policies and social services for the elderly. But what does aging in place mean in an increasing transnational and mobile world? These challenges are explored by the focus topic on "Aging in place in a mobile world: new media and older people’s support networks" of this volume. It focuses on the intersection of aging, migrant transnationalism, and new media and highlights the changing practices of older people, their social networks, and their support in old age. All six contributions to the focus topic show how the concept of aging in place is being challenged and the importance to go beyond concepts of place that are defined within physical and territorial boundaries.
CALLS FOR PAPERS & PARTICIPATION

International workshop on **Refugee protection and the European civil society** in Budapest May 4-5. Deadline for paper proposals already is over. Those interested in participate should communicate by email to <refugee.civic@tk.mta.hu>

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**Law in the Everyday Lives of Transnational Families: Socio-legal Perspectives**

*7-11 August, Radboud University, Nijmegen (The Netherlands)*

International migration results in the increased occurrence of "transnational families", whose members are either separated by migration or (re)united geographically but maintain personal ties with other countries. To understand this phenomenon, this course provides a comprehensive examination of the relationships between transnational families and the law using socio-legal perspectives. It pays attention to the gender dimension of such relationships and to the intersectionality of stratifying factors such as social class, national belonging and ethnicity. It welcomes postgraduate students (Masters and PhDs) and postdoctoral researchers from different disciplines such as law, sociology, anthropology, and family studies. It also targets professionals from the public and private sectors as well NGOs working with migrants and/or their families. Participants should have at least a bachelor-level degree and possess prior knowledge and/or experience in one of the following areas: law, migration and the family.

**Admission documents**
- Motivation letter (state clearly the reasons behind your application as well as your target objectives or the competencies that you wish to gain by attending this course)
- CV

**Course leaders**
- **Prof. Betty de Hart**, Associate professor Faculty of Law, Radboud University
- **Dr. Asuncion Fresnoza-Flot**, Radboud Excellence Initiative Research Fellow, Radboud University

**Course fee:** 550 €  **Discounts:** € 495  early bird discount - deadline 1 April 2017 (10%); € 468  partner + RU discount (15%); € 413  early bird + partner discount (25%)

**Number of EC:** 2 ECTS

**Application deadline:** 1 June 2017

**More information:** radboudsummerschool@ru.nl

5th International Summer School in Ethnography
Department of Sociology – University of Trento – September 10-15, 2017

The Summer School in Ethnography at the University of Trento aims to provide participants with an inside view on the practice and the skills of ethnography across social sciences. As such, the School represents a forum where adepts, students, cadets and scholars may familiarize themselves with the status of the discipline, absorbing the tools as well as the tricks of the trade directly from long-time practitioners. A sustained theoretical reflection is, in our view, an essential companion rather than an alternative to fieldwork. This means that discussion on key social-theoretical notions and theories is encouraged. Much space will also be given to the opportunities, pitfalls and dilemmas which emerge in the everyday field practice of ethnography.

The Fifth edition of the School pivots around home cultures and home-making, at the crossroads of migration and urban studies. Our core aims include:

- theorising global processes in order to develop rich interpretations of local and translocal social practices;
- clarifying the concepts that connect cultural practice to social theory;
- understanding the relations between cultural, social and economic phenomena and spatial transformations of dwellings and home-making;
- thinking through contemporary cultural practices in the context of urban spaces.

Teaching methods will be based on lectures, as well as on interactive formats such as workshops, data sessions and roundtables. Participants will have a chance to present their current research projects, receive feedback and recommendations from the guest professors.

There will be four extended lectures by established international scholars. Presentation of case studies and on-going research will occupy a large share of the allotted time. Reading materials will be circulated well in advance among participants, ensuring that they arrive at the meeting with a strong shared background.

The Summer School draws on the expertise of the Department of Sociology at the University of Trento in the field of migration and ethnic studies, urban studies, home studies and qualitative research methods.

How to apply: The school is addressed to PhD students and postdocs across social sciences (max. 22 participants). The fee for participation is Euro 350, inclusive of tuition, coffee breaks and lunches; travel and accommodation costs are not included. To apply please submit your CV, a motivation letter and a short ethnographic research project (about 2,000 words long, including empirical contexts, focus and research questions) to ethnography.soc@unitn.it

Registration deadline: April 15. Acceptance will be notified by April 30.

Organizers: Paolo Boccagni & Andrea Mubi Brighenti; Contacts: ethnography.soc@unitn.it

More info: http://events.unitn.it/en/ethnography2017
Call for papers – workshop
“Postcolonial legacies, scholarly mobility and research capacity building”

Orient-Institut Beirut, Lebanon  15-16 June 2017

The workshop examines the conditions shaping postcolonial knowledge production in the social sciences, with a particular focus on geographies of doctoral mobility and funding. Since the earliest years of university education in Africa and the Middle East, many of its academic leaders have been trained in the former empire centres or elsewhere in the global north. The formation of national scholarly communities has relied on highly mobile populations of research students. This uneasy dynamic has been complicated in recent years by an increasing emphasis on the production of useful social science knowledge as a precondition for economic development. Governments put in place ambitious doctoral training plans; at the same time, supervision cultures are underdeveloped, employment patterns are becoming more hazardous, and research is increasingly produced outside academia.

We explore these dimensions of knowledge production, with a disciplinary focus on the social sciences and humanities, and a regional focus on Africa, particularly East Africa, and the Middle East, including the Gulf, although contributions from other regions of the world are also welcome. Goals of the workshop is to develop theories of academic mobility; to explore the role of individual and institutional networks on scholarly mobilities and scientific diaspora formation, and to identify how research and knowledge production is being reshaped by new movements of postgraduate students and forms of institutional isomorphism.

Topics to be explored could include:

- The legacy of postcolonial networks and patterns of scholarly mobilities, along with recent changes; of particular interest would be studies addressing the mobilisation of networks and modes of circulation.
- An analysis of sites of knowledge reproduction at the doctoral level, as well as of research training practices throughout the last decades; case studies of specific institutes offering postgraduate training would be particularly welcomed.
- Non-academic sites of knowledge production, and circulation of scholars between scholarly and consultancy oriented research.
- Ways of assessing the impact of doctoral student mobility and post-doctoral mobilities on the production of knowledge.
- Papers addressing these questions from a methodological point of view, for example on how to measure mobility in contexts that do not offer reliable statistical data.

The workshop welcomes contributions from anthropology, demography, history, sociology, political-economy and regional studies; explicit discussions of methodologies are actively encouraged. Participation of doctoral students is particularly welcomed.

Abstracts (500 words maximum) should be emailed by 15 April 2017 to: Daniele Cantini at Cantini@orient-institut.org and Lama Kabbajni at lama.kabbanji@ird.fr. Accepted paper presenters will be notified within two weeks. Transport and accommodation costs can be covered.
Transnational families and divorce: revisiting marital break-up in times of global (im)mobilities

27-29 September 2017, Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands

The ruptures affecting interpersonal relationships in ‘transnational families’ have received strong scholarly interest in the past decades. Although marital break-up has a cross-border dimension, the issue of divorce remains largely unexplored in transnational family scholarship in particular and in migration studies in general. It is therefore timely to examine transnational divorce, as its causes, processes, and after-effects increasingly take place across national and socio-cultural borders. The present conference examines transnational divorce by taking into account the different socio-legal and cultural contexts within which it occurs, notably how state policies influence the process of marital dissolution. It is organized in three themes addressing the following questions:

1) **The secular, the sacred and what is at stak**es – How do separating couples experience the divorce-related laws of the societies they have social and legal ties with? How do couples and individuals undertake ‘religious’ divorce such as Talaq? How does the law treat children during and after their parents’ divorce, notably in terms of custody and in case of international custody issues? In what way do these children and/or their parents view divorce, the family, the law, or the state?

2) **The process and implications of transnational divorces** – What are the intermediary actors and professionals of cross-border divorce? What forms of information and assistance do they provide to separating transnational and/or binational couples? What specific role(s) do they play during the process of transnational divorce? How does divorce affect the lives of separating or separated couples as well as other family members? What are the economic, social and emotional issues of transnational divorces? What forms of strategies do separated couples adopt to adjust to marital break-up?

3) **Epistemological development of transnational divorce studies** – How can we conceptualize transnational divorce within the context of global (im)mobilities? What are the theoretical frameworks and approaches that can be used to examine transnational divorce phenomenon? What are the methodological and ethical challenges in the study of this phenomenon? What are the possible research lines to develop in transnational divorce studies?

We particularly welcome papers from young scholars in the field of socio-legal studies, sociology, anthropology, history, and other disciplines. We also encourage studies that employ a transnational and/or intersectional approach (Crenshaw 1989) paying attention to structuring factors such as gender, class, race and ethnicity. After the conference, selected papers will be published as parts of an edited volume on transnational families and divorce.

Paper proposals should be less than 400 words in length and include the following information: a title, a summary (aim, central question, methods, key findings), and a short biography of the author(s).

**Deadline for abstract submission:** 30 April 2017

**For abstract submission and further information about the event:** transfam-divorce-conf@ru.nl

**Confirmed keynote speakers:** Loretta Baldassar (University of Western Australia), Valentina Mazzucatto (Maastricht University) and Nobue Suzuki (Chiba University)

**Organizers:** Betty de Hart and Asuncion Fresnoza-Flot
The program of the 6th GESIS Summer School in Survey Methodology is online and registration is open. The Summer School 2017 will be held from August 3 to 25 at GESIS Cologne, Germany. 15 courses are scheduled, among them 4 short courses and 11 one-week courses. New to the program are courses on "Preparing Data for Re-Use", "Structural Equation Modeling for Longitudinal and Panel Data", and "Meta-Analysis". Please find the full program on our website at http://bit.ly/2017-gesis-summer-school.

From Professor Hiroshi KOJIMA:
Institute for Asian Muslim Studies, Waseda University (Tokyo, Japan) has recently uploaded a new survey report on halal food consumption among Muslims in Korea to its webpage: https://www.waseda.jp/inst/ias/en/publication/institute-for-asian-muslim-studies/ Other survey reports on Muslims in Asia are also downloadable there.

RECENT ARTICLES/CHAPTERS

Loretta Baldassar, Majella Kilkey, Laura Merla, and Raelene Wilding  
2016. “Transnational families, care and wellbeing”, in Handbook of Migration and Health, edited by Felicity Thomas, Edward Elgar (link)

Paolo Boccagni  


Ipek Demir  
2017. “Shedding an Ethnic Identity in Diaspora: De-Turkification and the Transnational Discursive Struggles of the Kurdish Diaspora” Critical Discourse Studies, pp. 1-16 (link)


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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