

EuroMedMig National Workshop: Belgium

“When Western Mediterranean migration Turns into Diasporas: Migration Dynamics, Collective Action and State Responses”



@EuroMedMig

Date: 5th of November 2020

Time: 14:00 – 17:30 GMT+2

Place: Virtual Live Room of Jobs@Skills.

Event access: [Zoom Link](#) (entrance code: 4000)

About this workshop:

This National Workshop is a working activity that forms part of the EUMedMi, *EUMedMi*: "[Mapping European Mediterranean Migration Studies](#)" (September 2019 - August 2022). Funded by the Erasmus + Jean Monnet Network Program. (Ref: 611260-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPJMO-NETWORK).

Scientific Organizers:

Ricard Zapata-Barrero - Director of GRITIM-UPF and Coordinator of the Jean Monnet Network EuMedMi.

Hassan Bousetta - Member of the EuroMedMig Steering Committee, FNRS (National Fund for Scientific) Research Associate at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Liège, Belgium.

Pascale Felten - Doctoral researcher at the CEDEM, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Liège, Belgium.

Background

1. Conceptual framework of the national workshop

The Belgian national workshop will look at the transformations of Western Mediterranean migration from both the perspectives of host and home societies. The idea is to look at how and why Western Mediterranean migrant communities are being redefined as diasporas. What does this turn mean in terms of integration dynamics and home/host country relations? What are the issues at stake for both home and destination societies? What are, on the one hand, the implications in terms of remittances, circulation of care, brain drain for home societies, and on the other hand, the consequences in terms of “living together” in host societies?

In order to address these questions in a meaningful way, the workshop will call for a paper that addresses old and new migration patterns towards North West Europe. It will firstly look at the gender and generational dimensions of contemporary migration, including the mobility of unaccompanied minors and labour-work conditions in labour intensive sectors. Secondly, it will analyse the claims-making activity of settled migrant communities. What are their expectations in terms of integration in host countries and reintegration in home countries? The third dimension of the analysis will look at the State responses to migrants and diasporas' demands.

2. Summary of the National Workshop: Guiding arguments

The guiding argument of the Belgian national workshop is that processes concerned with redefining the links between home societies and so-called diasporas lie at the crossroads of new migration dynamics, new modes of collective action among emigrant communities and new State responses to these demands.

3. Concluding remarks: Final recommendations

The workshop will seek to bring new light to the well-established phenomenon of West Mediterranean migration towards North West Europe and North America.

4. References

Bernes, L. A., Bousetta, H., & Zickgraf, C. (2017). *Migration in the Western Mediterranean: Space, Mobility and Borders*. London: Routledge.

The workshop speakers should address the main following questions:

- What is the theoretical relevance of concepts such as diasporas and transnational communities?
- What is the specificity of Western Mediterranean process of diaspora formation?
- How are West Mediterranean migrants and diasporas (re)defining the link to their country of origin?
- What forms of institutional and non-institutional solidarity are being developed through diasporic networks?
- What are the strategies implemented by the States of origin to sustain the involvement of diasporas with the homeland?
- What are the modes of collective action initiated by migrants and diasporas?
- How do the new mobilities of second and third generation Mediterranean migrants complexify the classical notion of transnational communities and diasporas?

Program

14h – 14h10

Welcome and opening

Marco Martiniello, Director of CEDEM

Ricard Zapata, Coordinator EuroMedMig

14h10-14h30

Introduction and framing of the afternoon

Hassan Bousetta, CEDEM, University of Liège

14h30-15h00

From transnational communities to diasporas: a theoretical perspective

Thomas Lacroix, CNRS, France

Discussant: **Jean-Michel Lafleur**, CEDEM, University of Liège

15h00-15h30

Emigration and transnational social protection among Tunisians

Carole Wenger, CEDEM, University of Liège

Discussant: **Riadh Ben Khalifa**, University of Tunis

15h30-16h00

Leaving Europe: Emigration, aspirations and pathways of incorporation of Maghrebi French and Belgians in Montréal

Jérémy Mandin, KU Leuven

Discussant: **Shaima Jorio**, University of Quebec in Montreal – UQAM

16h00-16h30

La diplomatie migratoire du Maroc

Sarah Benjelloun, chercheure associée au laboratoire PACTE, unité mixte de recherche du CNRS de l'Université Grenoble Alpes et de l'IEP de Grenoble

Discussant: **Pierre Beaulieu**, University of Liège

16h30 -17h00

Femmes marocaines : les invisibles de la migration saisonnière en Espagne

Chadia Arab, University of Angers

Discussant: **Elsa Mescoli**, University of Liège

17h00-17h30

Policy reactions, exchanges and feedback

Sonia Gsir, Policy officer Enabel (Belgian International Development Agency)

Mohamed Charef, Member of the UN commission on migrant workers

17h30 End of the workshop

List of experts (presented in alphabetical order)

- Dr. Chadia Arab, University of Angers
- Pierre Beaulieu, University of Liège
- Prof. Riadh Ben Khalifa, University of Tunis
- Dr. Sarah Benjelloun, Institut Royal des Études Stratégiques (Morocco), University of Grenoble
- Dr. Hassan Bousetta, University of Liège
- Dr. Mohamed Charef, UN commission on migrant workers
- Dr. Sonia Gsir, Enabel
- Dr. Shaima Jorio, University of Quebec in Montreal – UQAM
- Dr. Thomas Lacroix, CNRS, France

- Dr. Jean-Michel Lafleur, University of Liège
- Jérémy Mandin, KULeuven
- Prof. Marco Martiniello, University of Liège
- Dr. Elsa Mescoli, University of Liège
- Carole Wenger, University of Liège
- Prof. Ricard Zapata, University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

Bios of Speakers (in alphabetical order)



Chadia Arab (chadia.arab@univ-angers.fr) is a geographer and researcher at the CNRS UMR ESO (National Centre for Scientific Research). Her works focus on international migration and specifically on Moroccans in France, Spain and Italy, as well as in the Gulf countries. She is also interested in gender in migration. She teaches at the University of Angers. Her latest book is entitled “Dames de fraises, doigts de fée. La migration saisonnière des Marocaines en Espagne”, published in 2018 by En Toutes Lettres.

For more information about her research activities and publications see [here](#).



Pierre Beaulieu (pierre.beaulieu@uliege.be) is a PhD researcher and assistant at the OMER research center (Observer les Mondes En Recomposition) of the Faculty of social sciences at the University of Liège. He holds a master’s degree in "Population and Development Studies" from University of Liège. He is particularly interested in the socio-anthropology of the Arab-Muslim world as well as new forms of mobilisation and inequalities of access to the political public space in Belgium and the Mediterranean region. For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).

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Riadh Ben Khalifa (ben.khalifa.riadh@gmail.com) is a historian, assistant professor at the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences of the University of Tunis. He is also a member of the History of Mediterranean Economies and Societies laboratory, an associate researcher at URMIS-Nice and a member of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research (Codesria). Since 2017, he has been editor-in-chief of the “Sciences humaines et sociales” series of the Cahiers de Tunisie, a magazine founded in 1953. For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).

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Sara Benjelloun (sara.benjelloun@sciencespo.fr) received her PhD in Political Science from the University of Grenoble-Alpes in 2019 and has a Master's degree in Political Science - International Relations from the Doctoral School of Sciences Po - Paris in 2015. Her doctoral thesis is entitled: "Migration Diplomacy of Morocco. La nouvelle politique migratoire ou la formation d'une politique publique engagée pour soutenir la politique étrangère du Maroc".

Her current work and interests focus on migration, human rights and Euro-Mediterranean relations. She has taught at the International University of Rabat and at the European

Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (EUIC - Venice) and has provided several training courses for academics and associative actors. She has also worked on several research projects related to migration and Euro-Mediterranean relations. She currently works as a political scientist at the Royal Institute for Strategic Studies in Rabat and is an associate researcher at the social science research laboratory PACTE (Politiques publiques, ACTION politique, TERRITOIRES) UMR 5194 (Grenoble). For more information about her research activities and publications see [here](#).



Hassan Bousetta (hassan.bousetta@uliege.be) is member of the *EuroMedMig* Steering Committee and a FNRS (National Fund for Scientific) Research Associate at the University of Liège, Belgium. He joined the CEDEM at the University of Liège in February 2003. He was previously at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven where he completed his Ph.D. and is a former Marie Curie Visiting Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Ethnicity and Citizenship in the Department of Sociology of the University of

Bristol, UK. Hassan Bousetta has also collaborated in a number of consultancy projects both for private foundations (King Baudouin Foundation), international organization (Council of Europe), cities (Paris, Antwerp, Bristol) and networks of cities (Eurocities). He is the main researcher for CEDEM's line of research focused on the Mediterranean and Islam. He has published several books and articles on Mediterranean migration as well as on the place of Islam and Muslims in the public. For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).



Mohamed Charef (anicharef@hotmail.com) holds a PhD in planning geography from the University of Poitiers and a PhD in science from the Université Libre de Bruxelles. He is professor of geography at the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences in Agadir and director of the Laboratory of Studies on Migration, Anthropology, Spaces and Societies (LEMASE). He is a member of the National Council for Human Rights (CNDH) of which he chairs the Agadir Region Commission. He is a visiting professor

at several foreign universities and is also a consultant and expert on migration issues for the United Nations Population Fund, the Council of Europe, the United Nations Population Division and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).



Sonia Gsir (sonia.gsir@uliege.be) holds a PhD in political and social sciences and a MA Degree in International Relations and European Politics from the University of Liège. She is associate member of the Hugo Observatory on Environment and Migration (University of Liège), associate member of the Laboratory Research on History of Mediterranean Economies and societies (University of Tunis), and research associate at the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (University of Liège). Her PhD dissertation focused on European labour immigration policy. Previously, she carried out

and coordinated researches on local integration policies, new migrations in Belgium, attitudes towards asylum seekers, foreigners' political participation. She collaborated to several networks such as the Belgian Migration Dialogue, CLIP (Cities for local

Integration Policies). She is currently working as policy officer and migration expert for Enabel (Belgian International Development Agency). For more information about her research activities and publications see [here](#).



Shaima Jorio (shaimae.jorio@gmail.com) holds a PhD in sociology from the University of Québec in Montréal (UQÀM). During her graduate studies in political science at Sciences Po Paris and Toulouse, and in sociology at the University of Québec in Montréal, Shaima Jorio conducted several research projects on modes of governance, mainly related to the themes of social violence, exclusion, racial and gender-based discrimination. Her research interests focus on the security and criminalising logics of immigration and asylum policies in France and Europe, as well as their effects on human rights.



Jean-Michel Lafleur (jm.lafleur@uliege.be) is Research Professor at the University of Liège, Associate Director of CEDEM and a Research Associate at the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FRS-FNRS). He also teaches different courses on Migration at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Liège. He holds a joint PhD in Political Science and International Relations from Sciences Po in Paris and the University of Liège (2008). Jean-Michel's areas of expertise are the transnational dimension of contemporary migration, EU mobility, social protection and the political participation of immigrants. He currently holds a Starting Grant from the European Research Council (ERC) to work on a project entitled "Migration and Transnational Social Protection in Post-crisis Europe". During his career, Jean-Michel received different grants and scholarships to teach and conduct research in foreign institutions such as the Mora Institute in Mexico City, the European University Institute in Florence, the City University of New York (as a Fulbright scholar) and the City University of London. For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).



Thomas Lacroix (thomas.lacroix@cnrs.fr) is a CNRS research fellow at the Maison Française d'Oxford and an associate researcher at CERI, Sciences Po (for the period 2018-2020 and 2020-2022), at Migrinter, University of Poitiers, and at Compas, University of Oxford. He is also a member of the Convergence Migrations Institute and Kellog College. He received his PhD in Geography and Political Science in 2003 and his Habilitation to Conduct Research in 2018. Thomas Lacroix is currently a member of the editorial board of the journal *Migration Studies* published by Oxford University Press. His work focuses on migrant transnationalism with a particular focus on North Africa and India. More recently, his research focuses on the mobilization of cities and their insertion in an international governance of migration. He analyses the effects of recent decentralisation policies in immigration and emigration countries on the formation of transnational city networks and the construction of new forms of multi-level governance. He is also a member of the Inclusive Cities programme at Oxford University and of the ANR PACE programme at CERI. For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).



Jérémy Mandin (jeremy.mandin@uliege.be) is a PHD student and a researcher in social sciences. Since 2011, he is affiliated to the CEDEM where he worked on several research projects focusing on urban dynamics, social cohesion and migration policies. He is currently doing a joint PhD with the KULeuven addressing the emigration practices of young Europeans of Maghrebi background toward Montreal (Canada). Building on the concepts of aspiration, hope and disposition, the research provides an analysis of “North-North” migrations by questioning the role of structural dynamics such as ethnic and religious discriminations and socio-economic instability in the emergence of emigration desires in Europe. Jérémy has also collaborated to publications focusing on far-right movements in Italy. For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).



Marco Martiniello (m.martiniello@uliege.be), is Director of Research at the Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique (FRS-FNRS) and Director of CEDEM (Centre d'Etudes de l'Ethnicité et des Migrations) at the University of Liège. He teaches the sociology of migration and interethnic relations at this university. He is also Director of the Institut de Recherches en Sciences Sociales of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Liège. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the European Research Network IMISCOE. He was President of the research committee "Sociology of Migration" of the International Sociological Association until 2014. He has been a visiting professor or visiting researcher at Columbia University, New York University, Cornell University, University of Malmö (Sweden), Sciences Po Paris, University of Warwick (UK), University of Queensland (Brisbane, Australia), University of Kwazulu Natal (Durban, South Africa), European University Institute (Florence, Italy), Colleague Europe (Natolin, Poland), City University of New York, University of Geneva and University of Warwick. His work is in the field of political sociology. It deals with the relations between the arts, culture, sport, immigration and ethnicized and racialized minorities. In addition, he is interested in transnationalism as well as issues of migration policy, citizenship, multiculturalism, racism and the political mobilization of immigrants and minorities in Europe and North America. For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).



Elsa Mescoli (e.mescoli@uliege.be) is affiliated to the CEDEM since 2011. She is currently post-doctoral researcher and assistant lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, where she teaches courses related to migration and intercultural issues. She holds a PhD Degree in Political and Social Sciences from the University of Liege (in co-tutorship with the University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy) with a thesis on the culinary practices of Moroccan women living in Milan (Italy). She conducted extensive ethnographic research in the domain of migration studies both in Europe and outside, with a particular focus on migrants' cultural practices. She holds a MA in Anthropology and a BA in Intercultural communication from the University of Milan-Bicocca (Italy). Her research interests include food and migration, artistic practices of migrants, gender issues, discrimination of Muslims, public opinion and citizens' initiatives on refugees and

asylum seekers, socio-cultural practices of undocumented migrants, policies and practices of integration of newcomers. For more information about her research activities and publications see [here](#).



Carole Wenger (ca.wenger@uliege.be) completed a BA in Ethnology and Human Geography from the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Neuchâtel in Switzerland and a MA in Migration and Diaspora Studies from the Faculty of Anthropology at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. Before joining the CEDEM, she worked within the Migration and Development Research Group at the United Nations University (UNU-Merit/MGSoG) in Maastricht, in the Netherlands. Prior to that, she worked as for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Cairo (Egypt) as well as for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Tunis (Tunisia) on migration and development programs. She joined the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM) at the University of Liège in September 2018 as a PhD Candidate within the European Research Council (ERC)-funded project “Migration, transnationalism and social protection in (post-) crisis Europe” coordinated by Dr Jean-Michel Lafleur. Her research focuses on Tunisian women migrants and the transnationalisation of healthcare practices between Tunisia and Europe. Her research interests include transnationalism, social protection, anthropology of health, gender and the Maghreb region. For more information about her research activities and publications see [here](#).



Ricard Zapata-Barrero (ricard.zapata@upf.edu) is Coordinator of [EuroMedMig](#) and of EUMedMi Jean Monnet Network. He is Full Professor at the Department of Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain). Director of [GRITIM-UPF](#) (Interdisciplinary Research Group on Immigration) and the Master Program in Migration Studies. He is also member of the Board of Directors the European Network IMISCOE (International Migration and Social Cohesion in Europe) and Chair its External Affairs Committee. Additionally, he is a member of editorial boards of several academic journals and an occasional contributor to media and policy debates. His lines of research deal with contemporary issues of liberal democracy in contexts of diversity, especially the relationship between democracy, citizenship and immigration. He is currently working on Mediterranean Migration, Cities of Migration and developing the Intercultural Citizenship Paradigm. For more information about his research activities and publications see [here](#).



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