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National Center of Competence in Research–
The Migration-Mobility Nexus

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Universität Basel

Departement Geschichte

UNIVERSITÉ DE NEUCHÂTEL

International Conference

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Thursday and Friday, 12 – 13 May 2022

Welfare and Human Mobility in Europe: Past and Present Challenges

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Organized by the Department of History, University of Basel and the nccr – on the move, University of Neuchâtel

Venue: Mission 21, Missionsstrasse 21, Basel
On 12 May 2022 from 18:15 – 20:15 and followed by a dinner and on 13 May 2022 from 09:00 – 17:45

Swiss National Science Foundation

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Abstract

This conference investigates the intersection between Welfare and human mobility in Europe since the mid-20th century. After World War II, migration, mobility and related policies acted both as a challenge and an engine for Welfare regimes in Europe, on a national and transnational level. The conference investigates three sites of the Welfare-mobility-nexus.

Section 1: European Integration

Since the Treaty of Rome (1958), European integration relied on open borders for migrants coming from within the Community, but also on coordinated and aligned levels of social security. Geographically, the conference focuses on Europe with its varied institutions and political experiences, but also its diverse forms of mobility, domestic and international. The mechanisms and dynamics of different policies and the invention of new Welfare institutions in response to problematic effects of mobility and migration, in particular increased social and legal inequality.

Section 2: Colonial Legacies

Welfare policies in Europe were not only challenged by intra-European mobility, but also by millions of people coming from (former) colonies as ex-subjects of the empire. The legacy of the colonial experience raises questions on its relation with Welfare regimes in Europe, and their capacity to (re-) compose European societies.

Section 3: International Organizations

Finally, the liberal international and institutional setting after the two world wars and the integration of Western Europe added even more complexity to the picture, recognizing human rights and mobility as fundamental freedoms. International organizations such as the UN, the ILO or the OECD played an increasing role in shaping Welfare and migration policies. The contributors to the conference will discuss how the national Welfare state learnt to cope with these challenges, and what the dynamics and outcomes were in different Welfare regimes in Europe.

The contributions to the conference use historical and comparative approaches, in order to analyze the mechanisms and dynamics of specific patterns of human mobility and related Welfare policies. They discuss the different aspects of societal, political and institutional transformations and their connection to mobility in Europe.

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Thursday, 12 May 2022
Venue: Kollegienhaus, University of Basel, Petersplatz 1, Basel, Lecture Room 001

18:15 Introduction: Welfare and Migration – Conceptual Challenges and Empirical Perspectives
Martin Lengwiler (University of Basel) and Gianni D'Amato (nccr – on the move)

18:30 Keynote Lecture: Why neither 'Replacement' nor the Notion of 'Superdiversity' Help Us to Understand the Consequences of Mass Immigration Into Cities: The Example of Amsterdam 1550-2022
Leo Lucassen (International Institute of Social History IISH, Amsterdam | Leiden University)

20:15 Dinner

Friday, 13 May 2022
Venue: Mission 21, Missionsstrasse 21, Basel

09:00 Section 1: Barrier or Engine? Migration and Social Security in Europe

(Labor) Migration as an Engine for the Europeanization of Welfare in the EEC/EC?
Heike Wieters (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and Nikola Tietze (Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin | Hamburger Stiftung zur Förderung von Wissenschaft und Kultur)

Asylum and Abuse: Protesting the Proliferation of Rightlessness in Switzerland and Beyond, 1980-2010
Jonathan Pärli (University of Basel)

Migrants' Access to Social Protection Across the EU: Between Policy Convergence and Practices of In/Exclusion
Jean-Michel Lafleur and Daniela Vintila (University of Liège)

Discussant: Jean-Thomas Arrighi (University of Neuchâtel)

11:30 Keynote Lecture: Between 'Humanisation of Work' and 'New Slavery': The Debate on Working Conditions in Europe Since 1970
Daniel Maul (University of Oslo)

12:30 Lunch

13:45 Section 2: The (Post)Colonial Legacy and Its Impact on Welfare Regimes (In Europe)

The Educational Side of Welfare Politics: The Complex Interplay Between Colonial Legacies and the De-Migranticisation of Student Mobility, 1960s-1980s
Isabella Löhr (Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin)

Citizenship, Gender and Intermarriage. From the Weimar Republic to the Early Federal Republic of Germany
Laura Frey (University of Basel)

The Constitution of European Welfare States During Colonial Times: A North-South Story
Carina Schmitt (University of Bremen) and Amanda Shriwise (University of Bremen)

Discussant: Peter-Paul Baenziger (University of Basel)

16:15 Coffee Break

16:45 Section 3: Beyond the European Integration: International Organizations and Their Impact on Welfare and Mobility Norms

The ILO at the Intersection of National Welfare and International Mobility in Europe, 1920-1950
Madeleine Dungy (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

Freedom of Movement and the Welfare State: Approaches to a European and Global Problem
Jannis Panagiotidis (RECET, University of Vienna)

Discussant: Sandra Lavenex (University of Geneva)

17:30 Concluding Remarks
Gianni D'Amato (nccr – on the move) and Martin Lengwiler (University of Basel)