

## **2023 IMISCOE PhD School**

### **"Critical Reflections on Migration Studies, Racism and Discrimination"**

April 24 - April 28, 2023 at Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Brussels, Belgium)

Location: 5 Boulevard de la Plaine, 1050 Brussels

Rooms Lisbon and Rome (-1 floor)

Co-organized by Brussels Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Migration and Minorities (BIRMM, Vrije Universiteit Brussel), Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM, Université de Liège), Centre for the Social Study of Migration and Refugees (CESSMIR, Ghent University), & The Network on Migration and Global Mobility (University of Antwerp)

Migration studies have, for long, largely ignored the study of racism. Recent calls for the decolonization of the university and Black Lives Matter 2020 led to the gradual entry of the study of race, racism and colonialism into the migration studies field. Whilst developed apart in the past, mainstream migration studies and race critical studies (from postcolonial, to decolonial, to critical race studies, Black studies and more) are slowly starting to dialogue. This IMISCOE PhD school aims at bringing together PhD researchers with experienced scholars, activists, practitioners, and artists to explore how the more mainstream social sciences on migration, racism and discrimination and race critical studies can learn from each other and (im)possibly integrate, and how we can contribute to more racial justice.

In this IMISCOE PhD school we will reflect upon how racism and race have been discussed by migration studies, and race critical studies (postcolonial and decolonial studies, critical race theories, Black Studies, ...) drawing on different epistemologies, conceptualizations and theorizations. We will explore the state of the art around the topic of migration, race and racism and discuss different theorizations and methodological approaches and challenges including measuring manifestations of racism and discrimination. We will consider different manifestations of racism – from the evident to the more elusive, from particular incidents to systemic forms – and their consequences, at both individual and societal levels. Particular attention will be given to creative methodological approaches and innovative theoretical frameworks, as well as to more pragmatic and normative approaches to tackle racism and discrimination.

The PhD school will offer a platform for a fruitful interdisciplinary exchange which will allow PhD researchers to develop creative approaches to the study of racism and migration and to develop new insights.

The programme consists of keynote lectures, discussions, interactive panels with scholars, artists, activists and practitioners and intensive feedback sessions. Each participant will present his or her work and is assigned a keynote speaker or local expert for one-on-one feedback. There are mandatory and suggested readings for each day of the PhD school and some general introductory readings.

## Programme

### Day 1: From experiences to concepts: racism and discrimination in migration studies

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9.00-9.30	Registration
9.30-10.30	Introduction to the IMISCOE PhD school by the Scientific Committee & round of introductions of PhD participants
10.30-10.45	Short break
10.45-12.15	<p>Introduction to the program with slam poets Anissa Boujdaini and Lisette Lombé, followed by a discussion with the artists</p> <p>Moderators: Marco Martiniello, Professor of sociology and CEDEM director at University of Liège (Belgium) and Amal Miri, postdoctoral researcher at the University of Antwerp (Belgium).</p>
12.15-13.30	Lunch at VUB canteen
13.30-15.30	<p>“Bridging social sciences and race critical studies in the study of racism”</p> <p>Mainstream 'migration and minority studies' (situated in the social sciences) and 'race critical studies' (englobing a very diverse set of scholarships (from anti-colonial, to postcolonial, decolonial scholarship, to critical race theory, Black studies, ...) have traditionally defined racism in very different ways. They also propose different theories, epistemologies and methods to study racism and discrimination. During this introductory lecture, Prof. Anders Neergaard &amp; Prof. Patrick Simon will present and discuss how these detached research fields have studied racism, but also introduce a collective discussion on how these different research strands can learn from each other and (im)possibly integrate.</p> <p>Lecturers: Prof. Anders Neergaard, professor of Sociology at Linköping University (Sweden) and Prof. Patrick Simon, professor of Sociology and Demography at Sciences Po Paris (France)</p> <p>Moderator: Ilke Adam, Associate Professor Political Science and BIRMM director, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium).</p>
15.30-16.00	Coffee Break

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## Programme

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16.00-17.30 Parallel sessions for PhD researchers to present their research and collect feedback

Parallel session 1 with Anders Neergaard (room: Lisbon & Rome)

- Bezerra, Luiza - "Mediatized discourses and (de)legitimation of migrants in Portugal: compared narratives on migration flows towards Europe in 2015-2016 and 2021-2022"
- Du Jardin, Mathilde - "The White Researcher Complex" in European Migration Studies

Parallel session 2 with Patrick Simon (room: Bruges)

- Hagenars, Marloes - Teachers' responses to claims of ethnic discrimination: an exploratory study in Flemish secondary schools
- Romano, Veronica - When States (re)produce discrimination: criminal law as a form of institutional racism.

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18.00-20.00 Decolonial walk in Matongé, Brussels (guided visit - optional activity)  
Location: 22 rue de la Tulipe (The Barn)

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## Day 2: Postcolonial perspectives on migration and discrimination

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9.00-11.00	<p>“Movement and borders”</p> <p>Roundtable on movement and borders with Amal Miri, postdoctoral researcher at the University of Antwerp (Belgium), Parvati Raghuram, Professor of Geography and Migration at the Open University in Milton Keynes (UK), Guia Gilardoni, postdoctoral researcher in Sociology and Research Methods at the Catholic University in Milan (Italy).</p> <p>Moderator: Marco Martiniello, Professor of sociology and CEDEM director at University of Liège (Belgium).</p>
11.00-11.15	Short break
11.15-12.40	<p>Parallel sessions for PhD researchers to present their research and collect feedback</p> <p><u>Parallel session 1 with Parvati Raghuram (room: Lisbon &amp; Rome)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Mikoshiba, Sayaka - Constellations of privilege: the role of racialisation in opportunities and obstacles for capital conversion by racially minoritized privileged migrants.</li><li>● Tagliabue, Anna - Bordering practices in airport transit zone. The case of Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport.</li></ul> <p><u>Parallel session 2 with Amal Miri (room: Kant)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Sowad, Abu Saleh - Conceptualizing Masculinities in Canadian Diasporic Settings</li><li>● Golamrej Eliasi, Laleh - Afghan women’s point of view on immigrant child protection services in Finland</li></ul> <p><u>Parallel session 3 with Guia Gilardoni (room: Rousseau)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Walker, Lauren - The role of mentoring/befriending in supporting unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people in Scotland.</li><li>● Rechchad, Mariam Camilla - Towards an Italian Anti-Racist Archive: exploring the situatedness of knowledge within critical, community-based archival practices</li></ul>
12.45-14.00	Lunch by La Fourna at BSoG

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## Programme

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14.00-16.00 Participatory workshop “Decolonising research methods? Debunking naive assumptions”

PhD students are engaged in an interactive, hands-on workshop that encourages them to critically reflect on their own research, their position as researchers and connect postcolonial/decolonial thinking in their own contexts.

Speakers: Nikolett Szelei, postdoctoral researcher at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium) and Giacomo Orsini, postdoctoral researcher at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Ghent University (Belgium).

Moderator: Floor Verhaeghe, CESSMIR coordinator, Ghent University (Belgium).

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16.00-16.30 Coffee break

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16.30-17.30 Parallel sessions for PhD researchers to present their research and collect feedback

Parallel session 1 with Nikolett Szelei (room: Lisbon & Rome)

- Remue, Lotte - Language and guardianship: A sociolinguistic ethnography of the multilingual resources and strategies used in the guidance trajectory of unaccompanied refugee minors.

Parallel session 2 with Giacomo Orsini (room: Bruges)

- Schenetti, Cecilia - Doing and resisting borderwork: the experience of Senegalese migration campaign implementers.
  - Morley, Imogen - ‘Stopping the boats’: Weaponising the Channel as a necropolitical landscape.
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### Day 3: Methodological challenges to study racism and ethnic discrimination in migration studies.

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10.00-12.00	<p>Visit to MigratieMuseumMigration in Molenbeek-Saint-Jean, Brussels, an interactive museum that portrays the stories of the first-generation labour migrants, of the earliest asylum seekers in the Brussels asylum center, of the expatriates, the war refugees, the Europeans who move freely within the EU and many others. This museum was created by and with migrants from the NGO Foyer, an organization that has been aiming to build a more intercultural society in Brussels for over 50 years.</p> <p>Location: 17 Rue des Ateliers, 1080 Brussels</p>
12.00-13.00	Lunch at Dar Al Amal
14.00-16.00	<p>“How to measure and study racism and ethnic discrimination in the field of migration studies in innovative and creative ways”</p> <p>The session focuses on how to measure and study racism and ethnic discrimination in the field of migration studies in innovative and creative ways. The lecturers will discuss the strengths and limitations of the methods they each use. They will specifically address what the methods they employ are not able to capture and the extent to which the other keynote's method could fill in this gap.</p> <p>Lecturers: Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe, professor of Sociology at Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium) and Umut Erel, professor of Sociology at the Open University in Milton Keynes (UK).</p> <p>Moderator: Sorana Toma, Assistant Professor in Migration and Refugee Studies, Ghent University (Belgium).</p>
16.00-16.15	Short break
16.15-17.40	<p>Parallel sessions for PhD researchers to present their research and collect feedback</p> <p><u>Parallel session 1 with Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe (room: Lisbon &amp; Rome)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Espinoza, Ingrid - Patterns of Exclusion and Discrimination in Street-Level Bureaucracy: Using Language as an Indicator of Behavior to Understand Deservingness Preferences.</li><li>● Derveeuw, Sarah - Disparities in the use of preventive health services across migrant backgrounds in Belgium.</li></ul> <p><u>Parallel session 2 with Umut Erel (room: Bruges)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Carolina Triana-Cuellar - Navigating creative boundaries. The experiences and strategies of professional migrant artists in post-Brexit London.</li><li>● Ziółkowska, Patrycja - Recognizing unnoticed social actors and morphogenezing the system: support, strengthening agency and promoting empowerment and self-advocacy of refugees in Poland</li></ul>

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## Day 4: Academic challenges when studying racism and discrimination in migration studies

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10.00-11:30 “Interactive panel on challenges academics face when studying and publishing about racism and ethnic discrimination in their academic career”.

This panel will tackle the challenges academics face when studying and publishing about racism and ethnic discrimination. These challenges include (but are not limited to) the relationship with the supervisor, publication outlets, evaluation boards, positionality, racist perspectives in academia, and many more.

Panelists: Zehra Colak, postdoctoral researcher at Utrecht University (The Netherlands), Sarah Adeyinka, postdoctoral researcher at Ghent University (Belgium), John Solomos, professor of Sociology at Warwick University (UK) and Editor-in- chief of the journal 'Ethnic and Racial Studies'

Moderator: Milena Belloni, Assistant Professor, Network on Migration and Global Mobility, Antwerp University (Belgium)

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11.30-13.00 Lunch by La Fourna at BSoG

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13.00- 15.00 Parallel sessions for PhD researchers to present their research and collect feedback.

Parallel session 1 with Sarah Adeyinka (room: Lisbon & Rome)

- Routté, Irene - Will You Take Care? Bio-Space, Racial Assemblages and the U.S. Youth Refugee Resettlement Welfare System.
- Sibanda, Kwazinkosi - An Investigation into Coloniality and its gender construction: Implications on Zimbabwean Migrant Women Entrepreneurs in Botswana and South Africa.

Parallel session 2 with John Solomos (room: Strasbourg)

- Mbatha, Nomkhosi - A new South Africa for all: Unmasking post-apartheid racism and xenophobia.
  - Brown, Amanda - All ashore?: A legal analysis of port access and racial discrimination against migrants
  - Adolfsson, Caroline - Face-off: Group essentialism within facial appraisals
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19.00-...

Public panel debate: 'What if cities governed anti-racism?'

Location: Muntpunt, 6 Place de la Monnaie, 1000 Brussels

During the last decade, local governments in Europe have increasingly set up anti-discrimination, anti-racism or even decolonization policies. This happened particularly so in the wake of the Black Lives Matter Movement (BLM) in 2020, which created a pressure for change. At the same time, the increased success of far-right parties and discourses also created an atmosphere wherein there is a backlash against anti-racist civil society organizations, as experienced through threats and the loss of support for anti-racist organisations and policies in several countries. How do cities navigate between these two opposite pressures for change? What can cities do to foster racial justice? Can they replace or complement European and national anti-racism policies? How can they develop a long-term action plan and what should be in such a plan? How can they develop and evaluate policies with racialized citizens and anti-racist organizations at the table? Have their policies made an impact? And how to prevent a backlash and lack of implementation?

Speakers: Magid Magid, Somali-British race and climate justice activist (UK), Yassin El Attar, policy advisor on anti-racism and diversity at the city of Leuven (Belgium), Joandi Hartendorp, policy advisor with the municipality of Amsterdam (The Netherlands) and Kathleen Van Den Daele, director of LEVL, a CSO representing ethnic minorities in Flanders and Brussels (Belgium).

Moderator: Ilke Adam, Associate Professor and BIRMM director, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium).

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## Programme

### Day 5: Resisting and combating racism and discrimination.

09.30-11.00	<p>'An intersectional approach to anti-racist activism/resistance' with Francesca Sobande, co-editor of the book 'To Exist is To Resist. Black Feminism in Europe'.</p> <p>Speaker: Prof. dr. Francesca Sobande, Senior Lecturer in Digital Media Studies at Cardiff University (UK)</p> <p>Moderator: Floor Verhaeghe, CESSMIR coordinator, Ghent University (Belgium).</p>
11.00-11.15	Short break
11.15-12.15	<p>Parallel sessions for PhD researchers to present their research and collect feedback</p> <p><u>Parallel session with Francesca Sobande (room: Lisbon &amp; Rome)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Gouppy, Shannon - « Social and political mobilizations of ethno-racial minoritized groups in Francophone Belgium: any convergences? » A story of my first year as Ph.D. Candidate</li><li>● Kane, Noreen - The Representation of Intergenerational Trauma in Postcolonial Women's Writing in the Context of Italy.</li></ul>
12.15-13.30	Lunch at VUB canteen
13.30-16.00	<p>Participatory Workshop on anti-racism activism with Kif Kif</p> <p>In this workshop, a representative of Kif Kif will discuss the questions of how this organisation engages in anti-racism today; and how academics can engage with anti-racist movements.</p> <p>PhD researchers will in turn be engaged in a writing contest wherein they will support claims put forward by anti-racist organisations with academic evidence.</p> <p>Speaker: Stef Arends, editor and researcher at Kif Kif</p> <p>Moderator: Hannah Vermaut, BIRMM coordinator, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium).</p>
16.00-16.30	Closing speech