

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 Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA), 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 Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala (NAI) and hosted in cooperation with the research network on African Migration, Mobility and Displacement (AMMODI). It is funded by the MIASA, the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research, The ABI, the CeMig and the Internationalisation Funds of the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Göttingen.



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 and the Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA)

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

