

Workshop proposal nr.4

Title: **The Politics of Migration Research: How do and how should researchers perform in the public space?**

Organizer(s): Mette Andersson, professor, Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo
Garbi Schmidt, professor, Department of Communication and Art, Roskilde University (RUC)

Email(s): mette.andersson@sosgeo.uio.no and garbi@ruc.dk

The Politics of Migration Research: How do and how should researchers perform in the public space?

Presently, the subject of migration takes a central role in public debates, both in the Nordic countries and beyond. Migration researchers across disciplines are often involved in these debates as experts: a role that is far from uncomplicated given that sentiments and perceptions in this field are increasingly polarized. This workshop welcomes papers and discussion on several questions relating to the public role of migration researchers. 1) What do and should we tolerate as participants in the debate and how far should we go, both to secure academic integrity and freedom? 2) How can we balance the obligation to inform the public with other duties such as teaching, academic publishing and researching? 3) How can we as researchers learn from each other's experiences from taking part in public debate as sources, op-ed article producers and debate participants?

We welcome papers that aim to discuss one or more of these questions in the context of current mass and social media development, perspectives on the public sphere (-s) and the relationship between science and society more generally.