Critical Reflections on Afro-European Relations in Migration Governance

This nine-part online lecture series discusses securitization, perceptions on migration and new research agendas that decentralize the European perspectives when it comes to Afro-European Relations in Migration Governance. It brings together African, European, Anglo- and Francophone academics and activists.

Migration on the African continent is multifold, complex with varying effects. One angle in particular is the European efforts to control migration, which has reached far beyond its external borders to the African continent. For example, there has been an attempt to increase ‘cooperative agreements’ between the European Union (EU) with African states. This online lecture series critically discusses Afro-European relations that arise from EU-migration governance and the African responses in the multiple entanglements of border control, development and security. The lecture series is organized in three parts:

Part I “Securitisation” highlights that under the misnomer of fighting the root causes of forced migration there is a political agenda to reduce irregular migration from Africa to Europe. As a result, migration and border control has become increasingly interlinked with development and security policies.

Part II “Perceptions on Migration” offers critical and postcolonial perspectives on the often misleading political discourses, public perceptions and media representations of African migration to Europe.

Part III “Flipping the Script” offers up-to-date research which decentralizes the European perspectives: By looking at different regional set-ups (e.g. South-South and North-South migration) it offers alternative readings and opens up the discussion about the way forward in migration research.

By bringing together both English- and French-speaking scholars (facilitated by simultaneous translations) and involving junior and senior researchers based both in African and European institutes, the lecture series aims at a true exchange between the different academic discourse-communities that rarely get a chance to interact. Each thematic section consists of a keynote lecture, a research lab and a roundtable discussion. While the keynote lectures introduce the state of research, the research labs allow mostly early career academics to discuss their recent work in progress. The public roundtables are aimed at a broader interested public and involve civil society and activists from the field as well.

It is jointly organized by the Arnold Bergstraesser Institute at the University of Freiburg (ABI), the Centre for Global Migration Studies at the University of Göttingen (CeMig), the Centre for Migration Studies at the University of Ghana and the Centre for Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala (NAI) and hosted in cooperation with the research network on African Migration, Mobility and Displacement (AMMODI) and the Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA).
Securitisation

KEYNOTE LECTURE I
8th September 2021, 16:00-17:30 GMT / 18:00-19:30 CEST
Presenter:
- Harouna Mounkaila | University Abdou Moumouni of Niamey, Niger
Moderator: Abena Oduro | University of Ghana, Ghana

RESEARCH LAB I
15th September 2021, 11:00-12:30 GMT / 13:00-14:30 CEST
Presenters:
- Almamy Sylla | University of Bamako, Mali
- Amanda Bisong | University of Nigeria, Nigeria
Discussant: Leonie Jegen | Arnold Bergstraesser Institute, Germany & University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
Moderator: Anja Jetschke | Centre for Global Migration Studies, Germany

PANEL DISCUSSION I – Activism & Euro-African Migration
22nd September 2021, 16:00-17:30 GMT / 18:00-19:30 CEST
Panelists:
- Amadou Mbow | Mauritanian Association for Human Rights & West African Network for the Protection of the Rights of Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers and for Free Movement (ROA PRODMAC)
- Lisa Richlen | Ben Gurion University, Israel
- Moctar Dan Yayé | Alarmphone Sahara Niamey
Moderator: Sabine Hess | Centre for Global Migration Studies, Germany
Perceptions on Migration

KEYNOTE LECTURE II
06th October 2021, 16:00-17:30 GMT / 18:00-19:30 CEST

Presenters:
- Joseph Teye | University of Ghana, Ghana
- Heaven Crawley | Coventry University, United Kingdom

Moderator: Mary Setrana | University of Ghana, Ghana

RESEARCH LAB II
13th October 2021, 11:00-12:30 GMT / 13:00-14:30 CEST

Presenters:
- Kamal Donko | University of Bayreuth, Germany
- Fatou Faye | Fondation Rosa Luxemburg Sénégal

Discussant: Olayinka Akanle | University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Moderator: Jelka Günther | Centre for Global Migration Studies, Germany

PANEL DISCUSSION II – Research Ethics
20th October 2021, 16:00-17:30 GMT / 18:00-19:30 CEST

Speakers:
- Kuda Vanyoro | University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- Ronald Kalyango Sebba | Makerere University, Uganda
- Tabea Scharrer | Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany
- Yacouba Cissao | University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

Moderator: Franzisca Zanker | Arnold Bergstraesser Institute, Germany
Flipping the Script

KEYNOTE LECTURE III
3rd November 2021, 16:00 – 17:30 GMT / 17:00 – 18:30 CET
Presenters:
  • Rose Jaji | University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
Moderator: Leander Kandilige | University of Ghana, Ghana

RESEARCH LAB III
10th November 2021, 12:30 – 14:00 GMT / 13:30 – 15:00 CET
Presenters:
  • Basile Ndjio | University of Douala, Cameroon
  • Lisa Åkesson | University of Gothenburg, Sweden
Discussant: Omolola Olarinde | Elizade University, Nigeria
Moderator: Susann Baller | Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa

PANEL DISCUSSION III – Looking Forward
17th November 2021, 16:00 – 17:30 GMT / 17:00 – 18:30 CET
Speakers:
  • Oliver Bakewell | University of Manchester, United Kingdom
  • B Camminga | African Center for Migration & Society, South Africa
  • Nauja Kleist | Danish Institute for International Studies, Denmark
  • Sabine Hess | Centre for Global Migration Studies, Germany
  • Joseph Teye | University of Ghana, Ghana
  • Mary Setrana | University of Ghana, Ghana
Moderator: Jesper Bjarnesen | The Nordic Africa Institute, Sweden