

**2022 ITFLOWS CONFERENCE
PREDICTING MIGRATION:
Challenges, Opportunities, and Policies**

**June 21-22, 2022
Centre for European Policy Studies (and virtually on Zoom)
Brussels, Belgium**

Conference Programme



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General Information for Participants

- The Conference will take place in person and virtually. The address of the Centre for European Policy Studies is **Place du Congrès 1, Brussels**. The Zoom link for both conference days is provided below.
- All sessions of the Conference are held under the Chatham House Rule
- All Conference sessions will be held in English
- All times provided are in Central European Time (CET)

In-person participants are kindly asked to be at the venue **at least 10 minutes in advance**. They will be allowed access to the venue upon presentation of all COVID-related documentation, required by the Belgian authorities at the time of the conference. In-person participants agree to follow all pandemic-related rules and preventative measures, which they will be notified of in advance.

Virtual participants will receive the relevant links to the streaming service in advance. They are kindly asked to join the sessions **at least 15 minutes in advance**, to allow time for resolving any technical issues that may arise.

About the Project

The HORIZON 2020 [project ITFLOWS](#) is generating novel insights on migration. Its purpose is to provide accurate predictions and adequate management solutions of migration flows in the EU in the phases of reception, relocation, settlement and integration of migration, according to a wide range of human factors and using multiple sources of information. These insights are provided by an evidence-based ICT enabled solution (the EUMigraTool) and precise models. All solutions have fitness for purpose continually validated by policy-makers and practitioners in cooperation with civil-society organisations in a dynamic and iterative process. ITFLOWS proposes tailor-made solutions for practitioners and policy-makers for managing migration.

In total there are [14 consortium partners](#) from the EU Member States. The consortium as a whole has been designed to ensure complementarity and balance concerning nationality, type of partner, expertise and role in the project. We have brought together a team that unites the leading expertise in the relevant scientific and technical fields while at the same time providing the project with diverse hands-on experience and relevant networks for dissemination.

June 21, 2022 /Tuesday/	
09:15 - 10:00	Registration and Internet Connection Check
10:00 - 10:15	Welcome and Opening Cristina Blasi Casagran , ITFLOWS Coordinator, Autonomous University of Barcelona (<i>online</i>) and Ignacio Montiel-Sanchez , ITFLOWS Project Officer, European Research Executive Agency (<i>online</i>)
10:15 - 10:30	Opening Keynote Speech Giulio M. Mancini , PhD, Policy Officer, European Commission Directorate-General Migration & Home Affairs
10:30 - 12:00	<p>Workshop I: Acting upon the multidimensional drivers of migration: which policy implications for EU engagement with origin and transit countries?</p> <p><i>Mixed flows arriving in the EU entail people who move to flee violent conflict and persecution, to cope with insecure livelihoods, or to access economic, educational and professional opportunities. More often than not, different reasons combine in informing migration decisions, underlining the multidimensional nature of drivers. Shifting conditions in transit countries also play a key role in shaping dynamics of onward movement to the EU. Acknowledging the complex operation of drivers, the EU increasingly promotes integrated policy responses cutting across different policy portfolios to tackle such overlapping factors. Despite growing emphasis on comprehensive and tailor-made approaches, stemming irregular flows arriving in the EU nonetheless appears to remain the predominant goal that largely shapes EU engagement with origin and transit countries. Against this backdrop, the workshop will reflect on the ways forward to improve cooperation between the EU and third countries on mixed migration governance by focusing on: how to (i) enhance synergies between EU migration policies and the wider set of EU foreign policy so as to address multidimensional drivers in origin and transit contexts; and (ii) tap into the full potential of truly comprehensive partnerships promoting balanced cooperation across different pillars of mixed migration governance.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Asli Okyay, Senior Fellow, Istituto Affari Internazionali Rapporteur: Luca Barana, Research Fellow, Istituto Affari Internazionali (<i>online</i>)</p> <p>Discussants: Claus Haugaard Sørensen, Chairman of the Executive Board, Global Executive Leadership Initiative and Former Director General European Commission, DG ECHO Diana Ihring, Migration Research Specialist, IMPACT Initiatives Martina Lioi, Migration and Refugee Lawyer Michele Amedeo, Head of Thematic Centre on Migration, DG NEAR</p> <p>Q&A Session</p>
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch Break
13:00 - 13:15	Migration governance via the EUMigraTool and role of the Users Board Speakers: Georgios Stavropoulos , Research Associate, Centre for Research & Technology and Haithem Afli , Lecturer, Munster Technological University

<p>13:15 - 14:45</p>	<p>Workshop II: Root causes and factors contributing to possible tensions between migrants and EU citizens</p> <p><i>Public attitudes can indirectly affect migration policy and resource allocation, which in turn might affect migration flows, integration and future attitudes. It is thus important to monitor these attitudes among the European public and understand their drivers. The goal of this Workshop is to better understand and inform the current political debate about micro- and macro- level factors affecting public attitudes to immigration. In doing so, it helps researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners to identify potential risks of tensions between migrants and European citizens, in order to reduce them.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Lenka Dražanová, Research Fellow, European University Institute <i>(online)</i></p> <p>Rapporteur: Gergana Tzvetkova, Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Democracy</p> <p>Discussants: Ana Ciuban, Vice President, Associazione Multietnica dei Mediatori Interculturali David Querol Sánchez, President, International Crime and Human Rights Commission, Barcelona Bar Association Magnus Ovilius, Head of Sector Forecasting, Preparedness and Policy Monitoring DG HOME <i>(online)</i> Marcello Carammia, Senior Researcher, University of Catania <i>(online)</i></p> <p>Q&A Session</p>
<p>14:45 - 15:00</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p>15:00 - 16:30</p>	<p>Workshop III: Relocation and effective secondary movements of migrants in the EU</p> <p><i>The management of unauthorized intra-EU mobility of asylum seekers and refugees – often labelled as ‘secondary movements’ – has been a longstanding policy priority of EU migration policies and the so-called EU Dublin System. EU efforts at containing, criminalizing and monitoring such movements have resulted in a complex patchwork of legal, policy and technological instruments that profoundly restrict asylum-seekers and refugees’ human rights, and limit their agency to self-relocate, i.e. leave the country of first irregular entry and freely move inside the EU territory. This Workshop starts by discussing the key findings from the state-of-the-art literature and IT-FLOWS research at times of critically analysing the EU policy priority on secondary movements and their criminalization and surveillance. It will address the lessons learned from the EU responses to the war in Ukraine – the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive and the recognition of a right to self-relocate to beneficiaries - at times of assessing the current concepts and working principles of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). The Workshop examines the ways in which the proposals envisaged in the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum – in particular the ones dealing with “crisis and force majeure” and the revision of Eurodac database – address the issue of relocation and secondary movements, and their compliance with refugee protection and fundamental rights.</i></p>

	<p>Moderator: Sergio Carrera, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Policy Studies</p> <p>Rapporteur: Finja Krüger, Researcher, Kiel Institute for the World Economy</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p>Angeliki Dimitriadi, Research Fellow, GPPI (<i>online</i>)</p> <p>Catherine Woollard, Director of European Council on Refugees and Exiles</p> <p>Fanny Coudert, Head of Sector – Supervision of AFSJ, EDPS</p> <p>Katarina Lughofer, Asylum, Migration and Borders Sector at the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) (<i>online</i>)</p> <p>Marco Stefan, Research Fellow, Centre for European Policy Studies</p> <p>Q&A Session</p>
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June 22, 2022 /Wednesday/	
09:30 – 11:00	<p>Workshop IV: Asylum seeker, refugee and migrant socio-economic rights and integration in the EU</p> <p><i>A wide range of socioeconomic factors and considerations in EU Member States can both directly and indirectly affect refugee, asylum-seeker and migrant decision-making, as well as influence societal reception of migrants in their EU destinations. As such, varying EU Member State socioeconomic situations and contexts in Member States can have a bearing on overall societal cohesion in the respective countries. Moreover, migrant, asylum-seeker and refugee access to and exercise of socioeconomic rights, as well as the multilevel implementation of these rights within Member States, influence these populations' wellbeing as part of societal wellbeing as a whole. This panel explores how inconsistencies and insecurities in various asylum systems and processes within the EU can impact refugee socioeconomic integration overall, as well as looks to how and whether core and minimum socioeconomic rights of migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees are met in the EU and given Member States. *It seeks to better understand good practices and the conditions for ensuring them, as well as to offer recommendations as to implementation of socioeconomic rights and inclusion already guaranteed in EU and Member State legal frameworks.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Colleen Boland, Researcher, Autonomous University of Barcelona</p> <p>Rapporteur: Daniel Morente, Researcher, Autonomous University of Barcelona</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p>Lennard Everwien, Co-Director, Europe Cares</p> <p>Nicolás Marugán, Deputy Director General for Equal Treatment and Ethnic Diversity from the Ministry of Equality</p> <p>Orjana Shabani, Country Manager, Jesuit Refugee Service Kosovo</p> <p>Paola Pace, Deputy Chief of Mission and Senior Regional Project Manager, International Organization for Migration</p> <p>Sarah Ganty, J.S.D. candidate, Yale Law School and FWO Postdoctoral Fellow, Ghent University</p> <p>Teresa Udaondo Gascón, Deputy Director-General of Immigration, Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migrations (<i>online</i>)</p>

	Q&A Session
11:00 - 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 - 12:30	<p>Workshop V: IT Tools predicting migratory flows and human rights</p> <p><i>Technology tools predicting migration can be a very powerful tool for the design and management of an efficient and fair migration and asylum system in Europe. This is what EUMIGRATOOL, the ITFLOWS IT tool, aims to achieve with fair migration management and meaningful refugee integration in mind. What challenges do IT tools predicting migration pose, though, for migrants and refugees and their human rights? How can we ensure that such tools are designed and used with humanitarian and integration aims in mind and how can we prevent their manipulation by anti-migration stakeholders erroneously conflating migration with security? To answer these questions, this panel of experts will share their knowledge and expertise reflecting on the work of the ITFLOWS project.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Alexandra Xanthaki, Professor, Brunel University London Rapporteur: Ermioni Xanthopoulou, Senior Lecturer in Law, Brunel University London</p> <p>Discussants: Jean Pierre Gauci, Founder and Director, People for Change Foundation and Senior Research Fellow and Director of Training-BIICL Kenneth Brant Hansen, Finance and Grant Manager, FAROS Louise Hooper, Public law, human rights and migration lawyer, Garden court Chambers, London, UK (<i>online</i>) Niovi Vavoula, Lecturer in Security and Migration, Queen Mary University of London Yiannis Boutselis, Senior Investigator, Greek Ombudsman</p> <p>Q&A Session</p>
12:30 - 12:55	<p>Conference Wrap-up and Policy Implications Summary by the Rapporteurs and discussion with participation of the ITFLOWS Policy Working Group Moderator: Gergana Tzvetkova, Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Democracy</p>
12:55 - 13:00	<p>Final remarks Colleen Boland, Researcher, Autonomous University of Barcelona</p>
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch