Programme and abstracts for the International conference on

TRANSMIG: Transnational Practices in Migration

4–5 NOVEMBER 2010
TRANSMIG: Transnational Practices in Migration

Stockholm University, Sweden
4–5 November 2010
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Stockholm University and CEIFO

Stockholm University is the region’s centre for higher education and research in the humanities, the natural and social sciences and jurisprudence.

With over 50,000 undergraduate and Master’s students, 1,800 doctoral students and 5,200 employees, it is one of the largest universities in Sweden and one of the largest employers in the capital. People of many different nationalities, with contacts throughout the world, contribute to the creation of a highly international atmosphere at Stockholm University.

Centre for Research in International Migration and Ethnic Relations (CEIFO) is an interdisciplinary research institute within Stockholm University’s faculty of social science.

The conference

The purpose of this conference is to contribute to knowledge development on migration and transnationalism by focusing on how transnational practices interact with different kinds of power relations. The conference will particularly discuss papers based on empirical research that address and analyse practices of transnational migration and how these could be shaped by states and other powerful structures but also differently practised and experienced with regards to gender, class and generation.

The main thrust of this conference are the workshops and conference-papers. Departing from discussions in these workshops there will be a planning and organisation of thematically organised publications in the form of books and/or articles.

Our intention is to arrange this conference as the first in a series of conferences with the specific goal of the publishing of texts. This first conference is based in an open call for papers in relation to the relevant fields. The contributions for the publication(s) will be selected from this first conference and progressively elaborated to a final publishable text.
Conference organisation

TRANSMIG is an initiative within the IMISCOE research-network and the Research-network of Transnationalism and Diaspora. The main organiser of TRANSMIG is the Centre for Research in International Migration and Ethnic Relations (CEIFO), Stockholm University. The Research Institute for Cosmopolitan Cultures (RICC), Manchester University, is co-organiser of TRANSMIG.

Centre for Research in International Migration and Ethnic Relations (CEIFO) was established in 1983 with the principal aim to coordinate and develop research in the field of international migration and ethnic relations. The research programme recognises the importance of theoretical analysis that has a firm empirical base. Current research focuses on the following issues:

- Transnational migration: processes and boundary-transcending relations
- National policy in relation to migration and ethnicity
- Racism, discrimination and attitudes
- Multiculturalism and diversity management
- Integration and incorporation in mainstream society

The centre cooperates in its research and training projects with other faculty departments as well as with other research units, both in Sweden and abroad. The current director of CEIFO (since 2008) is Associate Professor Erik Olsson who is also coordinator of the Research Network on Transnationalism and Diaspora.

Research Institute for Cosmopolitan Cultures (RICC), Manchester University
The Research Institute for Cosmopolitan Cultures (RICC) responds to a world in which global restructuring and growing inequalities are fueling religious and ethnic conflicts and growing national anxieties, as well as movements for social justice, reconciliation, interconnection, and the development of common perspectives.
RICC provides a framework for scholars at Manchester University to collaborate with international researchers through the examination of the distinctive features of contemporary cosmopolitanism. Providing the context for an ongoing and open debate about the meaning and significance of this term, both historically and for contemporary culture, lies at the heart of the aim of this Institute. The current director of RICC (since 2007) is Professor Nina Glick Schiller.

**Department of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University**

Current patterns of globalisation bring with them unprecedented movements of people, information, ideas, and cultural products across national boundaries. *The field of transnational anthropology* studies how cultural movements and human relations express themselves in different parts of the world. This in turn helps illuminate such phenomena as migration, international organisations, and the Internet, in terms of their global impact and the processes of globalisation worldwide. The research pursued at the Department of Social Anthropology in these matters, holds the formal position of one of Stockholm University’s leading research areas.

**Research-network of Transnationalism and Diaspora**

The Research Network on Transnationalism and Diaspora has since 2004 been connecting mainly Swedish researchers of identity, migration and nation-state in the context of transnational connections and globalisation processes. The network engage researchers that have been studying these issues in different ways, and is by the activities and communication within this network creating a platform for a theoretically more advanced and critical dialogue that engages a number of research areas and disciplines. In the network, the concepts of transnationalism and diaspora are used as a way to thematically organise a number of issues relating to migration as well as globalisation and identity. (Coordinated by PhD, Associate Professor Erik Olsson, director at CEIFO Stockholm University.)

The sponsors of the international conference on *Transnational Practises in Migration* IMISCOE is a Research Network uniting 27 established European research institutes in pursuit of studies under the themes of international migration, integration and social cohesion.

Stockholm University
Henrik Granholm Foundation
Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research
Workshops

The workshops in this first conference are organised under the following headings:

**WORKSHOP I:**
**Materiality, Space, and Power: Emerging Perspectives Beyond the National and Ethnic Lens of Migration Studies**

Among the key methodological challenges to transnational migration researchers is to discard methodological nationalism in research on migrants’ networks, practices, and identities. This workshop addresses these methodological issues and goes on to examine data that emerges when migrants’ transnationality is examined from perspectives that do not use the ethnic group or the nation-state as the unit of analysis. Among the emerging concerns are material practices, rural localities, and the unequal power of ‘expatriate’ settlement.

**Chair:** Nina Glick Schiller and Ann Runfors

**Papers authored by:** Katrine Fangen & Erlend Paasche; Maja Povrzanović Frykman; Charlotta Hedberg; Annie Linderson; Marta Vilar Rosales; Ann Runfors; Zdenek Uherek & Veronika Beranská; Hila Zaban; Friederike Zigmann

**WORKSHOP II:**
**State, policy and markets in a Transnational World**

Transnational practices of migrants will be affected by national policy and by states acting across national borders but it is also likely that migrant are agents in policy-making. Some of the questions addressed in this workshop are related to how transmigrants are shaping policy. What new practices are generated by transnational practices and the wrestling with power structures and how are these shaping power structures? How are families in translocal situations dealing with different national family policies and laws but also shaping these? Another topic which relate to this is the establishment of transnational entrepreneurs in the form of brokers and middlemen in the field of migration management.
Other relevant issues will be related to economic transactions and the dynamics in migration. Some relevant topics would be about the forms and functions of remittances organised among migrants and the establishment of diasporic entrepreneurship.

**Chair:** Johan Lindquist and Annika Rabo

**Papers authored by:** Roger Ballard; Bahar Baser; Derya Bayir & Prakash Shah; Heike Drotbohm; Jonathan Hall; Charlotte Melander; Ali B. Najib; Andrea Riester; Lena Werner; Lisa Åkesson

**WORKSHOP III: Kinship, Gender, and Generation in Disparate Transnational Spaces**

Emerging research in transnational migration studies move beyond the general descriptors of ‘transnational kinship’ ’gender’ and ’generation’ to examine the tensions, multiplicities, and relationalities that appear within transnational social fields. Of particular interest in this workshop is how gendered actors respond to situations of unequal power and positioning defined in terms of age, race, nationality, and kinship roles and obligations.

**Chair:** Fataneh Farahani and Erik Olsson

**Papers authored by:** Eralba Cela & Elena Ambrosetti; Fataneh Farahani; Tineke Fokkema & Hein de Haas; Tineke Fokkema, Laurence Lessard-Phillips, James Bachmeier, Susan K. Brown & Frank D. Bean; Catarina Lundqvist & Erik Olsson; Joëlle Moret; Karin Norman; Ali Osman; Brenda S.A. YEOH, CHEE Heng Leng, VU Thi Kieu Dung & CHENG Yi’En; Erica Righard; Suruchi Thapar-Bjorkert & Gurchathen Sanghera.
Conference programme

Thursday 4 November

12.00–13.00 Registration at level 4, Aula Magna

13.00–13.15 Welcome to TRANSMIG on behalf of the organisers
Room: Bergsmannen, Aula Magna

13.15–13.45 Introduction:
Emerging Perspectives in Transnational Migration Studies
Professor Nina Glick Schiller, Research Institute for Cosmopolitan
Cultures (RICC), Manchester University
Room: Bergsmannen, Aula Magna

13.45–14.00 Coffee/Tea

14.00–15.30 Formation of workshops I–III
and parallel session for each workshop:

Workshop I
Materiality, Space and Power: Emerging Perspectives Beyond the
National and Ethnic Lens of Migration Studies
Chair: Nina Glick Schiller and Ann Runfors
Room: Bergsmannen, Aula Magna

Workshop II
State, Policy and Markets in a Transnational World
Chair: Johan Lindquist and Annika Rabo
Room: Spelbomskan, Aula Magna
All locations are at Aula Magna Stockholm University

**Thursday 4 November**

Workshop III  
Kinship, Gender and Generation in Disparate Transnational Spaces  
Chair: Fataneh Farahani and Erik Olsson  
Room: Polstjärnan, Aula Magna

15.30–15.45 Coffee/Tea

15.45–18.30 Parallell sessions for each workshop (cont.)

18.30 Dinner buffet

**Friday 5 November**

09.00–09.45 Opening the Black Box of Mobility: Brokers and the Organization of Transnational Mobility  
Associate Professor Johan Lindquist, the Department of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University

09.45–10.00 Coffee/Tea

10.00–13.00 Parallell sessions for each workshop (cont.)

13.00 Lunch buffet
Professor Nina Glick Schiller

Emerging Perspectives in Transnational Migration Studies

Nina Glick Schiller introduces the conferences by outlining the new research perspectives and topics that are emerging in Transnational Migration Studies. Once it became clear that persons of migrant background may extend transnational connections and identities into many localities and nation states and for multiple individual as well as collective purposes, a novel set of methodological concerns and research questions emerged. Nina Glick Schiller highlights these developments, noting that each of the workshops in this conference speaks to these issues. Among these emerging topics are questions of spatiality, unequal power, materiality, family dynamics, rurality, development, markets, and entrepreneurship in a transnational world.

Since 2007, Nina Glick Schiller has served as Director and Chair at the Research Institute for Cosmopolitan Cultures and Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Manchester in the UK. She received her PhD in anthropology from Columbia University, United States in 1975. Her main research and expertise is international migration, transnational processes, urban studies and medical anthropology. Among her various publication some of the most well-known are the co-authored book Georges Woke Up Laughing: Long Distance Nationalism and the Search for Home (Duke University Press 2003) and the co-authored articles ‘Methodological Nationalism and Beyond. Nation-State Building, Migration and the Social Sciences’ (Global Networks 2 (4) 2002) and ‘Methodological Nationalism and the Study of Migration’ (European Journal of Sociology 43 (2) 2002).
Associate Professor Johan Lindquist

Opening the Black Box of Mobility: 
Brokers and the Organization of Transnational Mobility

Drawing from empirical findings of Asian migration this paper takes the migrant broker as a starting point for investigating transnational migration. Although much is known about why migrants leave home and what happens to them upon arrival, considerably less is known about the forms of infrastructure that facilitate their mobility. A focus on brokers is one productive way of opening this “black box” of migration research. This paper is thus not primarily concerned with the experiences of migrants or in mapping particular forms of ethnic networks per se, but rather in considering, through a focus on brokers, how mobility is made possible and organized. The paper holds that marriage migration, student migration, and various forms of unskilled labour migration, including predominantly male plantation and construction work and female domestic, entertainment, and sex work, are all mediated by brokers. Drawing from this evidence, it is argued that the migrant broker offers a critical methodological vantage point from which to consider the shifting logic of contemporary migration.

Johan Lindquist is Associate Professor of Social Anthropology at Stockholm University. He is the author of The Anxieties of Mobility: Development and Migration in the Indonesian Borderlands (University of Hawai’i Press, 2009) and articles in journals such as Ethnos, Identities, Pacific Affairs, and Public Culture. He is also the director and producer of the award-winning documentary film B.A.T.A.M. (www.der.org). His current research deals with processes of labor recruitment of transnational labor migrants from Indonesia to Malaysia and Saudi Arabia, as well as the humanitarian industry surrounding human trafficking.
Roger Ballard
Diasporic initiatives ‘from below’ and the defensive reconstruction of jurisdictional boundaries

Taking up the theme of ‘globalisation from below’ this paper will explore the ways in which non-European labour migrants, and especially (although not exclusively) those of peasant origin, have utilised the reciprocity-supporting resources of their kinship systems to construct transjurisdictional networks on a global scale.

From the perspective of those above (in other words the indigenous inhabitants of the contemporary world’s former Imperial heartlands) these initiatives are now routinely perceived as transgressive on the grounds that migrants and their offspring are unwelcome competitors for scarce resources; are undermining the qualitative integrity of the indigenous socio-cultural order; and seem successfully to be evading all efforts to constrain the growth of the ethnic colonies which they have managed to successfully to create around themselves.

In these circumstances processes of globalisation from below have begun to precipitate outcomes which are the antithesis of those which globalisation from above was expected to precipitate: far from serving to erode national boundaries and to promote commercial, monetary and personal mobility, globalisation from below has begun to precipitate all manner of initiatives in the reverse direction.

But the one has not eliminated the other. This paper will compare and contrast the internal dynamics of the two forms of globalisation, and having found that their underlying principles are very similar, explore the conceptual and legal strategies of boundary construction which are currently being developed to sustain the legitimacy of the former whilst criminalising the latter.

Roger Ballard is Director of the Centre for Applied South Asian Studies. As an anthropologist he has had a long-standing interest in migration from South Asia to the UK, in the internal dynamics of the ethnic colonies and transjurisdictional networks created and maintained by settlers and their offspring, and in the challenges for public policy to which their entrepreneurial initiatives have given rise. Editor of Desh Pradesh: the South Asian Presence in Britain (Hurst 1994), he has recently turned to his attention to the contribution which the impact intrinsically transgressive character of diasporic networks emanating ‘from below’ is having on the geopolitics of globalisation, and most especially to the way in which these initiatives have precipitated a rising tide of post-modernistic boundary-construction in virtually all contemporary jurisdictions.
Bahar Baser

THE DIASPORIC TURN?

Swedish Parliament’s Recognition of the “Genocide Resolution” and Its Impact on the Turkish Community in Sweden.

In the literature about transnational communities, definitions of the term “diaspora” have a tendency to combine diaspora mobilization with a certain kind of traumatic dispersal or exile experience. However today, it is accepted by many scholars that immigrant groups, which did not experience a traumatic dispersal, can still be categorized as diasporas. As long as they have a collective identity and diasporic consciousness which leads them to mobilize around homeland issues, labor migrants as well may form diasporic structures and lobby both home and host state policy makers for their cause. Furthermore, recent literature argues that diaspora consciousness can be triggered by the developments in the home state. I hereby argue that a traumatic experience might occur also in the host country which might cause a “diasporic turn” in a transnational migrant community.

In this paper my aim is to illustrate a case study showing the “diasporic turn” that one migrant group may experience as an accelerative factor for diaspora mobilization. I try to demonstrate that the recent developments in Sweden also had this kind of triggering effect on Turkish mobilization. The Swedish Parliament recently approved a resolution recognizing the 1915 mass killing of Armenians in Turkey as genocide. After the results were announced, Turkey recalled its ambassador from Sweden. The developments surely caused reactions in Turkey however this paper solely focuses on the reactions of the Turks in Sweden. Turkish associations organized various protests, issued journals specifically on this issue and recently formed lobby groups in order to have an impact on politics of their host country. I will try to show how a passive immigrant community is slowly put in transition towards forming a diasporic identity as a result of the shove that was given by the developments in the host country.

Bahar Baser is a researcher and a PhD student at the European University Institute, Florence since 2008. She has graduated in Political Science and International Relations (2005) from Bogazici University (Istanbul, Turkey) and has a MA in Peace and Conflict Research (2007) from Uppsala University (Uppsala, Sweden).
This paper, based on current fieldwork mainly in the Western coast of Turkey and in Britain, examines the socio-legal adaptation of British immigrants in Turkey. Migration studies in Europe have largely focused on the ‘receiving’ countries of the North. Migration is however diversifying fast with many people seeking better climes to which to migrate in search of business, work or retirement options. Thus Turkey has recently come to be a destination for British migrants, who have a base in Turkey for at least part of the year. This paper explores issues concerning the transnational social field (Glick Schiller) in which the British people are embedded and its trans-jurisdictional consequences as they navigate among at least two official legal systems as well as their lived legal cultures. It explores, in particular, the kinds of problems and challenges which are thrown up by trans-jurisdictional behaviour and how those migrants cope with such challenges in the process of adapting to their new legal environment in Turkey.


Eralba Cela and Elena Ambrosetti

Remittances and power relations: a case study from Albania

During the migration process, the relationship between gender and generations can vary considerably. The contact of the younger generations of migrants with more egalitarian society, may in fact disrupt the equilibrium of patriarchal societies and reshape gender dynamics within the migrant family or community.

This paper examines from a gender perspective the transnational practices between migrants and their families in the country of origin and the support between generations in terms of the transfers of money and goods. We draw on how migration and separation from the family members left behind reshapes gender and generational relations in the Albanian case.

The history of Albanian emigration presents unique issues different from those of other national groups. Its high concentration in a short period of time makes it an attractive emigration unique case. Because of the rigid impediments to mobility, both domestic and international posts by the Communist regime, only since the beginning of the nineties the Albanian population was involved in a very intense process of territorial mobility. At present Albania is one of the countries with the highest migratory rate in the world. In fact, about 25% of the Albanian population is presently living abroad. The most important destinations are Greece and Italy, which host together 95% of the total migrants, due to geographical, cultural, and linguistic proximity.

We use data from a series of surveys conducted between 2006 and 2009 by the Center for Economic and Social Studies (CESS) on a sample of 2200 Albanians both in the origin (Albania) and destination countries (Italy and Greece). The analysis will be initially descriptive, then logistic regressions will be made in order to find out which socio-demographic characteristics of migrants have the largest impact on the transfer of funds and human capital between countries origin and destination countries.

Key words: Albania, gender, generations, transnational practices, remittances.

Eralba Cela Ph.D in demography. Currently I am a post doc researcher at the Faculty of Economics of the Marche Polytechnic University, Ancona, Italy. My current research is “Migrant’s remittances: consumption or investments. A comparison for different areas of origin”.

My research topics and interests are the international migrations and determinants, the role of remittances on the development of the immigrants’ countries of origin, the impact of migration and remittances on the relations within the family, transnational families, gender and generational dynamics of migration, care drain, migration policies and governance.

Elena Ambrosetti is Research Scientist in Demography at the Faculty of Economics and affiliated to the Department of Science of Ageing -Sapienza University of Rome. She holds a doctorate in Demography and Economics (2005/2006) with honors from the Institut d’Etudes Politiques in Paris. She wrote her thesis on “Fertility Transition in Egypt”.

Her main fields of interest are demography of the Middle Eastern countries, population ageing, fertility transition, gender issues and migration in the Mediterranean area.
Choosing to Belong Elsewhere. Negotiating identity and immobility in the context of Cape Verdean forced return migration

Applying a transnational optic for understanding migration phenomena we come to recognize the social heterogeneity generated by cross-border mobility. While many transnational studies have been carried out in the context of so-called receiving countries, this fact applies in particular to the so-called countries of origin, where process of increasing social diversification are highly visible.

In addition to common axes of differentiation dividing those who stay from those who successfully returned from the diaspora and live comfortably from their social security checks, the increasing application of state forced return migration creates new social minorities which begin to shape their social environment in particular ways.

Drawing from anthropological fieldwork on Fogo and Brava, two small Cape Verdean islands, I will reflect on the situation and perspectives of deportees, who returned involuntarily from North-American or European countries and who are forced to insert their lives into local communities, which they don’t consider their home. Due to the increasing application of forced removal by state force, already approx. 2% of the general population of these (two) island communities formerly have been deported. While this may represent an exceptional and extreme situation, the Cape Verdean case will shed light on the inner logics of transnational social fields, where not only personal, but also collective life making is based on (continuous) cross-border mobility.

My account will reveal an ambiguous social status of deportees, who are both glamorized and celebrated for their former cosmopolitan mobility, while also being suspect for their alleged ‘illegality’. Seen from their own perspectives, these ambiguities are reflected in their struggles for compassion, their disdain towards local life ways as well as their ostentatious display of belonging elsewhere, and hence, illuminate the unexpected pains of transnational biographies.

Heike Drotbohm, PhD in Social Anthropology (University of Marburg), teaches at the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology at Freiburg University, Germany.

Main areas of research: anthropology of migration, in particular transnational religions, transnational care economies, return migration, social effects of deportation in countries of origin.
Katrine Fangen and Erlend Paasche

Transnational Involvement: Reading a Statistical Study in Light of Qualitative Data

Studies of migrant transnationalism are dominated by qualitative case studies. Although some argue that qualitative methods allow researchers to better capture the complexity of transnational identification and activities, the plethora of qualitative studies may not give an accurate impression of the scope and frequency of migrant transnationalism. Among other things there is the danger of sampling on the dependent variable, studying those who do lead transnational lives at the expense of those who do not. There is hence a need for quantitative studies to take the field further, yet such studies are few and far between. We see the bridging of statistical studies and qualitative studies as an important task in this respect. Ideally, there could be a kind of reiterative feedback loop where qualitative and quantitative studies interact. This is what we try to contribute to in this paper. Taking a refined and original quantitative study by Snel, Engbersen & Leerkes as the vantage point, we comment upon the authors’ organization of analytical categories and their operationalizations of key concepts, in light of our own, qualitative data. This data comes from an ongoing qualitative research project, EUMARGINS, where we analyze processes of inclusion and exclusion of young adult immigrants and descendants in seven European countries, using participant observation and life story interviews in combination with statistical data. We conclude that categorical answers to how young migrants identify themselves in terms of ethnicity and belonging easily disregards the fluidity of this process, and that transnational identification is a context-specific and multidimensional process that remains hard to study quantitatively.

Dr. Katrine Fangen is a sociologist working at the Department of Sociology, University of Oslo. She has published several books and journal articles within the fields of migration research and youth research. Her PhD focused on ideology and identity formation among Norwegian Neo-Nazis, using a combination of extended participant observation and in depth interviews. Following her PhD she had a five year long project on Norwegian-Somalis. Currently, she coordinates an EU funded international research project, EUMARGINS (2008–2011), analyzing the multidimensional processes of inclusion and exclusion among immigrants and descendants in seven European countries. Fangen’s methodological expertise is on qualitative methods, notably on fieldwork, participant observation and life story interviews.

M.A Erlend Paasche is a Middle East specialist working as a research assistant at the Department of Sociology, University of Oslo, for the EUMARGINS project. He also works part-time as a research assistant at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), evaluating a return and reintegration programme for Iraqi nationals to Iraq, and has done fieldworks in Syria and Iraqi Kurdistan. Paasche will start on a PhD study of Iraqi return migration from Norway and the UK in 2011, as part of the wider PREMIG level research on return migration to Iraq, Burundi, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Poland, to be coordinated from PRIO (2011–2014).
“[a] man was expected to behave like a man. I was expected to behave like a black man” (Fanon 1986:114).

The subject of men and masculinity formation has become a popular topic in Western academia during the last two-three decades. Moreover, in Multi-cultural contexts, the conceptualisation of the Orientalist stereotypes of Middle Eastern men as nationalist heroes, oppressive and over-protective vis-à-vis the equality-oriented and liberated Western men is vastly embedded in the Orientalist discourses. Writing on gender in the Middle East and Middle Eastern diasporic contexts, on the other hand, has focused mainly on women. Consequently, study on men, masculinity and male sexuality in (and from) Middle Eastern contexts remains poorly examined. By drawing attention to how orientalist and occidentalist discourses have historically employed sexuality as the prominent signifier for (re)presentation of otherness, I aim to analyze how men (similar to women) experience their sexuality through gendered/classed/raced positions in different contexts. In doing so, I will analyze how and in what ways gender and sexuality are constitutive to migratory process and the other way around.

For this paper, I seek to focus on (re)presentation of masculinity and sexuality of Iranian men living in three heterogeneous cities; Sydney, Stockholm and London. In doing so, I will discuss how different diasporic context construct different types of masculinities. By studying the impact of Orientalist views on the Iranian men’s identity formations in the contemporary multicultural contexts, this paper aims to explore how Iranian men negotiate masculinity, sexuality as they confront the variety of Orientalist stereotypes.

A key issue regarding the men of Iranian descent in different Western contexts (who are very often undifferentiated as Muslim or Middle Eastern men) is how they are (re)presented in compare with (white) Western men. By analyzing how the dichotomization of ‘we and them’ arises in different Western metropolitans (Sydney, Stockholm and London), I aim to understand not only what prejudices the Iranian-born men face on a daily basis, but also how the stereotypes are used to differentiate Iranian men from ‘liberated and equal seeking’ Western men in different contexts.

Fataneh Farahani is a researcher at the Centre for Research in International Migration and Ethnic Relations (CEIFO) at Stockholm University. She completed her PhD in Ethnology at Stockholm University. Trained in Ethnology and Gender Studies (at Department of Women Studies at York University, Toronto), Fataneh’s doctoral thesis; Diasporic Narratives of Sexuality: Identity Formation among Iranian-Swedish woman (2007), is an ethnographical account of sexuality among Iranian women living in Sweden. For her current postdoctoral research, she examines the social construction of Iranian born men’s masculinity and sexuality in Stockholm, Sydney and London.

The topics of her interest and teaching are primarily on sexuality, diasporic studies, feminist postcolonial theories, masculinity studies, whiteness studies, multiculturalism and Islam.
Tineke Fokkema and Hein de Haas

Transnational Return and Pendulum Migration Strategies of Moroccan Migrants: Intra-household Power Inequalities, Tensions and Conflicts of Interest

This study explores the role of intra-family conflicts and inequalities in migration decision making based on a case study of return and pendulum migration strategies among ageing Moroccan migrants in a migration sending region. The study argues that observed migration patterns can only be explained by taking into account intra-household power inequalities, tensions and conflicts of interest. Migrants who unilaterally decided not to reunify their families in Europe usually return after their active working life. Their children are often unemployed and frustrated about their ‘involuntary immobility’. Migrants who did reunify their family do generally not fulfill their long-standing wish to return. Many migrants therefore adopt a pendular migration strategy as a second-best strategy to reconcile their wish to stay in Morocco with the reluctance of children and spouses to return. This suggests that household-centered approaches risk reifying the household as a unit which takes unanimous decisions to the benefit of all, which may mask significant intra-household gender and age inequalities.

Tineke Fokkema, PhD in Regional Economics (Free University Amsterdam), Senior researcher Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague, The Netherlands.

Main areas of research: return migration; integration and transnationalism among second generation; well-being of older adults.

Tineke Fokkema, Ph.D.* and Hein de Haas, Ph.D.**

* Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague, the Netherlands

** International Migration Institute, University of Oxford, United Kingdom
Maja Povrzanović Frykman
Material layers of transnational social fields

The main objective of this paper is to discuss the relevance of producing ethnographically founded knowledge of the roles of objects in the creation and maintenance of migrants’ transnational social fields. It also claims the importance of ethnographically founded knowledge about migrants as people whose everyday lives encompass locations in different nation-states, and not as bearers of ethnic identities.

A common way of reasoning about migrants and objects is that objects signal a person’s identity and aid memory. In contrast, this paper pursues an interest in how objects constitute the world experienced by migrants in terms of its materiality. The presumed contribution is twofold, namely to the discipline of ethnology and the interdisciplinary field of migration research.

With its focus on objects used in everyday life, the approach promoted in this paper differs significantly from the studies that prioritise a discursive formation of identities. The study of objects that are used, sent, received, refused and struggled with in the realm of transnational social fields intends to contribute to the epistemological balance of ethnological understanding of people’s identities as equally importantly positioned in material and discursive terms and equally importantly defined by practices and representations.

If the importance of ethnicity is treated as an empirical question, and not as an assumed explanatory ground, a decisive step is taken beyond the ethnicity paradigm in migration research. The author claims that research-based contributions are welcome, towards a more complex understanding of the multiplicity of migrants’ positions, practices and identities, the perception of which may be hindered by a sole focus on their ethnicity, and by the presumption that they are ‘members’ or ‘representatives’ of any groups or communities. Comprehensive comparisons are suggested, based on extensive micro-studies of individuals’ strategies of creation and maintenance of transnational social fields. Thick descriptions (based both on observations and narratives) of specific trajectories and practical uses can contribute to a better understanding of the material layers of transnational spaces.

Keywords from the call for papers addressed in this summary: transnational spaces (i.e. transnational social fields), transnationalism and identities.

Maja Povrzanović Frykman, PhD in Ethnology (University of Zagreb), Associate Professor in the field of International Migration and Ethnic Relations (IMER), teaches in the Peace and Conflict Studies Programme at the Department of Global Political Studies, and is acting research coordinator at Malmö Institute for Studies of Migration, Diversity and Welfare at Malmö University.

Main areas of research: concepts and practices within the semantic domains of diaspora and transnationalism; labour- and refugee-migrants from Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina; narratives on exile experiences; war-related identification processes.
Jonathan Hall

Transnational dimensions of post-war reconciliation in Bosnia-Herzegovina: A comparison of the attitudes of diaspora and local populations and exploration of diaspora engagement with the homeland

In academic and policy discussions about the contemporary nature of war and peace-building in post-war situations, a dominant view has emerged of “diasporas” as less amenable to compromise than homeland populations. These uncompromising views are believed to motivate diasporas to contribute to political instability and war even when local people favor conciliation. This paper reviews the literature and highlights its theoretical and methodological shortcomings, offers a straightforward comparison of the reconciliatory attitudes of diasporas in Sweden and the local population in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and explores the transnational activities of diasporas. It presents new perception data that enables comparison by employing identical questions in separate representative surveys at both ends of migration chain linking the two sites.

Differences in reconciliation and levels of engagement across national groups (Bosnian Serbs, Bosnian Croats, Bosniaks and Yugoslavs) and between diaspora and local populations are interpreted on the basis of an understanding of the pre-migration context, Swedish asylum policy and the dynamics of post-war nation-building in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It also takes a first look at the data on the transnational activities of these conflict-generated diasporas and highlights areas for future study, showing in which political, economic, social and cultural activities they are highly engaged, and which activities are in fact rare.

Jonathan Hall is a PhD Candidate at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research Uppsala University, and Pre-Doctoral Fellow at The Hugo Valentin Centre, Uppsala University. His current interests include liberal and post-liberal theories of international order, critical approaches to international peacebuilding, war-generated migrations and transnationalism.
Translocal ruralism: potential dynamics and shifting spatial hierarchies in a remote local labour market

The notion of translocal ruralism captures intersections and effects of international and national relations in rural space. Transnational migration and mobility flows are vital constituents of space, which also are linked to webs of global and national business networks. This paper emphasizes the role of transmigrants and their social and economic relations in the production of rural space. It is suggested that the settlement processes of transmigrants in rural localities create potentials for global, national and regional up-scaling of rural areas through creation of links on various scale levels. The paper investigates the effects of transmigrants on rural areas in receiving countries through the example of the translocal labour market. Focus is put on a case study area in North Sweden, building on interviews with transmigrants and local private employees in the manufacturing sector. The results indicate a gap between the discourse of translocal possibilities and the actual practices. Although local authorities and firms believe that transmigrant relations are able to create vital dynamics in the local labour market, few international migrants are employed. Nonetheless, one village makes an important exception to this. Here, translocal relations have contributed to a dynamic labour market, which in turn has affected social relations in the village through an increasing openness to ethnic heterogeneity. Accordingly, there are essential spatial variations in the actual making of translocal relations of transmigrants, which vary as a consequence of the local historic, social and economic contexts. Nonetheless, the firms don’t acknowledge internationalisation strategies in the wake of transmigrants’ transnational networks with the exception of (West) European employees. Accordingly, there seems to be a racial structure operating to determine who are contributing to the global upscaling of rural labour markets. Although effects of transnational migration are found internally within the firm, they are generally not trusted to include external transnational networks to the migrants’ homeland. In this way, the transnational potential stays as a distant possibility that is not acted upon.
Laurence Lessard-Phillips, Tineke Fokkema, James Bachmeier, Susan K. Brown and Frank D. Bean

The link between dimensions of incorporation and the transnational behaviour of the second generation in European and American cities: A comparison

Whereas most research on transnational behaviour focuses on first-generation immigrants, the aim of this paper is to investigate the transnational behaviour of the host country-born children of immigrants —the second generation— in various American and European cities. It will examine the extent to which the level of incorporation of the second generation in various spheres (economic, political, socio-cultural and spatial) affects transnational behaviour.

We expect that transnational behaviour is present amongst the second generation and that the level of incorporation is directly related to it: the lesser the level of incorporation in all dimensions, the greater the transnational experience of the second generation. Yet, we also expect that this tendency will be much less pronounced (and perhaps even reversed) for those with higher levels of economic incorporation. We also expect that transnational behaviour will have a strong gender component amongst the second generation, especially with regard to the relationship between transnational behaviour and the level of economic and socio-cultural incorporation.

Furthermore, the paper will examine the potential influence of immigrant contexts of reception (such as policy responses to ethnic diversity, types of migration regimes, and variations in opportunity structures) on the level and strength of the transnational ties of the second generation by examining transnational behaviour in the American and European contexts, in order to see whether transnational behaviour stems from a complex interaction that not only involves the context of reception but also the various ways in which individuals are tied to destination countries.

The paper will attempt to look at the abovementioned issues by analysing data from recent surveys of the second generation in eleven European (TIES) and two American (IMMLA and ISGMNY) cities, which have detailed information about second generation groups from various national origins and transnational behaviour of second-generation individuals, as well as information permitting to examine the level and dimensions of incorporation in various spheres and its relationships with transnational behaviour.

Laurence Lessard-Phillips, PhD in Sociology (University of Oxford), Senior researcher Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague, The Netherlands.

Main areas of research: sociology of immigration; sociology of education; ethnic educational inequalities amongst the second generation; labour market integration of the second generation.
Annie Linderson
Cornerstones of Diasporic ‘Swedish’ Costa del Sol

Since the mass tourism boom of the 1960’s from Sweden to the southern Spanish coast, a Swedish community with diasporic features has been established along Costa del Sol. An infrastructure of schools, churches, grocery store, media outlets, restaurants, bars, various private enterprises, as well as social clubs cater the large amount of Swedish citizens of all ages dwelling on location, whether they are permanent residents, temporary residents, seasonal visitors, or tourists.

In my paper, I will focus on how Swedish citizens residing permanently along Costa del Sol negotiate positions in reference to, on the one hand, the volatile social networks within the community due to constant circulation of people in the area, and on the other, their expressed belonging to Spanish host society. The paper intends to explore the intermediary position and how it is made useful for the permanent residents in forging a linkage between the local diasporic ‘Swedish’ community, at times spoken of with skepticism and ridicule, and the Spanish host society. Thus, the permanent residents are hesitant but stable cornerstones in forging and maintaining a diasporic community, alongside the many institutions addressing a Swedish population, which will be presented in this paper.

Annie Linderson is a PhD student in Ethnology at the Department of Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology, Uppsala University in Sweden. The objective of her research is to analyze practices of creating belongingness by Swedish lifestyle migrants on Costa del Sol, in the south of Spain. Her research is based on ethnographical fieldwork conducted during the spring 2009. Key concepts in her research are: belongingness, transnationality, diasporic community, Swedishness, Spanishness, lifestyle migration and translational positionality.
Charlotte Melander

Moral dilemmas and social capital – The impact of a transnational social support system on Swedish-Somalis daily life in Sweden

The aim of this paper is to analyse the impact of transnational social support exchanges on Swedish-Somalis daily life in Sweden. The paper is built on the result from my PhD-thesis from 2009 “Within Transnational and Local Social Worlds – Social support exchange and strategies for earning a living among Swedish-Somalis”. The study consists of 24 qualitative interviews with 11 Swedish-Somalis living in Gothenburg during the years 2003 – 2006 and with one Swedish-Somali man who moved from Sweden to London in the 1990s. Five of the informants are women and seven are men. The study also consists of participant observations during temporary visits within organizations where the informants took part.

The paper will analyse how different forms of social support exchanges within a transnational social network of family relations have an impact on the daily life of the informants in the study. It will discuss what impact it has on family relations, on the economy of the household in Sweden, on strategies of earning a living and for future plans for the second generation. The result shows that being part of a transnational informal social support system involves daily moral dilemmas for Swedish-Somalis taking part in the study. It also shows that a transnational social support system might be used as a social capital when starting a life in another place outside of Sweden.

Charlotte Melander, PhD in Social Work, lecturer and researcher at the Department of Social Work Gothenburg University

Publications: Melander, Charlotte (2009), Inom transnationella och lokala sociala världar - Om sociala stödutbyten och försörjningsstrategier bland svensksomalier/ Within Transnational and Local Social Worlds - Social support exchange and strategies for earning a living among Swedish-Somalis, Dissertation, Department of Social Work, Gothenburg University.
"Mobility Capital" in a Gendered Transnational Space: The case of Somali Migrants in Europe

This paper describes and analyses mobility practices of Somali women and men who have been long-term residents in Europe, with a particular focus on gender. Mobility refers to regular movements from a principal country of residence, in particular circular or pendular movements. I show that mobility can, under certain conditions, translate into a form of transnational capital giving access to economic, social and political resources, and that these processes are highly gendered.

Analyses are based on a (still ongoing) qualitative fieldwork, consisting of semi-structured interviews and informal discussions with women and men of Somali origin residing in Switzerland and in the UK, who have been living in Europe for ten years or more, and who hold – for a majority of them – a passport from a European country.

This paper contributes to the large body of literature on migrants’ transnationalism and mobility practices by conceiving mobility not as the simple fact of movement, but as crucial element of power dynamics. A systematic analysis of mobility as a form of capital, among Somali women and men living in Europe highlight, first, that mobility is not accessible, achievable and “enactable” by everyone in the same way: other forms of capital are necessary to be mobile, and social representations and positioning participate in the shaping of mobility (or mobility as a capital). Second, the unequal distribution of this form of capital influences the social landscape of the Somali population, at both the local and the transnational level, becoming an important element of social differentiation and hierarchies.

The focus on gender further reveals that every dimension of mobility as a capital is in many ways gendered. Access to documentation, representations by the local population and authorities, norms and representations among the Somali population all have gendered consequences on mobility. Further, women and men develop strategies responding to gendered constraints, but also strategies that use gender norms to their own advantage, therefore “doing gender”. Yet, results show that gender boundaries are not dramatically challenged by mobility practices of Somali women (and men). While women do negotiate spaces of power, they very rarely confront traditional gendered responsibilities or challenge representations of men’s authority and superiority.

Joëlle Moret has a background in Social Anthropology and Sociology. She is currently a doctoral student at the Maison d’analyse des processus sociaux (MAPS), University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. She has worked and published on migration trajectories, transnationalism, gender, and migrant associations. In her dissertation, she is interested in gendered mobility practices and transnational space among Somali men and women in Europe.
Ali B. Najib

Rural Immigrant Enterprises and Trans-local Networks: The case of EU and non-EU migrant entrepreneurs in Northwestern Sweden

This paper examines the emergence of immigrant entrepreneurship in two rural small towns and in the Swedish countryside. Despite the fact that immigrant entrepreneurship still is widely concentrated in large urban regions, there is clear evidence that immigrant entrepreneurship is now spreading into rural areas and across the country. However, this trend is almost invisible in immigrant entrepreneurship research. As a result, the motivation of entrepreneurs for locating their businesses in rural areas, or the implication of such location for rural communities, are not fully understood. Furthermore, our current knowledge of either the characteristics of immigrant rural business activities or of the degree to which they are engaged in local and/or transnational networks is strongly limited. This knowledge gap is addressed by drawing upon a case study, including interviews with eleven immigrant entrepreneurs in the rural small towns of Krokom and Strömsund in Jämtland, Northwestern Sweden.

The study explores the nature of immigrant-owned businesses by seeking to understand why immigrants move to rural small towns and establish their business activities and what type networks they are engaged in. Preliminary findings show that the special attributes of the immigrant entrepreneurs enable them to mobilise a combination of local and non-local resource and successfully establishing and/or operating their rural small-scale business activities. Through their trans-local networks (mixed-embeddedness) they are able to mobilise a range of business resources (such as finance capital, labour and information). However, findings suggest that rural immigrant entrepreneurs are engaged in different trans-local networks; non-EU migrant entrepreneurs are likely to be engaged more in transnational (informal) networks, while EU-migrant entrepreneurs seem to be engage more in local business networks. However, irrespective of the type of networking relations or the extent to which they are involved, all rural immigrant entrepreneurs are acting as agents of change in integrating rural local economies into national and global markets.

Keywords: Immigrant entrepreneurs, rural entrepreneurship, mixed-embeddedness, local and transnational networks, Sweden.
How do meanings and experiences of family relations shift and change when members migrate? In recent years a renewed and reformulated interest in the meanings and practices of family and kinship relations have appeared in anthropology and has particular significance in relation to transnationalism. The overall aim of this paper is, thus, to analyzing changing family and kinship relations in a transnational perspective by way of an ethnographic focus on a family/kin group of Kosovo Albanians.

A great number of Kosovo households have family members living in various EU countries. In accordance with current migration policy many such migrants have been 'repatriated' to Kosovo after many years in a so-called receiving country such as Germany, not least. What are the consequences of repatriation for relations between family members, those returning and those having stayed? What does 'home' mean to the different family members? And how do variations in access to land and house, and patrilineal kin influence the consequences of a return?
This paper explores how transnational engagement may be expressed in the life of young ‘migrants’ in Sweden. Drawing from interviews with young people of migrant backgrounds, the paper examines how future prospects in terms of career, orientations, and identifications has a transnational influence with connections to their social networks. These interviews demonstrate the influence from their parents’ (and to some extent their ‘own’) migration and from the social conditions of being a migrant descendant in Sweden. At the same time, it is observed how the informants are using yardsticks from several nationally divided social contexts, and how they are subject to conflicting social expectations emerging from different locations in their transnational network.

The narratives indicate a multi-local orientation for their future plans, which could be understood as a transnational positioning which influences their horizons of opportunities. It is argued that access to transnational social networks provide both social and cultural (information) capital that may be utilised in strategies by the individual. Through their monitoring of the different expectations that are generated within a transnational social network, and all the complexity that follows from being involved in several social contexts, the informants in this study demonstrate how to perform the art of transnationality.
Ali Osman

Transnational network as a structure of opportunity for educational and labour market career: a case study of Somali young men and women in Sweden

Studies that examine transnational practices have generally focused on remittances, identities formation and negotiation, flows and exchange of goods etc across borders, political engagement or philanthropy. However, there are few studies that have examined the role of transnational network in the incorporation of immigrant in host societies. Studies that that have examined this process often focused on the role the transnational ties and the role it plays in “ethnic” entrepreneurship. The focus of these studies is often how ethnic entrepreneurship has led to social mobility of certain categories of immigrants and their descendants in the USA (see Portes and his colleagues). Furthermore (to my knowledge) there are no studies that have examined secondary immigration and onward immigration, and the role social and symbolic ties play to facilitates the process of adaption in a third country of immigration.

The aim of this article is to examine how Somali-Swede uses the transnational relation to settle and to pursue their educational and labor market careers in the United Kingdom. The focus of paper, is to describe how these migrants of Somali origin marshal the resources of the network in UK to facilitate their onward immigration and pursues their educational and labor market careers in the UK. In the analysis it was evident that the transnational networks functioned as mechanism to exchange strategic information, resources and a support system on how to adapt and access the social infrastructure, welfare regimes, institutions etc, in the third country. It also influences the educational choices of the students in Sweden we interviewed, but the influence seems to be contingent on whether the individual has decided to migrate or the individual is thinking to about migrating. Those have decided to pursue their post secondary educations in UK universities have primarily decided to pursue a work career in the UK.

Ali Osman is Associate Professor in Education. He works at CEIFO and the Department of Education at Stockholm University.

Main research areas: Swedish Integrations practices in the field adult education and transnational educational and, labour market career of descendants’ migrants.
Andrea Riester

Development Policy and the National Belonging of Migrants – The Case of Burkina Faso

This paper traces the impact of current development policy in Burkina Faso on the social integration of individual Burkinabe migrants who returned from Côte d’Ivoire in the wake of the Ivorian civil war in 2002. The conflict in this major country of destination had led to xenophobic violence and mass displacement of hundreds of thousands of West African migrants who fled back to their countries of origin.

The paper, first, presents historic and contemporary transnational connections between Burkina Faso and Côte d’Ivoire. It demonstrates how colonial policy as well as Ivorian immigration policy have shaped a sense of group identity amongst Voltaic/Burkinabe migrants in Côte d’Ivoire. In recent years, this group has increasingly been addressed as diaspora by the Burkinabe state. Although, according to Bakewell (2008) the group does not display the basic criteria of a diaspora (such as dispersal, sustained networks, collective myth of an ideal ancestral homeland, and ethnic group consciousness), a diaspora identity has started to evolve.

Second, the paper analyses Burkinabe national development policy to rhetorically and practically foster (re-)integration of the displaced, officially called rapatriés (the repatriated). This policy has been contradictory: initially, the displaced were portrayed and treated as victims of war in dire need of support. Consequently, a National Help Plan was set up to provide vital supplies for them. However, development organisations have understood migrants who have been in Côte d’Ivoire as having acquired new agricultural skills. Thus, these organisations have started specific projects targeting the displaced as promising entrepreneurs in cash crop production. Both policies have led to increased tension between the displaced and the local population.

Therefore, in a third step, the paper looks at the agency of the respective migrants and non-migrants in this context, and on their interaction with state actors at the local level. It concludes that instead of fostering swift and frictionless integration, the Burkinabe state has contributed to heightening ethnic tension.

Andrea Riester is an associate at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle/Germany. She has submitted her PhD thesis on conflict and migration in Burkina Faso in June 2010 and is currently working at the German Development Cooperation (GTZ) on issues of migration and development. She has studied social anthropology, political sciences and economics at the universities of Freiburg and Glasgow.
The family as an institution varies across time and space. This variation involves both different sets of social relations within the family and different identities of belonging. In this paper I am concerned with how migrants experience and respond to this variation. In particular, I am concerned with how migrant parents experience the norms and values about the family that is dominant in Sweden, and if/how this influences their practices in the upbringing of their children. Theoretically the analysis draws on critical studies of the family and understandings of transnational migration; empirically it is based on interviews with foreign born parents residing in a migrant concentrated town in Sweden. The analysis indicates that while most parents experience negative tensions between different family forms, some welcome them. But it also occurs that parents do not have any experience of the host-society’s norms and values about the family. Parents’ practices in the upbringing of their children are understood in relation to their experiences of the host society’s norms and values and in relation to their expected time of residence in Sweden. The variation of practices that the empirical material contains, is systematized in a typology of practices within and across borders and cultures. The variation of practices can be understood as due to economic resources, citizenship (or rather passport), and the parents’ position within transnational networks within and beyond Sweden.

The dominance of the wealthier immigrants in Baka’s gentrification process sharpen theoretical issues, such as the role of imagination in immigration, the expansion of gentrification processes and the material and symbolic aspects of belonging.

**Erica Righard, Ph.D./senior lecturer in social work at Linnaeus University.**

Research interests: migration, transnationalism, social policy, citizenship.
Marta Vilar Rosales

Consumption and positioning strategies of a group of teenage migrants in Lisbon
“‘I am not ‘moneysquad’, but I’ll be, I mean I’ll be rich’”

While much scholarly work exists on the complex topic of contemporary migration, there is still relatively little literature concerning its intersections with material culture and consumption practices. Yet, the impacts of migration on material experiences reaches further than attachments to objects from home; it can change peoples perceptions of themselves, restructure their patterns of social interaction and alter the balance of relationships sustained with those left behind as well as, I consider, with those who migrated to other localities.

Drawing on the preliminary results of an ethnography conducted in Lisbon with teenage boys and girls with an African descent, this paper aims to explore the interface between migration and materiality and, most significantly, how personal, social, geographical and cultural trajectories, positioning and belonging policies are marked and partially constituted via “things in motion”.

The paper will focus two particular aspects. The first reflects the fact that clothes, mobile phones, tennis shoes, food and music seem to be appropriated according to specific logics in order to materialize the teenagers’ collective identities. The valorization of certain styles as opposed to others, the creation of classificatory typologies based on consumption and on the uses of objects to translate social positions proves, not only the expressive potential of mass produced “things”, but also the subjects’ ability to domesticate them and review their social meanings. The second relates to the fact of the multiple origins of the objects consumed. Many are acquired in Lisbon, some are sent from the origin, some come from Brazil, Amsterdam or London, where other family members reside. The circulation of things contributes to the maintenance and strengthening of family relationships, as well as to the production of a hierarchical representation of the world based on these movements. Furthermore, consumption practices revealed that migration and ethnicity compete and intersect with another set of variables such as economic, social and cultural capitals, gender and age, which proved to be structural to their present lives and future expectations.

Marta Vilar Rosales, PhD in Anthropology (New University of Lisbon), Assistant professor in the field of material culture, consumption practices and migration, researcher at CRIA (Centre for Research in Anthropology).
Main areas of research: material culture and mass consumption, contemporary migrations, Portuguese migrations, home, domesticity and everyday practices.
Ann Runfors
Methodological ethnicity, the non-ethnic and the trans-ethnic

Transnational perspectives offer tools for avoiding the trap of methodological nationalism. This paper discusses transnational oriented research on children of migrants in relation to another trap, namely that of methodological ethnicity, i.e. the use ethnic groups as the objects of study and as the units of analysis. The aim is to raise questions on how transnational perspectives can be employed in studies on young descendants without culturalizing effects and without concealing their conditions, their strategies of incorporation and their modes of identification. By reflecting on methodological considerations in relation to methodological ethnicity in my own study on young people in Sweden I examine what is put to the fore respectively obscured by an ethnic lens. I for example show how my ambition to avoid methodological nationalism and incorporate a transnational perspective paradoxically lead me to use an ethnic lens in the interviews with the young who are descendants of migrants and how this in turn contributed to culturalist ascriptions similar to those I aimed to study.

Furthermore I discuss my non-ethnic research sample and how this made visible several aspects that would have been obscured with an ethnic selection. On the one hand it made visible culturalization and racialization that shaped similar conditions and experiences for descendants regardless of their ethnic affiliations. On the other hand it made visible new trans-ethnic phenomena that developed as answers to culturalization and racialization.

Keywords: Transnational perspectives, descendants of migrants, methodological nationalism, methodological ethnicity, culturalization, racialization, trans-ethnic phenomena.

Associate Professor Ann Runfors is an ethnologist and works as researcher and teacher at the department of Ethnology, History of Religions, and Gender Studies, Stockholm University. Her main research field is the structuration of everyday life in a globalized world with special interest in social positioning, intertextuality, identification and marginalisation processes.
Suruchi Thapar-Bjorkert and Gurchathen Sanghera

Social Capital and Educational Aspirations among second generation Pakistani Muslims in the U.K.

By critically engaging with relevant debates on social capital, socio-economic mobility and educational aspirations amongst minority ethnic groups, the focus of this paper is to examine the processes and mechanisms in the accumulation of social capital, to demonstrate how, in particular, two sets of interpersonal relationships (between siblings and between co-ethnic peers) facilitate educational aspirations amongst an ethnic group that has traditionally been perceived to be under-achieving. It highlights the complex interplay within the home and between the home and the community, and the potential implications that these have for shaping the educational aspirations of diasporic young Pakistani Muslim men and women.

This paper draws on empirical research conducted with the Pakistani Muslim ‘community’ in inner-city Bradford, West Yorkshire, UK; a northern-English city that has experienced large scale public disturbances in 1995 and 2001.

Keywords: Social capital, Bradford, Pakistani Muslims, educational aspirations, family.
In our article, we deal with the topic of migration networks and migration systems, their temporality, categorisation, structuralisation and the factors of their emergence and collapse. We define the migration networks as a type of interpersonal relations which materialise through social actions between concrete acting agents. The individual social actions are included in the category of migration networks by people in the process of creating social constructions on migrations, as a result of which the boundaries of what can be included in migration networks and what cannot may change on the basis of agreement or negotiation. Our article contains proposals of how the migration networks could be distinguished in specific cases for example from the family networks, which can also be involved in migrations.

The first question that we pose is when migration networks emerge and collapse. The theory of migration networks articulated for example by the authorial team of Light, Bhachu and Karageorgis, speaks of the temporality of migration networks; nevertheless, in specific research reports little attention is paid to their collapse as compared to their emergence and development. Yet we see precisely the process of the disintegration of migration networks as very important in the resolution of topics of integration.

The second important question that we deal with in the text is the relation of the migration networks and the migration systems. We define migration systems as much more stable than migration networks. Their reproduction is not an issue of only individual migrants but a whole range of other agents and social networks, which cannot be defined as narrowly as migration networks.

The third important area that we deal with in the article is the indicators of integration. Attention is paid especially to the question of spatial and social mobility as an indicator of integration, where the concept of Melford E. Spiro on the relation of acculturation and social mobility is mentioned. His idea is further elaborated in our text also for the area of secondary migration. Besides spatial mobility, the question is raised here of whether the courage to refuse contacts that do not suit the respondent and to declare their difference is a sign of integration or rather the opposite.

The topics that we are developing are presented based on the data acquired during our subsequent research projects of so-called controlled migrations from the area of the former Soviet Union to the Czech Republic (the migrations took place in 1991–2001).
Zdenek Uherek, PhD (CSc.) in Ethnology, PhD. in Culture Studies, director of the Institute of Ethnology of the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic, v.v.i. and external lecturer of urban anthropology, migration studies, and European Anthropology at Charles University (Prague), University of Pardubice and University of West Bohemia (Plzen).

Research interests: theory of ethnicity, theory of nationalism, migration processes, migrants from Eastern Europe (former Soviet Union) to Central and Western Europe, Roma migrations, Czech migrations and Czech enclaves in the Balkans, Eastern Europe and other destinations, minorities in Europe.

Veronika Beranská, M.A. in Social anthropology, research assistant of the Institute of Ethnology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, v.v.i., currently engaged in the research programmes: Sustainable development in the diverse world and Identity and sociability of migrants from the former Soviet Union: subsequent research of assisted migration. She deals with adjustment processes and folk medicine.
The aim of this paper is to grasp changes in transnational migration by looking at Polish immigrant entrepreneurs in Germany. The paper argues that this group can be defined as transnational entrepreneurs even though they differ from the definition conventionally used.

Germany and Poland have a long history of migration characterized by high mobility of Polish migrants and the importance of shuttle migration. Over time, various cross-border linkages have been developed. Since the Eastern enlargement of the European Union in 2004, a new East-West migration system has evolved, and migration between Germany and Poland has been growing even more rapidly.

An entirely new aspect of this kind of migration is the role of self-employment. With the Polish entry into the EU, the legal framework has changed. While freedom of movement of workers is still very restricted, freedom of establishment has been granted, making starting one’s own business the only possibility of labour market entry for citizens of new member states.

Based on official statistics like the German census (Mikrozensus), we want to show the dynamics and characteristics of these new Polish entrepreneurs. Since 2004, the number of business start-ups has increased dramatically. A huge part of these start-ups are carried out directly after entering the country. Self-employment plays an important role and has become the aim of migration itself. At the same time, the level of deregistration of businesses is very high, showing the high dynamic of economic activities. Polish entrepreneurs are typically not highly educated entrepreneurial elites that engage mostly in capital- and skill-intensive services, as would be expected according to the image of transnational entrepreneurs. Instead, they work in other branches, mostly the construction industry, and are not part of the income elite. Nevertheless, these Polish entrepreneurs are living and working in both countries and using their cross-border linkages for their businesses.

The paper argues that a new group of precarious polish entrepreneurs is developing that constitutes a new shape of transnational entrepreneurship.
Hila Zaban
Living in a Bubble: Trans-local Enclaves of Western Immigrants in the Neighborhood of Baka in Jerusalem

Immigration to Israel by Jews from western countries has been growing over recent years. Jerusalem attracts more of these mainly religious immigrants than any other city in Israel. The way Diaspora Jews imagine Jerusalem plays a crucial role in their decision to move there. Many of these “lifestyle immigrants” who are mainly from North America, France and England find their way to Baka, a neighborhood established at the end of the 19th century by wealthy Palestinians, forced out of it during the 1948 war, and replaced by new Jewish immigrants, mainly from Islamic countries. The major geopolitical change in the city’s borders created by the 1967 war, as well as changes in architectural trends made Baka, until then a poor lower-class neighborhood, and especially its houses interesting for the middle class, as evidenced by the beginning of a gentrification process. The former “slum” is now considered a prestigious neighborhood. Western immigrants have always taken part in this process but have now become dominant groups. Nowadays they are drawn to Baka because of its institutions, mainly synagogues, established by their predecessors; the large community of fellow countrymen and the unique character of the neighborhood. For many of them it is easier to belong to a trans-local “Anglo” or “French” enclave (or bubble) of people with similar characteristics than to an extended local community.

The dominance of the wealthier western immigrants who come to Jerusalem due to its great symbolic and imagined importance for them is very influential on the actual “small place”. The effects are evident in the neighborhood’s religiosity, real estate market and the consumption and leisure culture, as I will show through a detailed ethnography of the neighborhood. These changes are a result of the meeting between Jerusalem above, the imaginary place with Jerusalem below, the earthly place.

Hila Zaban is a PhD student in the department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, based in the city of Be’er Sheva, Israel. She conducts ethnographic-anthropological research about the gentrification and immigration from Western countries in the Baka neighborhood in Jerusalem.

Main areas of research: gentrification; the relationship between immigration and space; the notion of belonging; city politics and civil society; and the affect of planning on people’s lives.
Scholars who have applied the transnational perspective to studies of migration and remittances have called for a move beyond the developmentalist approach to remittances and an expanded understanding of the social meanings and roles of remittances beyond the economic. Part of this critique draws attention to the need to understand remittances as shaped by (sometimes contestory) social processes, producing uneven transnational topographies of remittances. In the context of Asia, some of the work that feature transnational migrants is beginning to document remittances in the form of money, gifts and services sent by female labour migrants as transnational ‘acts of recognition’, as the performance of gendered roles and identities, and as part of social practices that create ties which bind them to their ‘home’ countries at the scale of the household/family.

This paper departs from the more common focus on remittance behavior among labour migrants and turns instead to examine the way Vietnamese women as marriage migrants confer meaning on remittances, as well as their ability to generate remittances, channeled to their natal families in Vietnam. It focuses on the women’s perspectives on remittances in three parts. First, we discuss the extent to which expectations vested in being able to generate remittances for the natal family through marriage with a Singaporean man not only translate into motivation for marriage migration but also shape the expectations of the marriage. Second, we show how sending remittances are significant to the women as ‘acts of recognition’ in the construction of gendered identities as filial daughters, and in the re-imagining of the transnational family through the ‘connecting’ and ‘disconnecting’ power of remittances. Third, we draw out the tactics and strategies that women devise in negotiating between the conflicting demands and expectations of their natal and marital families and in securing their ‘place’ between two families.

The paper is primarily based on interviews and ethnographic work with 30 Vietnamese women who are commercially matched marriage migrants.
**Brenda S.A. Yeoh** is Professor (Provost’s Chair), Department of Geography, as well as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore. She is also the Research Leader of the Asian Migration Cluster at the Asia Research Institute, NUS, and coordinates the Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis. She is deputy chair of the Commission on Population, International Geographical Union, and the Singapore coordinator for the Asia-Pacific Migration Research Network. Her research interests include the politics of space in colonial and post-colonial cities; gender, migration and transnational communities.

**Chee Heng Leng** is Senior Research Fellow with the Changing Family in Asia Research Cluster, at the Asia Research Institute, NUS. She has written extensively on health and health care, but also on issues related to women and gender studies in Malaysia. She is currently working with Brenda Yeoh on a research project on state boundaries, cultural politics, and gender negotiations in international marriages in Singapore and Malaysia.

**Vu Thi Kieu Dung** is Fulbright Research Scholar at Department of Sociology and Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington, Seattle, USA. Her research interest is development, migration, family and women’s health. Currently, she is working on the impact of ethnicity on education achievement and health status of immigrants of the first three generations in the US, using data from the 2000-2005 UW Beyond High School survey.

**Cheng Yi’En** graduated from National University of Singapore (NUS) with a B.Soc.Sci. (Hons), majoring in Geography with a minor in Gender Studies. He is currently a Masters candidate and research scholar with the Department of Geography (NUS). His research interests are broadly related to the social and cultural geographies of migration, mobilities, and gender/sexuality.
Friederike Zigmann
The Role of Place in the Ritualization of Migration

Much has been said about networks and their meaning as a facilitator and multiplier of migration, but rather little is known about networks, the culture of migration and their interrelation with locality.

Fieldwork, conducted in different local contexts in Egypt and Italy, revealed distinct differences, which can be related to different structures and functions of networks. These differences are linked to distinctions in places and relations to places.

Villages in the rural governorates of Egypt, especially in the Delta and al-Fayyoum, show high emigration rates with very significantly specialized bias towards certain countries. In contrast, this can not be found in the bigger cities, where we have a much more diversified choice of destinations. This is explicable through networks and their interrelations with space.

What can be found in these villages is a deeply routed culture of migration, which is exemplified in various parts of daily life.

The dense and often kinship based networks in the village create an atmosphere of pressure to migrate. This pressure doesn’t start from the individual level, but is part of family patterns. Parents invest in their sons to migrate, describing it as a form of business and investment for the future. While the networks cause competition between families and even within them, they are also the bases for ongoing illegal and quite effective migration flows to Europe. Accordingly, we are not solely dealing with individual decisions, but rather with family strategies or even with a strategy of the whole village. These patterns of behaviour and values lead some to success, while the ones unable to participate often need to leave the place or to accept a lowered social position. This inequality, which is due to remarkable flows of money, is also reflected on the regional level. Some villages, which have acquired a certain degree of wealth, become regional hubs for low paid workers from other villages.

Only the combination of locality and networks as well as their interrelatedness, is able to open up a more differentiated view on migration flows, forms and motivations as well as their implications for the meaning of place.
Lisa Åkesson

Making returnees responsible for development: “Northern” migration policies and the experiences of Cape Verdean return migrants

The contemporary celebration of migrants as agents of development “from below” has resulted in a flow of policy documents concerned with finding strategies for increasing the positive effects of international migration for the migrants’ countries of origin. One of the characteristics of these policies is the emphasis on returnees’ transfer of human and social capital. This paper juxtaposes some of the basic assumptions in policies on return migration and development with a case study of Cape Verdean returnees. The aim of the paper is to critically compare the expectations of policy-makers with the ideas and practices of those who have migrated and returned themselves.

Based on anthropological fieldwork, this paper analyses the role returnees’ savings and skills play for small-scale social and economic change in Cape Verde, which is a country with a long history of comprehensive out-migration. I discuss the conditions that must be fulfilled in order to make it possible for return migrants to support not only themselves but also to play a role for local development. This includes an exploration of how the returnees use their savings and of how they themselves perceive their possibilities to contribute to a positive development in their country. In particular I look at entrepreneurial activities and small-scale businesses, which are of key importance for poverty reduction in Cape Verde. These ethnographic observations are throughout the paper juxtaposed with a number of basic assumptions that underpin policies on migration and development.

The paper concludes that it may be quite naïve to expect that individual migrants shall play an important role for development. In extension it also ties up with the critique of the neo-liberal idea of development, which makes economic, social and political constraints less visible by placing the responsibility for development on individuals in poor countries. The Cape Verdean case shows that wider structures fundamentally influence the returnees’ possibilities to support a positive development in their homeland.

Lisa Åkesson, Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology, Department of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

Main research areas: Transnational migration, remittances, return and circular migration, migration policies.


Getting to the University of Stockholm

Airports

Arlanda Airport, is the main international airport, situated 40 kilometres north of the city centre and flown on by both regular and low fare airlines. An overview of all airlines is available on the airport website. See www.sas.se.

A regular coach service, run by the bus company Flygbussarna, takes you from Arlanda airport to Stockholm’s central station. The journey takes about 40 minutes. The price of a single ticket is SEK 119. More information is available from the bus company website. See www.flygbussarna.se for details.

A faster but more expensive train service is the Arlanda Express, which runs between Arlanda and the central station in Stockholm. The price of a single ticket is SEK 240 one-way. See www.arlandaexpress.com for details.

Journey by taxi from Arlanda to Stockholm usually costs about SEK 500–600 (50–60 Euro).

Skavsta Airport is situated 1 hour and 20 minutes south of Stockholm. There is a regular coach service between Skavsta and the central station in Stockholm. The cost of a single ticket is SEK 129. Airport buses Flygbussarna run a regular service – see www.flygbussarna.se for details. It is also possible to travel by train from nearby Nyköping to Stockholm. See www.sj.se for details.
Public transport

Tickets for public transport can be bought from newsagents as well as from SL (Stockholms lokaltrafik) ticket offices. See SL’s travel page for more information www.sl.se.

Underground trains: You can travel by the metro (underground/tube) from the central station in Stockholm (T-centralen). Take the red line north-bound to Mörby Centrum and get off at the station ‘Universitetet’. The journey takes about 10 minutes.

You can also use the special built-in SL search here: www.sl.se.

By bus: Take bus numbers 40, 70, 540 or 670 to the University (Get off at ‘Universitetet norra’ for the main campus). Tickets must be bought before travel.

Location

The Conference is held at Stockholm University, campus area Frescati, in northern Stockholm. Registration and main venue is located in Aula Magna. The seminars will take place in Aula Magna. Venues: Bergsmannen (main room), Polstjärnan and Spelbomskan.
General information

Conference registration
Registration starts on Thursday 4 November at 12.00 in the Aula Magna. The reception desk in Aula Magna is open for inquiries throughout the duration of the conference. Because your name badge serves as an ID, please wear it at all times during the conference.

Computer services and internet access
During the conference, computer is available through the reception desk. If you need internet access during the conference we recommend you bring your own laptop. Stockholm University offers wireless internet access. Wireless log-in information can be obtained through the reception desk.

Presentation technology
All seminars rooms are equipped with a computer (PC) and facilities for PowerPoint (PPT) presentations. As such, saving your presentation file on a USB memory stick should suffice. If, however, you wish to use your own Mac for your presentation, please note that you must bring a VGA adapter to connect your laptop to the projectors in the seminar rooms.

Swedish appliances use the standard two-pin rounded plug used in most of Continental Europe. Please note that if you come from countries with another type of plug (e.g. the US and the UK), you have to bring your own adapter in order to use your laptop or any other electrical equipment.