

# Annual Report 2024-25

**Toronto  
Metropolitan  
University**

**Canada Excellence  
Research Chair in  
Migration & Integration**



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**Cover image:** The Synlab tangible technology allowing interactive exploration of the MEMO Project's migration drivers. **Left:** Mireille Paquet, Concordia University, chairs a panel at Migration Disrupted annual conference. **Right:** *WhereWeStand* cohort member William Monague shares his creative process at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Winnipeg.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The 2024–25 year has been a defining one for CERC Migration. It has been a year of innovation and growth, as well as preparation for what comes next. As we enter the final chapter of the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration and look forward to launching the Global Migration Institute, it is an opportune moment to reflect on our achievements and set our sights firmly on the future.

Over the past year, the landscape of migration has been marked by significant turbulence and rapid change. Globally and in Canada, debates over immigration, diversity, and identity have intensified, policy shifts have created new uncertainties, and migrants have faced both unprecedented challenges and opportunities. In this context, our work has never been more relevant. These shifts have reinforced the urgency of our mission to produce rigorous, relevant, and engaged research that informs policy, shapes public discourse, and supports more inclusive societies.

Throughout 2024–25, we strengthened our position as a leader in migration research and engagement. We launched several landmark initiatives, including our first-ever Winter School, our Journalism Fellowships to support more accurate and nuanced migration reporting, and a new partnership with the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS), culminating in a high-profile workshop in South Africa. These initiatives have expanded our reach, fostered cross-sector collaboration, and amplified the real-world impact of our research. At the same time, our research program has remained strong, producing cutting-edge scholarship that speaks to the urgent realities of migration and integration today.

A highlight of the year was our 5th annual conference, *Migration Disrupted: How Technological Transformation is Reshaping Human Mobility*, held on May 7–9, 2024. Co-hosted with Bridging Divides, this hybrid event convened researchers, policymakers, and civil society leaders to examine the implications

of advanced digital technologies on migration and integration. Discussions spanned topics such as digital inclusion, algorithmic bias, and the future of work for migrants, emphasizing the need for equitable technological solutions in migration governance.

Looking ahead, we stand at the threshold of an exciting new chapter. The Global Migration Institute will build on the legacy of CERC Migration, serving as a hub for groundbreaking research, global partnerships, and actionable solutions. Through this work, TMU will continue to lead in addressing the most pressing societal challenges related to migration and integration.

This report highlights a variety of initiatives and accomplishments that demonstrate the scope and influence of our work over the past year. I am grateful to our colleagues at TMU, as well as our partners across Canada, and around the world, whose knowledge, expertise, and passion continue to advance our understanding of migration and its governance in an increasingly complex global landscape.

With gratitude,



**Anna Triandafyllidou**

Canada Excellence Research Chair  
in Migration and Integration Program

Left: Anna Triandafyllidou welcomes attendees to the 5th annual CERC Migration conference, May 2024.



# LAUNCHING THE GLOBAL MIGRATION INSTITUTE

We are thrilled to announce the launch of the Global Migration Institute at Toronto Metropolitan University, a landmark initiative that will position TMU as a global hub for migration research, policy, and education. Following careful planning and broad consultation, the Institute received formal approval from University Senate in June 2025, marking a significant milestone in our vision to advance understanding of the complex dynamics of migration in today’s interconnected world.

The Institute will build upon the institution’s 25-year long history of excellence in migration research, policy engagement, and innovative education, including hosting the first-ever Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration.

The Global Migration Institute will officially begin operations in September 2025, bringing together leading scholars, policymakers, and practitioners from Canada and around the world. Its mandate is to foster rigorous, interdisciplinary research on migration and mobility, while providing practical insights that can inform policy and produce innovative and useable knowledge for researchers and practitioners.

By combining academic excellence with real-world impact, the Institute will serve as a bridge between research and action, ensuring that knowledge generated at TMU contributes to equitable and informed migration governance.



## Global Migration Institute

The Institute will strengthen our focus on both Canada and the world, foster interdisciplinary connections, and enhance the impact of our work on migration policy and practice.

The establishment of the Global Migration Institute reflects our ongoing commitment to leadership in migration studies and our excitement about the possibilities ahead. We look forward to sharing updates on the Institute’s work and achievements as it grows into a vital resource for research, education, and policy both nationally and internationally.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Advisory Committee to establish the Global Migration Institute for their invaluable contributions in bringing this initiative to fruition.



## Advisory Committee to Establish the Global Migration Institute

Rupa Banerjee – Associate Professor, Human Resources Management and Organizational Behaviour, Ted Rogers School of Management; Canada Research Chair in Economic Inclusion, Employment and Entrepreneurship of Canada’s Immigrants; Co-Lead Employment and Lifelong Learning Theme, Migrant Integration in the 21st Century: Bridging Divides

Harald Bauder – Professor, Geography and Environmental Studies; Founding (former) Director, Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement (now Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration Studies)

Seth Dworkin – Professor, Mechanical, Industrial, and Mechatronics Engineering; Canada Research Chair in Sustainable Energy Modelling and Simulation; Academic Lead, Postdoctoral Fellows, Yeates School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Bilal Farooq – Associate Professor, Civil Engineering; Canada Research Chair in Disruptive Transportation Technologies and Services; Co-Lead Place and Infrastructure Theme, Migrant Integration in the 21st Century: Bridging Divides

Martha Munezhi, Committee Chair – Executive Director, Migrant Integration in the 21st Century: Bridging Divides

Cory Searcy – Professor, Mechanical, Industrial, and Mechatronics Engineering; Assistant Vice-President (AVP), International

Stephanie Treloar – Senior Director of Development Strategic Initiatives, Advancement

Anna Triandafyllidou, Committee Chair – Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration; Professor, Sociology; Scientific Director, and Citizenship and Participation Co-Lead, Migrant Integration in the 21st Century: Bridging Divides

Zhixi Zhuang – Associate Professor, Urban and Regional Planning; Academic Director, Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement (formerly Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement)



# RESEARCH PROGRAM



CERC Migration's research mission is to generate high-quality, usable knowledge that advances understanding of migration and integration in a rapidly changing world. Our work examines the full spectrum of mobility experiences - from forced displacement to voluntary migration - and explores the interplay between internal and international migration dynamics. We study the roles of states, cities, and non-state actors in shaping migration management and migrant integration at local, national, and global levels.

In 2024–25, CERC Migration continued to produce a strong body of scholarship and public-facing work. Our team authored 3 books, contributed 7 book chapters, authored 10 peer-reviewed articles, 6 working papers, 4 policy briefs, and a range of blogs and media contributions.

Our research strikes a balance between issues of global significance and those of particular relevance to Canada. It is organized around four thematic pillars:

- Governance of migration in a globalizing world
- Managing labour migration in the 21st century: The BMO Newcomer Workforce Integration Lab
- Migration and the city
- Narratives and politics of migration and integration

As we transition into the next phase with the launch of the Global Migration Institute, these thematic areas will remain central while expanding to address emerging questions at the intersection of migration, technology, climate change, and geopolitical transformation.

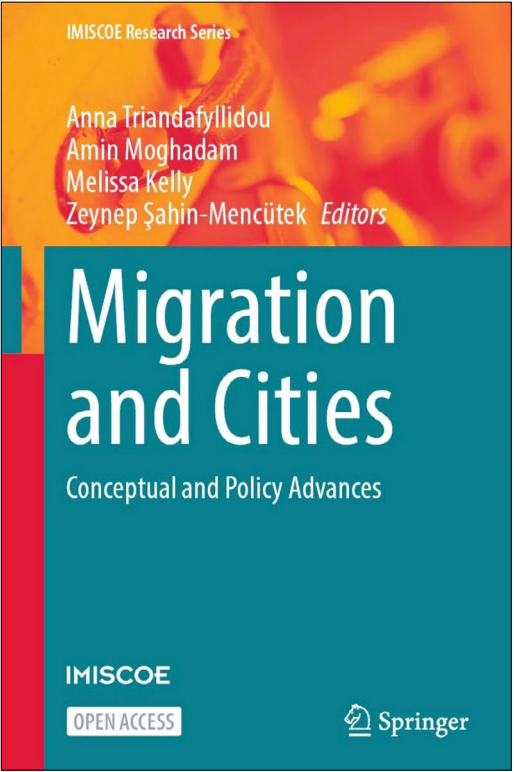
Here are selected research highlights from 2024–25:

## Award for Cross-Cultural Storytelling



**Above:** Cyrus Sundar Singh (L) with Nicki Clarke, Past President of the Ontario Black History Society.

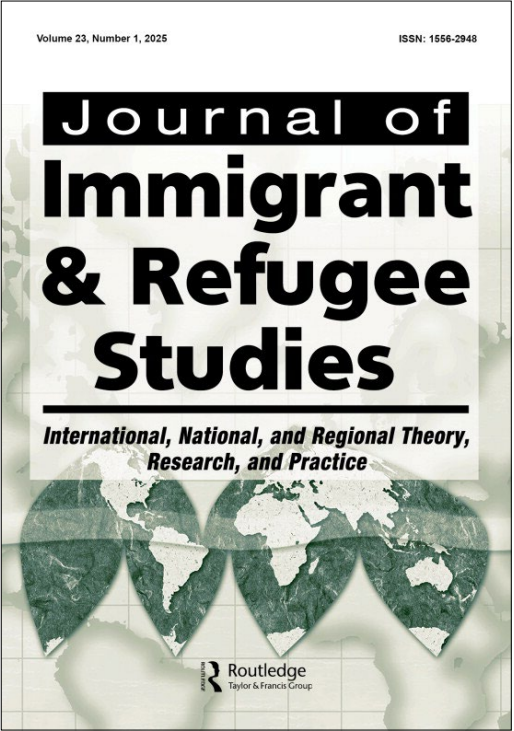
In early 2025, the Ontario Black History Society awarded Research Fellow Cyrus Sundar Singh the prestigious Matthieu da Costa Award, acknowledging Cyrus' dedication to preserving diverse Canadian stories, particularly through his documentary work. His unique perspective as an Indian-Canadian documentarian highlights the power of cross-cultural storytelling, fostering solidarity and bringing Black Canadian histories to the forefront. This recognition underscores his significant contributions to advancing the understanding of Canada's multicultural history.



## IMISCOE series

As part of our role within the IMISCOE research network, CERC Migration published the edited volume, *Migration and Cities: Conceptual and Policy Advances*. The book is an outcome of our 2022 annual conference, *Migration and the City*, and is co-edited by Anna Triandafyllidou, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration; Amin Moghadam, Research Lead, Migration and Cities; Melissa Kelly, Senior Research Associate; and Zeynep Şahin-Mencütek, Research Affiliate.

The book examines how cities manage and benefit from migration and diversity, offering insights into urban transformation from both top-down and bottom-up perspectives. It compares the diversity experiences of cities across different world regions, providing valuable knowledge for researchers, students, and policymakers engaged in migration and urban studies.



## The Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies

CERC Migration is also home to the *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*, an internationally recognized journal, which explores critical issues in migration and refugee studies. This journal is intentionally global in its area of coverage and readership, featuring empirical and theoretical perspectives from North America, Europe as well as South Asia, Asia Pacific, the Middle East, and Africa.

The Journal has been on an upwards trends reaching nearly 150,000 downloads in 2024 (up 50% compared with 2021), and nearly 450 submissions with an acceptance rate of 20% which puts the Journal into the area of the very selective ones.



# BMO NEWCOMER WORKFORCE INTEGRATION LAB

In May 2024, CERC Migration was proud to launch the BMO Newcomer Workforce Integration Lab (BMO Lab), a groundbreaking partnership between TMU and the private sector which was made possible through a transformative \$3 million donation from BMO.

Designed to address systemic barriers that prevent newcomers from fully participating in Canada's workforce, the Lab generates research, tools, and policy recommendations to support the economic inclusion of immigrants, international students, and refugees. Led by Director Dr. Marshia Akbar, the BMO Lab works directly with employers, policymakers, and settlement organizations to pilot and promote innovative solutions that better match newcomer talent to labour market needs.

Over the past 50 years, Canada has transformed into one of the world's most vibrant multicultural societies, with more than 20% of Canadians born abroad. Yet looking ahead, the country's future prosperity will be even more dependent on immigration. Over the next 20 years, Canada's senior population is expected to grow by 68%, making the need for a steady influx of newcomers critical to sustain the economy. New Canadians will be essential to fill labour shortages across sectors from health care to construction to technology.

While immigration holds tremendous promise, the successful integration of newcomers requires effective policies, practices, and supports. Governments, community-based organizations, businesses, healthcare facilities, education institutions need to work together to deliver to the promise of Canada for newcomers and settled migrants, and to address the labour and talent shortage that the country will unavoidably face in the decades to come.

In the coming years, Canada will continue to welcome permanent residents and temporary migrants, including international students and temporary workers. Yet, many employers remain ill-equipped to attract, hire, and retain immigrant talent, a challenge that has too



**Above:** Marshia Akbar, BMO Lab Director.

often been left to them without adequate tools or support. With BMO's visionary backing, the BMO Newcomer Workforce Integration Lab was created to bridge this gap. Uniquely positioned to generate practical insights and solutions, the Lab helps employers unlock the full potential of newcomer talent, ensuring immigration continues to drive sustainable economic growth.

Since its inception, the BMO Lab has connected with 40 stakeholders and has launched several related projects. We are deeply grateful to BMO for their leadership, vision, and longstanding commitment to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion. Their investment is not only a catalyst for new research and action, but a clear signal to the private sector about the importance of unlocking the full potential of immigrant talent. Through BMO's support, TMU and CERC Migration are better positioned to drive meaningful, evidence-based change that strengthens the Canadian economy and creates more inclusive opportunities for all.



**Right:** President and vice-chancellor of Toronto Metropolitan University Mohamed Lachemi (R) thanks Helen Seibel, Head of Employee and Community Giving, BMO.



# LAUNCHING THE CERC MIGRATION AND BRIDGING DIVIDES JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIP

In 2025, we launched the CERC Migration and Bridging Divides Journalism Fellowship, co-hosted with the Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides program. This new initiative is designed to promote collaboration and knowledge transfer between researchers and international journalists, aiming to strengthen the communication of evidence-based knowledge on migration and integration issues. The fellowship provides a unique professional development opportunity for journalists across various media platforms, including digital, print, radio, and television, to gain the latest research insights in migration studies.

During their month-long residency, fellows are given the opportunity to learn about Canada, engage with local and national stakeholders, collaborate with an expert team of Canadian and international researchers. This immersive program equips journalists with tools to enhance their reporting and fosters innovative approaches to bridging the gap between journalism and academic research. The program fosters long-

lasting partnerships between TMU and independent journalists from around the world specializing in migration coverage.

Through this initiative, CERC Migration reaffirms its commitment to promoting knowledge mobilization and enhancing the role of journalism in shaping informed public debate about migration and integration in Canada and globally.

We are pleased to share that the following journalists have been selected as part of the 2025 cohort:

#### CERC Migration Fellows

- Davide Lemmi, Italy
- Solafa Magdy, France
- Clavel Rangel, Venezuela
- Elroi Yee, Malaysia

#### Bridging Divides Fellows

- Valentin Díaz, Colombia
- Ruona Meyer, Germany
- Pradipta Mukherjee, India



**Left:** CERC Migration Journalism Fellows Davide Lemmi, Solafa Magdy, Clavel Rangel, and Elroi Yee. **Right:** Clavel Rangel Jiménez, independent journalist, presenting insights to CERC Migration researchers.

# PARTNERSHIP WITH STELLENBOSCH INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY



**Left:** Migration scholars attending workshop. **Right:** Anna Triandafyllidou (L), CERC Migration Chair, TMU, and Edward Kirumira, Director, STIAS.



In January 2025, Anna Triandafyllidou, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration, was awarded a prestigious fellowship at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) in South Africa, alongside Igor Grossmann, Professor of Psychology at the University of Waterloo. Focused on the future of human mobility, the fellowship enabled them to deepen their understanding of how advanced digital technologies are reshaping migration and decision-making. This international fellowship recognizes outstanding scholars whose work addresses critical global challenges.

As part of her residency, Professor Triandafyllidou organized and co-hosted an interdisciplinary workshop alongside Professor Grossman and Professor Faisal Garba, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Cape Town, and Associate Professor of Sociology, Migration and Mobility, Africa Institute Sharjah. The workshop, titled Navigating Uncertainty: The Future of Migration and Inequality in a Changing World, was held in February 2025. The event gathered researchers

from around the world to examine the shifting landscape of migration governance, inequality, and mobility in the face of growing global uncertainties.

Participants engaged in rich discussions on how economic, political, and environmental disruptions are influencing migration patterns and policies. Sessions explored themes such as how migrants navigate policies using both rational and emotional intelligence, how advanced digital technologies are used to both support and deter immigration. The workshop fostered cross-disciplinary dialogue, bringing diverse perspectives to bear on some of today's most urgent migration issues.

The event underscored the vital role of international academic collaboration in addressing the complexities of migration in an increasingly uncertain world. The insights generated will continue to inform CERC Migration's research agenda and global engagement efforts.



# RESEARCH IN FOCUS: GAPs

## Overview

CERC Migration is a member of the Horizon Europe project GAPs, Decentring the Study of Migrant Returns and Return Policies. The GAPs project explores the drivers of migrant return policies and the barriers or enablers in international cooperation on returns. The project examines the disconnects between the expectations of return policies and their actual outcomes by de-centering the dominant, one-sided understanding of “return policymaking.” The project involves multi-disciplinary, qualitative, and quantitative comparative research in 11 countries: Afghanistan, Greece, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Nigeria, Poland, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, and Ukraine

## Update

Through their research findings from the GAPs project, Researcher Emma Bouillard and Research Fellow Younes Ahouga developed a new Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) titled *How States Coerce Migrants to Return: Comparative Perspectives*. The course, launched jointly by CERC Migration and the University of Glasgow, examines the multiple layers of coercion involved in return migration, offering critical insights into how current return policies operate and their implications for the human rights of migrants.

By making these findings accessible to a wide audience, the MOOC contributes to a growing body of work at CERC Migration focused on critically examining migration governance and policy. It reflects CERC Migration’s commitment to advancing public understanding of complex migration issues and fostering more evidence-based, rights-centered approaches to policymaking around the world.

**Above:** The GAPs project hosting a panel at the IMISCOE conference in Lisbon, Portugal. **Below:** The FutureLearn massive online course developed by the University of Glasgow and CERC Migration, TMU.



Download video: [standard](#) or [HD](#)

### What is Coerced Return Migration?

8 comments

Watch this video to learn more about return migration: what it is, different types and terms related to it, and how it relates to the world today.

© University of Glasgow

Downloads

# RESEARCH IN FOCUS: MEMO

## Overview

The Complex Migration Flows and Multiple Drivers in Comparative Perspective (MEMO) project aims to generate new knowledge about the links between the multiple drivers of migration and different types of migration, while also developing innovative data visualization tools that support a rights-based approach to migration governance. Funded by SSHRC Canada as a Partnership Project, it brings together a multi-disciplinary consortium of 17 academic teams and 22 partner organisations from three continents. The MEMO project examines migration flows in three regional migration systems overall, and in relation to Canada:

- South Asia: Bangladesh, Nepal, and Malaysia
- West Africa: Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, and Ivory Coast
- The Americas: El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Canada

## Update

Since its inception, the MEMO project has made substantial strides in achieving its research and knowledge mobilization objectives, which are:

- Mapping migration patterns: Develop an enhanced understanding of drivers of (a) recent internal and regional migration patterns in Central America/ Mexico, West Africa, and South Asia, and (b) trace migrant flows from those regions to Canada
- Developing analytical models: Produce online maps and geovisualizations that capture these migration flows and analyse how environmental, demographic, economic, and socio-political factors shape migration decisions
- Mixed-methods analysis of migration drivers: Use data-driven models informed by qualitative research to explore the complex interconnections among migration drivers across regions
- Translating research into policy tools: Design digital visualizations, interactive dashboards, and infographics to support rights-based and evidence informed migration governance

## MEMO BY THE NUMBERS

- |                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 4 Peer-reviewed journal articles | 12 research reports |
| 2 edited books                   | 5 workshops         |
| 19 book chapters                 | 4 public debates    |



**Above:** Ashika Niraula (L), Project Coordinator, and Ali Mazalek, Co-coordinator of Knowledge Mobilization & Visualization Working Group, explore tangible technology used in the MEMO Project.

Currently the three regional hubs in Central and North America; West Africa; and South Asia are fully engaged in extensive fieldwork exploring the complex drivers of migration across different world regions. To date, researchers have published nine country reports, along with three regional reports focusing on the Americas, South Asia, and West Africa. These reports provide valuable insights into migration dynamics and corridors and highlight the connections between internal, intra-regional, and intercontinental migration.

As fieldwork continues and new data emerge, the MEMO project is poised to deepen global understanding of migration systems and inform more just and responsive policy solutions in the years ahead.



# METROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL

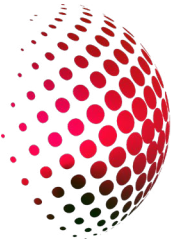
In July 2024, Professor Anna Triandafyllidou, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration at Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU), was appointed as the new Chair of Metropolis International. She serves alongside Vice Chair Violet Roumeliotis, CEO of Settlement Services International, Sydney, Australia.

Metropolis International is one of the world’s largest and most respected networks focused on migration and integration governance. Since its founding in 1996, the organization has brought together academic experts, policymakers, governments, community organizations, and NGOs to address the evolving challenges and opportunities in migration and integration worldwide.

Professor Triandafyllidou’s appointment as Chair marks an important milestone and a new phase for Metropolis International. Through this new leadership role, TMU will strengthen its global impact by engaging with Metropolis International’s extensive collaborative platform and contributing its expertise to evidence-based, inclusive policy discussions.

This work together reflects TMU’s growing international leadership in migration research and policy engagement, and its commitment to fostering inclusive, evidence-based solutions to some of today’s most pressing global challenges.

On October 2-3, 2025, TMU and Metropolis International will co-host the Metropolis International Summit in Toronto, bringing together thought leaders and practitioners from around the world.



**Metropolis International  
Migration Network**



## A New Direction for Metropolis International

As Metropolis International enters this next chapter, the organization is embracing a new direction designed to strengthen its role as a global hub for research, dialogue, and collaboration on migration and integration. Central to this renewal is the introduction of a membership model that will help sustain and expand the network while ensuring its activities remain accessible, inclusive, and relevant.

The new model provides structured opportunities for engagement and collaboration across the Metropolis community. Members will benefit from priority access to an international mentorship scheme supporting career development for migration scholars and professionals. They will also have preferential access to conferences and policy workshops as well as

opportunities to shape the organization's agenda and contribute to its knowledge-sharing platforms. Membership opens the door to deeper cross-sectoral and cross-regional exchanges, connecting academics, policymakers, practitioners, and civil society leaders in meaningful dialogue.

By adopting this model, Metropolis International is laying the groundwork for a more sustainable and participatory future. It reflects the organization's commitment to remaining a trusted convenor and thought leader in migration and integration governance, while fostering a sense of shared ownership among its diverse global network.

**Left:** Anna Triandafyllidou, Chair.  
**Right:** Violet Roumeliotis, Vice Chair.





# RESEARCH IN FOCUS: Link4Skills

## Overview

The competitiveness of a country largely depends on its capacity to effectively adapt its human capital to the changing nature of work, driven by forces such as technological advances, trade globalization, and environmental and demographic change.

Funded by Horizon Europe, Link4Skills is a three-year research project addressing the emerging skills gaps in changing labour markets through a comparative study of migration skill corridors between main destination countries such as Austria, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, and Poland, and main origin countries such as Ghana, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, and Ukraine.



**Above:** Important emerging countries of origin are Nigeria and Ghana, particularly in the STEM and healthcare sectors.

## Update

Link4Skills has conducted an exclusive survey in collaboration with their partners to better understand the experiences of individuals who migrate for employment to various destination countries with a focus on medium and high-skilled migrants with post-secondary education from India, Nigeria, Ghana, and other countries currently residing in Canada. The findings will help inform public and private initiatives aimed at facilitating international mobility.

Additionally, the Link4Skills Navigator prototype is currently in development. The Navigator is a digital tool that leverages artificial intelligence to analyse data on skills supply and demand across different regions and sectors. The Navigator will provide insights into current and future skill gaps, recommend policies for skill development and migration, and facilitate connections between job seekers, educational institutions, and

employers on a global scale. Co-created by the project’s partners and external stakeholders on multiple continents, the Navigator will utilize broad expertise in labour markets, migration, technology, and policy analysis to create a tool that addresses the complex dynamics of global skill flows.

Once launched, stakeholders will be able to use the Navigator to develop strategies for upskilling, reskilling, and fostering fair skill flows between regions. Future iterations will focus on integrating additional datasets, enhancing chatbot capabilities, and refining data visualization options to further align with stakeholder requirements.

# RESEARCH IN FOCUS: Fostering Integration Through the Arts (FIT-ART)

## Overview

As Canada welcomes immigrants from increasingly diverse backgrounds, supporting their inclusion and success is critical. While settlement services often emphasize housing, employment, and language training, the arts provide an equally important avenue for skill development, well-being, and social connection. Despite growing recognition of this potential, there has been little rigorous research on how arts-based programs contribute to the integration of newcomers and refugees.

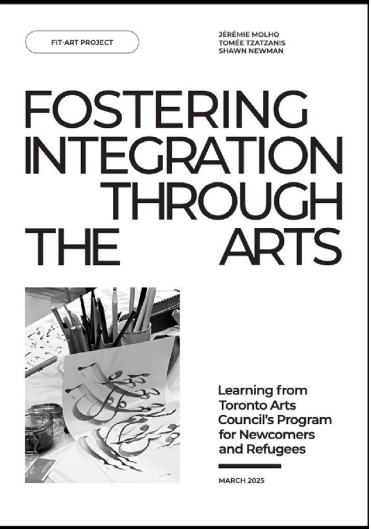
Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and led by Senior Research Associate Jérémie Molho in partnership with Toronto Arts Council (TAC), the FIT-ART project analyzed data from the TAC Program for Newcomers and Refugees and engaged directly with program participants. The study explored how artistic expression fosters belonging, resilience, and empowerment among immigrants and refugees in Toronto.

## Update

The final project report has been published, highlighting the impact of the arts on newcomer integration and empowerment, with insights drawn from TAC’s programming.

On April 23, 2025, CERC Migration hosted a public event in partnership with TAC and Mabelle Arts to present the project’s findings and recommendations. With more than 60 participants from the arts, settlement, research, and policy sectors attending both in person and online, the panel discussion explored the challenges faced by newcomer artists and the role of Toronto Arts Council’s Newcomer and Refugee Engagement and Mentorship grants. The event also marked the public release of the FIT-ART final report and the premiere of two short documentary films showcasing the journey of two newcomer artists in Canada.

**Left:** FIT-ART Report. **Right:** Visual artist Aitak Sorahitalab, musician Tarek Ghirri, and filmmaker Ogo Eze.





# RESEARCH THROUGH ARTISTIC ENGAGEMENT: WhereWeStand



## Exploring Land, Connection, and Belonging

WhereWeStand is a documentary storytelling project led by Research Fellow Cyrus Sundar Singh. The project brings together Indigenous and newcomer participants to explore themes of displacement, the relationship to land, the experience of truth and reconciliation, resilience through grief, and the struggles faced by newcomers in Canada.

Each short film in the *WhereWeStand* collection emerged from a creative partnership between Indigenous and non-Indigenous newcomer participants. The resulting stories, diverse in form and tone, shared one common thread: the power of listening and learning from one another.

In 2024, the project expanded its reach across Canada. Following premieres in Nova Scotia and Ontario, WhereWeStand was presented in Western Canada for the first time, with screenings at the Westbury



**Left:** The WhereWeStand cohort gathered in Winnipeg at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights to share their stories and presentations. **Right:** Izzeddin Hawamda (L) and Aaron McKay share their performance with the Edmonton audiences.

Theatre in Edmonton (November 14) and at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg (November 17).

In Edmonton, the screening opened the 27th Biannual Canadian Ethnic Studies Association (CESA) Conference, introducing the project to an academic and artistic audience. In Winnipeg, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights hosted a screening and discussion that focused on reconciliation, justice, and the power of art in healing.

Through these events, WhereWeStand continued to demonstrate the power of storytelling to foster empathy, reflection, and a deeper understanding of migration and belonging.

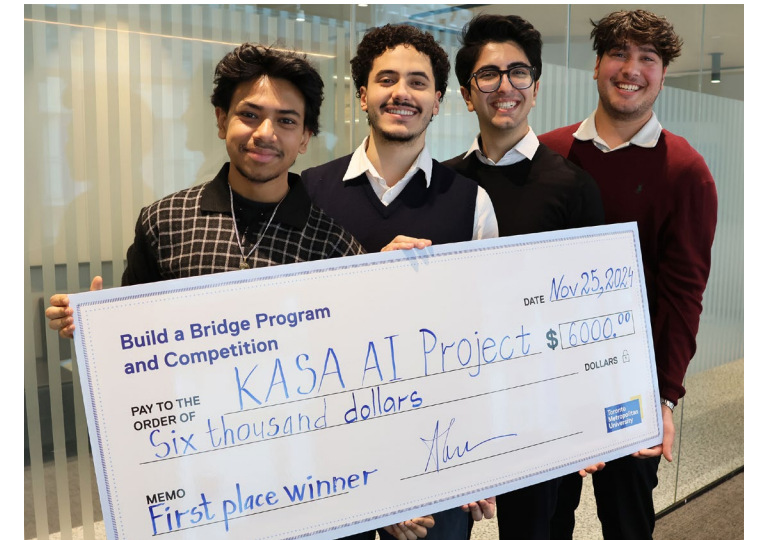
# INNOVATION: Build a Bridge

## Leveraging AI for Migrant Integration

In 2024, Bridging Divides, with support from CERC Migration, launched Build a Bridge, a six-week long initiative designed to inspire and empower students to identify challenges in migrant integration and develop innovative AI solutions to these pressing problems.

Led by Innovation Lead and Senior Research Associate Kiana Jenabidehkordi, the inaugural program culminated in a competition, with 25 students earning certificates for their AI-driven projects. The winning team, KASA AI, was selected and awarded the \$6,000 prize for their development of a community-centered platform that connects immigrants with personalized resources. This award was made possible thanks to the generous sponsorship support from Responsible Artificial Intelligence (RAI).

The success of Build a Bridge highlights the power of interdisciplinary collaboration, technology, and innovation in shaping more inclusive futures for migrants worldwide.



**Above:** KASA AI team members (L-R) Ammar J. Mahmood, Ali Khalil, Saad Khan and Kamyar Saeedabadi. **Below:** Innovation Lead Kiana Jenabidehkordi hosted workshops throughout the semester to prepare student competitors.



# EVENTS AT CERC MIGRATION

## CERD-CMW Consultation

In October 2024, CERC Migration co-hosted the North America & Caribbean Expert Consultation on xenophobia and human rights with the UN Committees on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers (CMW). Held at TMU, the consultation gathered regional experts to provide input into a joint UN guidance document on public policies to address xenophobia and its impacts on migrants and non-nationals. The event underscored CERC Migration's role as a convener of global expertise and a catalyst for action on pressing migration and human rights issues.

## La francophonie canadienne en chiffres

With the goal of strengthening the francophone research network and in line with CERC Migration's scientific interest in francophone immigration, CERC Migration hosted *La francophonie canadienne en chiffres*, exploring the results of the Survey on the Official Language Minority Population and the experiences and contributions of Canada's francophone minority communities. The event, held March 20, 2025, fostered dialogue between universities, community organizations, and government, translating survey findings into practical insights for advancing francophone immigration and strengthening community inclusion.

## Fair Farmwork Forum

On September 23, 2024, CERC Migration co-convoked an event with partners from the University of Windsor to advance the development of the *Fair Farmwork Toolkit*, a step-by-step guide for implementing a social certification initiative to improve conditions for migrant farmworkers in Canada. The event brought together organizations and individuals representing migrant rights and advocacy, food justice and sustainability, growers, retailers, consumers, agricultural unions, legal experts, occupational health and safety. Stakeholders were asked to provide feedback on the toolkit, share insights on developing a Fair Farm Work certification model for Ontario and Canada, and identify additional actors to engage. The meeting fostered a constructive exchange of ideas and marked an important step toward building more just and sustainable agricultural labour practices.



**Above:** Guests attending the UN consultation hosted at the CERC Migration offices.  
**Middle:** Alexandre Wolff, Observatoire démographique et statistique de l'espace francophone.  
**Below:** Tanya Basok (L), Professor, University of Windsor, and Erika Borrelli, Researcher, TMU.

# LAUNCHING THE INAUGURAL CERC MIGRATION WINTER SCHOOL



**Left:** Winter School participants visiting The Neighbourhood Organization, led by Bilal Parekh, Youth Coordinator/Trades Connect at TNO. **Right:** Students learning new qualitative research methodologies over the four days.

In February 2025, CERC Migration hosted its first-ever Winter School, welcoming early-career researchers from around the world to Toronto for an intensive week of hands-on learning and networking. Designed to strengthen qualitative research skills in migration studies, the program combined classroom instruction with community engagement. Participants received advanced training in interviewing techniques, participatory research approaches, data coding and visualizations, and ethical considerations specific to migration research. The program was led by researchers and industry experts who provided both theoretical frameworks and practical guidance. In addition to in-class learning, participants visited community organizations such as Skills for Change and The Neighbourhood Organization, gaining valuable, real-world insights into the lived experiences of migrant and immigrant communities.

The week also delivered an unexpected learning experience—navigating Toronto's winter storms! Braving snowy streets and chilly temperatures, participants adapted to the realities of fieldwork in diverse conditions, a fitting metaphor for the resilience required in migration research.

The success of the inaugural Winter School marks an important step in CERC Migration's efforts to build a global network of emerging migration scholars and to foster the next generation of research excellence in the field. We look forward to welcoming future cohorts to the CERC Migration Winter School.





**Above:** Kick Off Roundtable panel. **Bottom Left:** Breakout discussion tables providing opportunity for collaboration across sectors and disciplines. **Bottom Right:** Marla Asis, Scalabrini Migration Center, shared insights on how ADTs can address the inequities of health care in Canada and around the world.



# 2024 CONFERENCE

## Migration Disrupted: How Technological Transformation is Reshaping Human Mobility



CERC Migration's 5th annual conference, *Migration Disrupted: How Technological Transformation is Reshaping Human Mobility*, was held on May 7–9, 2024, in partnership with *Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides*.

Over the course of three days, a diverse mix of scholars, policymakers, civil society leaders, and industry representatives from Canada and abroad convened to examine the ways advanced digital technologies (ADTs) are transforming migration and integration experiences globally.

Conference discussions highlighted the growing influence of ADTs across societies and economies, exploring both new possibilities and challenges. For recently arrived refugees and migrants, these technologies provide vital support for settlement, including employment guidance, language acquisition, digital platform-based work opportunities, remote work, and maintaining transnational connections with family and communities. ADTs also offer innovative pathways for civic engagement and political participation, enabling involvement across borders.

Yet alongside these opportunities, the conference also spotlighted the risks. The proliferation of ADTs is contributing to structural inequalities, particularly for settled migrants and racialized minorities, by influencing job markets and service provision in ways that may reinforce existing barriers. Issues of digital literacy, language proficiency, and unequal access to high-quality internet and devices continue to create

divides, while algorithmic biases risk perpetuating systemic inequities linked to immigration status, race, ethnicity, class, religion, gender, sexual identity, age, education, profession, and geography. Participants also reflected on how digital platforms can foster both community building and division, sometimes amplifying polarization and extremism.

Throughout the event, participants emphasized the urgent need for equitable and inclusive digital strategies that can mitigate these disparities and ensure that technological innovation strengthens social cohesion rather than deepening divides.

This conference formed part of CERC Migration's broader research program, which examines the complex forces shaping human mobility in a rapidly changing world. By addressing emerging trends such as technological disruption, CERC Migration continues to produce cutting-edge, policy-relevant knowledge to support more inclusive and sustainable approaches to migration and integration, both in Canada and internationally.

We extend our sincere thanks to all participants, volunteers, and supporters who made this event possible.



# ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT

## Stipend Students

CERC Migration supports full-time master’s and PhD students at Toronto Metropolitan University studying migration and integration. In 2024–2025, eight new scholarships and seven ongoing stipends were awarded across nine programs. Stipend students become a part of the CERC Migration team, access mentorship, workshops, and research training, and are paired with senior researchers to guide their development. The year concludes with the Graduate Edition Migration Working Group, where students present their work and receive feedback from senior researchers, Steering Committee members, and the Chair.

### 2024-2025 Stipend Students

<b>Master’s</b> Luísa Cruz, Communications and Culture, Master of Science
Nicole Gordon, Urban Development, Master of Planning
Riley Locke, Urban Development, Master of Planning
Katherine McGuire, Psychology, Master of Arts
Carolyn Nicol, Immigration and Settlement Studies, Master of Arts
Kyla Alexis Palanca, Immigration and Settlement Studies, Master of Arts
Negin Salehi, Environmental Applied Science and Management, Master of Applied Science
Dorothy Wang, Documentary Media, Master of Fine Arts
<b>PhD</b> Chika Agbo, Economics, PhD (in completion)
Bradley Bernard, Management, PhD (second year)
Rica Agnes Castaneda, Policy Studies, PhD (fourth year)

Nick Dreher, Policy Studies, PhD (fourth year)
Dike Ike, Management, PhD (in completion)
Irmak Kurtulmus, Policy Studies, PhD (fourth year)
Georgiana Mathurin, Policy Studies, PhD (second year)
Yu Wei Ye, Management, PhD (third year)

## Visiting Scholars

CERC Migration strengthens its international engagement by hosting visiting researchers from global institutions through independently funded internships and scholarship programs. During their time with CERC Migration, visiting scholars engage in collaborative research, participate in workshops, and contribute their expertise to ongoing CERC Migration initiatives.

### 2024-2025 Visiting Scholar

Yu (Yvonne) Huang, PhD candidate, Edith Cowan University, Australia
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## Global Exchange Fellowship

The Global Exchange Fellowship builds a network of academic institutions to support research collaboration and international exchanges for emerging and mid-career scholars. The program allows PhD students and early-career researchers to spend a month abroad at a partner institution, offering opportunities to conduct fieldwork, access archives, engage with other scholars, present research, and expand professional networks. Fellows may either travel to partner institutions or be hosted at Toronto Metropolitan University, fostering two-way knowledge exchange and global collaboration.

### 2024-2025 Fellows

Earvin Cabalquinto, Monash University in Australia
Theodora Lam, National University of Singapore
Dasom Lee, University of California, San Diego
Carmen Gómez Martín, Department of Sociology and Gender Studies at the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO-Ecuador)
Lucas Moreira dos Anjos Santos, Monash Migration, MMIC (Monash Migration and Inclusion Centre)

## Civil Society & Public Administration Fellows

CERC Migration’s Civil Society & Public Administration Fellowship invites experienced practitioners from civil society organizations and government bodies to participate in one-month residencies at Toronto Metropolitan University. Fellows connect with researchers, share expertise, engage with local stakeholders, and strengthen the link between practice and scholarship in migration and immigrant integration.

### 2024-2025 Fellows

Annie Dimitras, Citizenship Program & Policy Specialist, Seattle Office of Immigrant & Refugee Affairs
Safinaz Jadali, Head Field Unit (Iran), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Marta Pérez Ramírez, Project Manager, Diversit – Association of Intercultural Cities
Nicoletta Eyamo, Social Protection Expert, G100 Cameroon Country Chair, Migrants and Refugees Resettlement Wing, International Labour Organization, G100 Migrants and Refugees Resettlement Wing

## Scholars of Excellence

The CERC Scholars of Excellence program hosts internationally renowned scholars for academic residencies of one to three months, bringing expertise and global perspectives to CERC Migration. The program fosters high-profile collaborations, expands our national and international network, and provides a vibrant environment for knowledge exchange. Scholars engage in workshops, collaborative research, and innovative projects that challenge conventional thinking and enrich our understanding of migration and integration.

### 2024-2025 Scholars

Maruja Milagros B. Asis, Senior Researcher and former Director at the Scalabrini Migration Center
Naika Foroutan, Professor of Social Science, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Co-Founder and Head of Department at the Berlin Institute on Integration and Migration (BIM), Director and Founding Board Member at the German Center for Integration and Migration (DeZIM)
Daniel Hiebert, Professor Emeritus of Geography, University of British Columbia
Thomas Lacroix, Director of research in geography, Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS)
Stephen Reyna, Research Partner, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology
Nina Glick Schiller, Emeritus Professor, University of Manchester, UK and University of New Hampshire, USA
Nasra M. Shah, Professor of Migration and Development, Lahore School of Economics



# MIGRATION WORKING GROUPS

# POLICY BRIEFS AND WORKING PAPER SERIES



**Top Left:** Amin Moghadan, Research Lead, CERC Migration. **Top Right:** Capucine Coustere, Concordia University. **Bottom Left:** Kushan Azadah, York University, and Researcher, CERC Migration. **Bottom Right:** Dike Ike, CERC Migration Stipend Student.

During the reporting period, CERC Migration hosted five Working Group sessions, covering topics such as refugees and forced migration, migration and integration policy, temporary migration, and diaspora and transnationalism. These sessions brought together scholars from diverse disciplines and regions, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration.

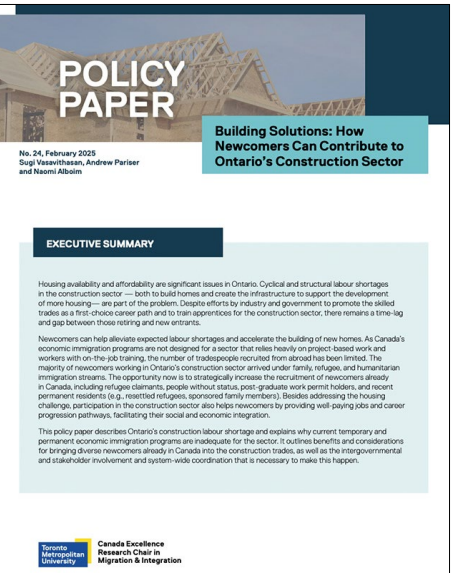
The Working Group provides a valuable platform for early- and mid-career researchers to present their work, receive feedback from other scholars, and expand their professional networks. By participating, emerging researchers gain exposure to cutting-edge research, develop critical skills in scholarly communication, and build connections that support their academic and professional growth within the global migration research community.

## Migration Working Group 2025

Temporary migrations – Labour force and migrant mobilities  
January 28, 2025

Migrant integration and policy  
February 25, 2025

Refugee and forced migration studies  
March 25, 2025



## Policy Brief Series

CERC Migration published five additional issues in its Policy Brief series, curated by Naomi Alboim, Senior Policy Fellow, CERC Migration, and Chair Anna Triandafyllidou, CERC Migration. The series provides concise, evidence-based background and policy recommendations on pressing issues facing decision-makers in Canada and internationally. This year, the briefs explored a diverse range of topics, including:

- Protecting migrant farmworkers in Canada
- Durable Solutions for Syrian Refugees: Safe, Voluntary Returns and Beyond
- Ensuring the success of the new care-worker pilots by applying lessons from the past
- Reforming Australia's work and study visa system
- Building solutions for how newcomers can contribute to Ontario's construction sector

Together, these publications continue to serve as a key resource for policymakers, researchers, and practitioners seeking actionable insights on migration and integration challenges.

A summary of the briefs can be found in the Annex and on the CERC Migration Policy Briefs web page.



## Working Paper Series

The Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement and CERC Migration produce a joint Working Papers series to give researchers an opportunity to stimulate discussion and collect feedback for their scholarly research. The Work Paper series is edited by Research Area Lead Richa Shivakoti with support from Anna Triandafyllidou and Zhixi Zhuang. The series includes work in any discipline on issues related to immigration and settlement. In the 2024-2025 period, 11 new papers were published.

A summary of the papers produced by CERC Migration researchers can be found in the Annex.



# FRANCOPHONE RESEARCH

In 2024–2025, CERC Migration advanced its Francophone research through innovative projects and publications.

## Trajectories of French Students in Canada

As part of its French-language activities and its broader research interest in francophone immigration to Canada, CERC Migration, in collaboration with the French Embassy, funded and conducted a study on the trajectories of French students in Canada. Led by Chair Anna Triandafyllidou, Research Lead Amin Moghadam, and Senior Research Associate Jérémie Molho, the study maps the different trajectories of citizens of France who come to Canada as international students. The main aim of this project is to understand the motivations that bring citizens of France to Canada; the duration of their stay (either short or long term) and whether they stay in Canada, return to France, or move to a third country. This study is of particular importance as these movements may reflect dynamics related to brain drain and brain circulation.

On March 20, 2025, CERC Migration hosted a community event to explore the results of the Survey on the Official Language Minority Population and the experiences and contributions of Canada's francophone minority communities.

## Book Launch: Gouverner les migrations pour perpétuer la mondialisation

On May 15, 2024, CERC Migration was pleased to host a book launch for *Gouverner les migrations pour perpétuer la mondialisation*, written by Research Fellow Younes Ahouga. Published as open access by the University of Ottawa Press, the book examines how the IOM shaped migration governance from the early 2000s to 2018 by criticizing the securitization of migration, correcting the exercise of state sovereignty, developing technocratic interventions to resolve migration and humanitarian crises, and pushing for the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

En 2024-2025, le CERC Migration a fait avancer ses recherches francophones grâce à des projets novateurs et à des publications.

## Trajectoires des étudiants français au Canada

Dans le cadre de ses activités en français et de l'intérêt scientifique porté à l'immigration francophone au Canada, CERC Migration, en collaboration avec l'Ambassade de France, a financé et conduit une étude portant sur les trajectoires des étudiants français au Canada. Dirigée par Anna Triandafyllidou, titulaire de chaire du CERC Migration, Amin Moghadam, responsable de recherche et Jérémie Molho, associé de recherche principal, l'étude répertorie les différentes trajectoires des ressortissants français qui viennent au Canada en tant qu'étudiants internationaux. Le projet a pour objectif principal de comprendre les motivations qui amènent les ressortissants français au Canada, la durée de leur séjour (à court ou à long terme) et s'ils restent au Canada, retournent en France ou s'installent dans un pays tiers. Cette étude revêt une importance particulière, car ces mouvements peuvent refléter des dynamiques liées à la fuite et au mouvement des cerveaux.

Le 20 mars 2025, le CERC Migration a organisé un événement communautaire pour explorer les résultats de l'Enquête sur la population de langue officielle en situation minoritaire, ainsi que les expériences et contributions des communautés francophones minoritaires du Canada.

## Lancement de livre : Gouverner les migrations pour perpétuer la mondialisation

Le 15 mai 2024, le CERC Migration a eu le plaisir de procéder au lancement du livre *Gouverner les migrations pour perpétuer la mondialisation*, écrit par Younes Ahouga, stagiaire postdoctoral. Publié en libre accès par les Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa, cet ouvrage examine comment l'OIM a façonné la gouvernance migratoire du début des années 2000 à 2018 en critiquant la sécurisation des migrations, en corrigeant l'exercice de la souveraineté étatique, en élaborant des interventions technocratiques pour résoudre les crises migratoires et humanitaires, et en exerçant des pressions en faveur de l'adoption du Pacte mondial pour les migrations sûres, ordonnées et régulières.

# BORDERS & BELONGING PODCAST

## SEASON 3 OF THE AWARD-WINNING PODCAST



Borders & Belonging is CERC Migration's award-winning flagship podcast, designed for scholars, practitioners, and policymakers seeking rigorous, evidence-based discussions on human mobility. Hosted by Maggie Perzyna, the show critically examines contemporary migration debates, bridging the gap between academic research and real-world policy and practice.

In Season 3, which was released during 2024-2025, the show focuses on the key questions being asked by migration scholars. Can sanctuary cities inspire innovative approaches to migrant and refugee urban integration? How can we put the principle, "nothing about us without us" into practice? And what does it mean to decentre migration research?

Tune in to Borders on Belonging on your preferred podcast platform or visit the CERC Migration website.



## What's driving migration? Borders & Belonging



15 30 1x More Info Share

	How do I decentre that?	50:26
	False narratives with real consequences: The impact of social media disinformation on migration policy	50:41
	Irregular not irrelevant: Conceptualizing and measuring irregular migration	43:55
	Artful connections: Challenging narratives of migration and belonging using arts-based methods	55:02
	What is a solidarity city?	48:02



# IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

## 9 | Global Exchange Fellowship partner institutions



## Number of externally funded grants | 8

Project	Project Scientific Leads	Program	Funder
Understanding Cultural and Identity Narratives in the Age of Advanced Digital Technologies	Masoud Kianpour	Knowledge Synthesis Grants	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
Navigating the Identity Spectrum: South Asian Diversity in Canada and its Impact on Employment Integration	Marshia Akbar	Insight Grants	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
Highly Skilled Migrants in Global Cities (SKIM): Exploring Complex Pathways, Motivations, and Experiences	Jérémie Molho	Insight Grants	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
Leveraging community-arts for immigrant integration	Alka Kumar	Partnership Engage Grants	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
Youth in Focus: Supporting neighbourhood organizations to better address the needs of newcomer youth	Melissa Kelly	Engage Grants	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
One Land Two Hearts: WhereWeStand Premieres	Cyrus Sundar Singh and Anna Triandafyllidou	Research	Heritage Canada
FUTUREMIG-- Futures of Migration and Mobility Partnership	Anna Triandafyllidou	Partnership Development Grants	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
Improving International Student Success: Examining College Policies and Strategies for Recruitment and Employment Support in Ontario and British Columbia	Marshia Akbar and Anna Triandafyllidou	Mitacs Accelerate	Mitacs

## Number of Fellowships | 31

(Civil Society, Scholars of Excellence, Journalism, Incoming and Outgoing Global Exchange, Other)

## Number of Events

27

## Media Hits

31



# APPENDICES

## ANNEX I: People

### CERC Migration Research & Administrative Team

Throughout the 2024–2025 reporting year, the CERC Migration team brought together a dynamic group of 42 core staff—including the Chair, full-time researchers, and administrative professionals—supported by 8 undergraduate interns and 1 graduate placement student. The team was further strengthened by 27 part-time researchers who contributed across a range of short- and long-term contracts. We also had the privilege of hosting visiting scholars from institutions around the world for short-term research stays (see pages 23). The following individuals shaped and supported the work of CERC Migration over the past year.

#### Chair

Anna Triandafyllidou, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration

#### Management and Operations Team

Rajeshwar Acharya, Research Support Assistant (as of September 2024)

Luisa Della Pietra, Social Media Coordinator

Claire Ellis, Operations Manager

Grace Esford, Digital Media Specialist

Marissa Hawrylez, Research Support Assistant (until August 2024)

Anne Huang, Research Account Coordinator

Zoya Islam, Marketing and Communications Manager (as of January 2025)

Jessica Jung, Events Coordinator and Operations Administrator (interim)

Xia (Lisa) Li, Research Accounts Support Officer

Laura Matthews, Marketing and Communications Manager (until October 2024)

Maansi Mendiratta, Events Coordinator and Operations Administrator

Maggie Perzyna, Operations Manager (interim)

Evelyn Siu, Partnership Engagement Manager

#### Undergraduate Student Assistants

Dilery Arik, Financial Assistant

Aia Bakir, Migration Research Projects Assistant

Hailey Davidson, Work Study Research Assistant

Roanna de Guzman, Build a Bridge Assistant

Tashdeed Khan, MEMO Project Assistant

Husnain Mirza, MEMO Project Assistant

Negin Mohammadi, Financial Assistant

Kevin Nguyễn, Financial Assistant

Nick Velez, MEMO Project Assistant

#### Graduate Program Placement Student

Ream Zreik, Immigration and Settlement Studies

#### Research Team

Younes Ahouga, Senior Research Fellow & Project Coordinator

Marshia Akbar, Research Area Lead, Labour Migration

Naomi Alboim, Senior Policy Fellow

Yousef Khalifa Aleghfeli, Research Fellow confirm name

Asma Atique, Research Fellow

Emma Bouillard, Researcher

John Carlaw, Senior Research Associate

Nicholas A. R. Fraser, Senior Research Associate

Monica Gagnon, Research Fellow

Daniela Ghio, Senior Research Fellow & Project Coordinator

Sarah Hoyos-Hoyos, Researcher

Irina Isaakyan, Senior Research Associate

Kiana Jenabidehkordi, Senior Research Associate

Hari KC, Research Fellow

Melissa Kelly, Senior Research Associate, Mentorship Program Lead

Masoud Kianpour, Senior Research Fellow & Project Coordinator

Alka Kumar, Mitacs Elevate Postdoctoral Fellow

Maryam Lashkari, Research Fellow

Alice Massari, Marie Curie Global Fellow

Amin Moghadam, Research Area Lead, Cities and Migration; Responsable du développement du réseau francophone de la recherche

Shiva Mohan, Research Fellow

Jérémie Molho, Senior Research Associate

Ashika Niraula, Senior Research Associate

Oreva Olakpe, Senior Research Fellow & Project Coordinator

Aziz Rahman, Research Fellow

Richa Shivakoti, Research Area Lead, Migration Governance

Homayoun Shirazi, Research Fellow

Cyrus Sundar Singh, Research Fellow

#### Part-Time Researchers

Vaidehi Atodaria, Researcher

Kushan Azadah, Researcher

Erica Borelli, Researcher

Rica Agnes Castaneda, Researcher

Karian Chen, Researcher

Kelly Crawford, Researcher

Dorian Davidson, Researcher

Nick Dreher, Researcher

Sara Hormozinejad, Researcher

Asra Khan, Researcher

Irmak Kurtulmus, Researcher

Laura Lam, Researcher

Saskia Laufer, Researcher

Nicole Lee, Researcher

Georgiana Mathurin, Researcher

Shiva Mazrouei-Seidani, Researcher

Lucia Nalbandian, Researcher

Deepa Nagari, Researcher

Naheed Nero, Researcher

Maggie Perzyna, Researcher

Monisha Poojary, Researcher

Hiba Rasheed, Researcher

Saumya Rai, Researcher

Tahmid Rouf, Researcher

Morteza Shams, Researcher

Misrak Tekle Yacob, Researcher

Tomee Tzatzanis, Researcher

#### Governance

CERC Migration’s work is guided by both external and internal advisory committees.

The CERC Migration Steering Committee is composed of six Toronto Metropolitan University faculty members from the three faculties involved in CERC Migration: Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Community Services and the Ted Rogers School of Management. Members collaborate with and advise CERC Migration throughout the year.

Mehrunnisa Ahmad Ali, Professor of Early Childhood Studies, Faculty of Community Services

Rupa Banerjee, Canada Research Chair in Economic Inclusion, Employment and Entrepreneurship of Canada’s Immigrants and Associate Professor of Human Resource Management and Organizational Behaviour

Harald Bauder, Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, Faculty of Arts

Usha George, Professor of Social Work, Faculty of Community Services

Henry Parada, Professor of Social Work, Faculty of Community Services and Graduate Program Director, Immigration and Settlement Studies

John Shields, Professor of Politics and Public Administration, Faculty of Arts

Zhixi C. Zhuang, Associate Professor, School of Urban and Regional Planning, Academic Director of the Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement and Founder and Director of DiverCityLab



The Institutional Advisory Board meets annually to review plans and ensure that CERC Migration’s strategic research, training and outreach objectives align with TMU’s broader strategic and graduate training plans and priorities.

Tanya (Toni) De Mello, Vice-President, Equity and Community Inclusion

Kiaras Gharabaghi, Dean, Faculty of Community Services (Designate: Jennifer Martin, Professor and Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Scholarly, Research and Creative Activity, Faculty of Community Services)

Cynthia Holmes, Dean, Ted Rogers School of Management

Carl Kumaradas, Vice-Provost and Dean, Yeates School of Graduate Studies

Steven N. Liss, Vice-President, Research and Innovation (Designate: Naomi Adelson, Associate Vice-President, Research and Innovation)

Krishan Mehta, Vice-President, University Advancement and Alumni Relations

Cory Searcy – Professor, Mechanical, Industrial, and Mechatronics Engineering; Assistant Vice-President (AVP), International

Amy Peng, Dean of Arts (Designate: Mélanie Knight, Interim Associate Dean of Arts, Research & Graduate Studies / Advisor to the Dean, Blackness and Black Diasporic Education)

The International Advisory Board brings together globally renowned scholars and stakeholders to provide advice on research agendas and objectives and to make connections to broaden CERC Migration’s international reach. Members meet annually and provide ongoing advice throughout the year.

Yasmeen Abu-Laban, Professor of Political Science and Canada Research Chair in the Politics of Citizenship and Human Rights, University of Alberta

Daniel Hiebert, Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia

Marina Manke, Chief, Global Migration Data Analysis Centre, International Organization for Migration

Mireille Paquet, Associate Professor, Research Chair on the Politics of Immigration, Concordia University and Scientific Director of the Équipe de recherche sur l’immigration au Québec et ailleurs

Nicola Piper, Professor of International Migration and British Academy Global Professor Fellow, Queen Mary University of London

S. Irudaya Rajan, Chair, International Institute of Migration and Development

Joseph Teye, Associate Professor and Director of Research, University of Ghana

Raúl Delgado Wise, Professor and Director of Development Studies, Autonomous University of Zacatecas

Brenda Yeoh, Raffles Professor and Director, Humanities and Social Science Research Office of Deputy President (Research & Technology), National University of Singapore

The Stakeholder Advisory Board advises and connects the CERC Migration team with the stakeholder community throughout Canada.

Henry Akanko, Director, Hire Immigrants Ottawa

Debbie Douglas, Executive Director, Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants

Shamira Madhany, Managing Director Canada and Deputy Executive Director, World Education Services

Gordana Radan, Chief Executive Officer, Calgary Catholic Immigration Society

Ruth Mojeed Ramirez, Chief Equity Officer, The Inclusion Project

Stephen Reichhold, Directeur Général, Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes

## ANNEX II: Research publications

The CERC Migration publications produced during the reporting period are organized according to the four thematic areas of our research portfolio:

- The governance of migration in a globalizing world
- Managing labour migration in the 21st century
- Migration and the city
- Narratives and politics on migration and integration

Akbar, M. (2024). Challenges facing international college students in Canada. In S. Irudaya Rajan (Ed.), *India migration report 2023: Student migration* (pp. 138–160). Routledge.

Carlaw, J., & Azadah, K. (2024). Pathways to permanence and immigration levels: A critical policy discourse analysis (CPDA) of struggles and limits to societal membership for migrants amidst and emerging from COVID-19 (2020–2022) in Canada.

Collrin, B., & Dreher, N. (2025). Innovative approaches to community-based housing for precarious migrants and refugees. CERC Migration Policy Brief.

Flamant, A., & Lacroix, T. (2025). The Association Nationale des Villes et Territoires Accueillants: The becoming of an activist city network. *CERC Migration Working Paper No. 2025/01*

Hennebry, J., & KC, H. (2024). One step forward, two steps back: Pandemic policy responses and the gendered implications for women and LGBTQI+ migrants. In *Research handbook on migration, gender, and COVID-19*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Jung, J., Hudson, G., & Bauder, H. (2024). Urban sanctuary in Canadian mid-sized cities. *CERC Migration Working Paper No. 2024/02*

KC, H., & Triandafyllidou, A. (2025). Digital nomadism and the emergence of digital nomad visas: What policy objectives do states aim to achieve? *International Migration Review*.

Kelly, M. (2024). “We just fly by the seat of our pants sometimes here”: Understanding the provision of settlement and integration supports in rural Saskatchewan. *Canadian Ethnic Studies*, 56(3), 123–143.

Kelly, M. (2024). Moving to find home: Emotion, imagination, and onward migration in the Iranian diaspora. *Emotion, Space and Society*, 50, 1–8.

Kelly, M. (2024). Reflections on “welcoming” second- and third-tier cities in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States. In A. Triandafyllidou, A. Moghadam, M. Kelly, & Z. Şahin-Mencütek (Eds.), *Migration and cities: Conceptual and policy advances* (pp. 143–158). Springer.

Massari, A. (2024). Migration agencies’ visual performance within the border spectacle: The case of EU and Canadian institutions. *Comparative Migration Studies*, 12(1), 1–20.

Massari, A. (2024). The visual governance of Canadian migration agencies. *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies*, 1–18.

Mencütek, Z. S., & Triandafyllidou, A. (2024). A critical perspective on the “refugee crisis” in Europe. In R. D. Wise, B. Likić-Brborić, R. Munck, & C. U. Schierup (Eds.), *Handbook on migration and development: A counter-hegemonic perspective* (pp. 381–396). Edward Elgar Publishing.

Moghadam, A. (2024). The comedian, the poet and the philanthropist: Transnational cultural actors and social remittances between Dubai and southern Iran. In N. M. Shah (Ed.), *Social remittances and social change: Focus on Asia and the Middle East* (pp. 107–130). Lahore School of Economics.

Moghadam, A. (2024). Urban diversity and spatial justice: A critical overview. In A. Triandafyllidou, A. Moghadam, M. Kelly, & Z. Şahin-Mencütek (Eds.), *Migration and cities: Conceptual and policy advances* (pp. 61–79). Springer.

Monteiro, S. (2024). Searching for settlement information on Reddit. *International Migration*.

Olakpe, O. (2024). AU-EU cooperation on returns: Understanding transregional dialogues and contesting regional mobility agendas. *European Commission*.

Olakpe, O., Sambe, M., & Aliyu, R. (2024). The migration and informal market nexus: A study of Nigerien forex traders in Benin City. *Africa Development Journal*, 48(3), 25–48.



Preston, V., Shields, J., & Akbar, M. (2025). Social resilience and settlement agencies responding to a crisis. In V. Preston, J. Shields, & T. Bedard (Eds.), *Social resilience and international migration in the Canadian city* (pp. 24–40). McGill-Queen’s University Press.

Reyna, S. (2024). Big pictures: Capitalism, imperialism, climate change, war, and migration. *CERC Migration Working Paper No. 2024/05*

Şahin-Mencütek, Z. (2024). Durable solutions for Syrian refugees: Safe, voluntary returns and beyond. *CERC Migration Policy Brief, 21*.

Şahin-Mencütek, Z., & Triandafyllidou, A. (2024). Coerced return: Formal policies, informal practices and migrants’ navigation. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 1–18.

Shivakoti, R. (2024). The governance of temporary labour migration in Asia. *CERC Migration Working Paper No. 2024/10*

Triandafyllidou, A. (2024). Migration and globalisation: Dynamics and contradictions. In A. Triandafyllidou (Ed.), *Handbook of migration and globalisation* (pp. 1–24). Edward Elgar Publishing.

Triandafyllidou, A., & Monteiro, S. (2024). Migration narratives on social media: Digital racism and subversive migrant subjectivities. *First Monday, 29*(8–5).

Triandafyllidou, A., Moghadam, A., Kelly, M., & Şahin-Mencütek, Z. (Eds.). (2024). *Migration and cities: Conceptual and policy advances*. Springer.

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Vasavithasan, S., Pariser, A., & Alboim, N. (2025). Building solutions: How newcomers can contribute to Ontario’s construction sector. *CERC Migration Policy Brief, 24*.

Wright, C. F., & Clibborn, S. (2024). Fixing a broken system? Reforming Australia’s work and study visas. *CERC Migration Policy Brief, 23*.

ANNEX III: CERC Migration podcast: Borders & Belonging

The third season of CERC Migration’s podcast, *Borders & Belonging*, examined key questions being asked by migration scholars. Can sanctuary cities inspire innovative approaches to migrant and refugee urban integration? How can we put the principle, “nothing about us without us” into practice? And what does it mean to decentre migration research? All episodes were hosted by CERC Migration Researcher Maggie Perzyna.

Episodes from season three:

Episode 1: Nothing about us without us with Mustafa Alio, Co-Managing Director of R-SEAT; Oroub El-Abed, Associate Professor at Birzeit University and Middle East Regional Research Coordinator for the LERRN project; and James Milner, Associate Professor and Director of the Migration and Diaspora Studies program at Carleton University, and Project Director of LERRN. (Season 3, Episode 1). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 2: What is a solidarity city? with Véronique Lamontagne, Lawyers Without Borders Canada; Harald Bauder, Toronto Metropolitan University; and Mary Boatemaa Setrana, University of Ghana. (Season 3, Episode 2). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 3: Artful connections: Challenging narratives of migration and belonging using arts-based methods with Izzeddin Hawamda, Palestinian teacher, writer and co-founder of the interfaith dialog group Bridge; Aaron McKay, Anishinaabemowin photographer and the founder of Giwe platform; Cyrus Sundar Singh, Research Fellow, CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University, and an award-winning filmmaker, musician and storyteller; and Heather George, Executive Director, Woodland Cultural Center, curator, artist and educator. (Season 3, Episode 3). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 4: Irregular not irrelevant: Conceptualizing and measuring irregular migration with Brynn Campbell, founder of Aidez Nous à Aider; Ilse van Liempt, Associate Professor at Utrecht University and coordinator of the Horizon Europe project Improving the Living and Labour Conditions of Irregular Migrant households in Europe (I-CLAIM); and Albert Kraler, Assistant Professor at Danube University Krems and coordinator of the Horizon Europe project Measuring Irregular Migration (MIrreM). (Season 3, Episode 4). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 5: False narratives with real consequences: The impact of social media disinformation on migration policy with Katie Paul, Director, Tech Transparency Project; Anatoliy Gruzd, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Privacy Preserving Digital Technologies, Toronto Metropolitan University; and Mattias Ekman, Associate Professor, Stockholm University. (Season 3, Episode 5). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 6: How do I decentre that? with Sharon Stein, Associate Professor, University of British Columbia, founder of Gesturing Towards Decolonial Futures Collective; Peggy Levitt, Chair of Sociology, Wellesley College; and Amin Moghadam, Research Lead, Cities and Migration, CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University. (Season 3, Episode 6). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 7: What’s driving migration? with Gretchen Kuhner, director of the Institute for Women in Migration, Mexico City, Claudia Masferrer, Associate Professor, El Colegio de México, and Coordinator of the Regional Hub for the Americas, MEMO Project, and Richa Shivakoti, Research Lead on Migration Governance, CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University, and South Asia Hub Member, MEMO Project. (Season 3, Episode 7). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 8: Skills shortages, AI and the future of work with Mateusz Żydek, Communication Team Lead at Randstad Polska; Tesseltje De Lange, professor at Radboud University and principal investigator of the Global Strategy for Skills Migration and Development (GS4S) project; and Alexandra Przegalińska, professor at Kozminski University and member of the Link4Skills project. (Season 3, Episode 8). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 9: Beyond the Big City with Sarah Wiseman, Canada Branch Director, Shapiro Foundation; Melissa Kelly, Senior Research Associate at CERC Migration, TMU; and Aude Bernard, Senior Lecturer at the School of the Environment, University of Queensland. (Season 3, Episode 9). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

Episode 10: The violence of uncertainty: Everyday impacts of precarious immigration status with Sarah Pole, Program Director of Childhood Arrival Support & Advocacy Program (CASA) at Justice for Children and Youth Legal Clinic; Patricia Landolt, Professor of Sociology at University of Toronto; and Benjamin Roth, Associate Dean at the College of Social Work, University of South Carolina (Season 3, Episode 10). In *Borders and Belonging*. CERC Migration.

ANNEX IV: Webinars, hybrid workshops, exhibitions and premieres

Webinars

**South-South Migrations and the Law from Below: Case Studies on China and Nigeria (Book Launch)**, April 03, 2024

Oreva Olakpe, CERC Migration Research Fellow

Discussant: Uchechukwu Ngwaba, Assistant Professor, Lincoln Alexander School of Law

**Gouverner les migrations pour perpétuer la mondialisation : Gestion migratoire et Organisation internationale pour les migrations (Book Launch)**, May 15, 2024

Younes Ahouga, CERC Migration Research Fellow

Thomas Lacroix, CNRS Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for International Research, Sciences Po, Paris.

**Public Reading of "First night in Tehranto: Memories and reflections of Toronto’s Iranian immigrants"**, June 11, 2024

**Fair Farmwork Forum - Empowering migrant farmworkers through social certification**, September 23, 2024

Anna Triandafyllidou, Chair CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University

Tanya Basok, Professor, University of Windsor

Erika Borrelli, Researcher, CERC Migration, and PhD student, University of Windsor.



**Lunch & Learn: with Visiting Fellows Tobias Stapf and Dasom Lee**, September 24, 2024

Tobias Stapf, Senior Researcher on Migration and Digitalisation, Minor – Projektkontor für Bildung und Forschung  
Dasom Lee, PhD Candidate, Department of Sociology, University of California, San Diego

**The New Governance of Religious Diversity (Book Launch)**, September 25, 2024

Tariq Modood, Professor and Founding Director of the Research Centre for the Study of Ethnicity and Citizenship, University of Bristol.  
Thomas Sealy, Lecturer in Ethnicity and Race, University of Bristol.

**Lunch & Learn: Pablo Ceriani Cernadas**, October 16, 2024

Pablo Ceriani Cernadas, United Nations Committee on the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families

**One Land, Two Hearts: WhereWeStand at Rodman Art Institute of Niagara**, October 19, 2024

Exhibition: Oct. 19–Dec. 19, 2024, Rodman Art Institute of Niagara (RAiN).

**Lunch & Learn: Andreas Pott, Chris F. Wright and Peter W. Walsh**, November 25, 2024

Anna Triandafyllidou, Chair CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University  
Andreas Pott, Universität Osnabrück  
Peter W. Walsh, University of Oxford  
Chris F Wright, University of Sydney

**Research Seminar with Heli Askola**, December 02, 2024

Heli Askola, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Monash University.  
Masoud Kianpour, Senior Research Fellow, CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University.  
Triadafilos (Phil) Triadafilopoulos, University of Toronto Scarborough.

**Workshops**

**FIT-ART Policy Workshop - Fostering integration through the arts: Insights from practitioners**, June 06, 2024

Co-convened by Anna Triandafyllidou, Chair CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University; Jeremie Molho, CERC Migration, Shawn Newman, Toronto Art Council; Shawn Newman, Toronto Arts Council

*Roundtable 1*

- Art as a tool for social and economic integration

Discussants: Dima Amad, Arab Community Centre of Toronto; Sheena D. Robertson, Kick Start Arts; Annie Katsura Rollins, MABELLEarts

Chair: Eva Hellreich, SKETCH working arts

*Roundtable 2*

- Refugee creativity and resilience

Discussants: Nour Kaadan, Music From Hope; Loly Rico, FCJ Refugee Centre; Jacky Tuinstra Harrison & Rebekah Jaberifard, Matthew House

Chair: Alka Kumar, Toronto Metropolitan University

*Roundtable 3*

- Newcomer artists’ professionalization challenges

Discussants: Joao Leao, Musician and producer; Hamed Tabein, Photographer; Salbhi Sumaiya, Visual artist; Stephanie Mae Draker, WorkInCulture

Chair: Rupal Shah, Toronto Arts Council

*Roundtable 4*

- Building inclusive art scenes

Discussants: Umair Jaffar, Small World Music Society; Sharada Eswar, Jumblies Theatre; Kevin A. Ormsby, Cultural Pluralism in the Arts Movement Ontario; Camille Fontaine, Visual artist

Chair: Tomée Tzatzanis, Toronto Metropolitan University

*Conclusion*

- Key takeaways and future directions

Discussants: Jeremie Molho, Toronto Metropolitan University; Zhixi Zhuang, Toronto Metropolitan University; Devyani Saltzman, Toronto Arts Council

**Ethics for research**, September 27, 2024

Convened by Mehrunnisa Ali, School of Early Childhood Studies.

**Writing grant proposals and fundraising for research**, October 11, 2024

Co-convened by Anna Triandafyllidou, Chair CERC Migration and Monica Gagnon, SSHRC postdoctoral fellow at CERC Migration.

**Using autoethnography, creative writing and participatory approaches as research methods in migration studies**, November 01, 2024

Convened by Alka Kumar, CERC Migration.

**How to write an effective policy brief**, November 15, 2024

Co-convened by Naomi Alboim, Senior Policy Fellow at CERC Migration and Melissa Kelly, Senior Research Associate and Mentorship Program Lead at CERC Migration

**BMO Ideas Lab: Employment integration of international students post-graduation**, December 03, 2024

Convened by Anna Triandafyllidou, Chair CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University.

**Navigating uncertainty: Leveraging digital technologies for migration decisions**, February 11 - February 12, 2025

Co-convened by Anna Triandafyllidou, Chair CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University; Igor Grossmann, Professor of Psychology, University of Waterloo; Faisal Garba, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Cape Town; Ana Beduschi, Professor of Law, University of Exeter.

*Panel 1: Decision-making and information processing under (radical) uncertainty – what do we know from social psychology and cognitive science perspectives and how can these insights be applied to the uncertainty of the migration context?*

- The psychology of life’s most important decisions, Ralph Hertwig, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin
- Migration, misinformation, and intergroup relations in multicultural societies, Kinga Bierwiazzonek, The Leibniz Institute for Psychology, Trier
- Clicking towards a new horizon: How digital technology shapes cognitive processes and migration decisions, Dzifa Atta, University of Ghana

Chair: Igor Grossmann, University of Waterloo



*Panel 2: Migrant information processing and decision making in relation to the use of advanced digital technologies before leaving and while in transit*

- Migrant domestic workers, digital communication technologies and emotion work in critical pandemic times, Brenda Yeoh, National University of Singapore
- Role of social media in influencing migration decisions of potential labour migrants and the aspiration of displaced populations: Perspectives from Kenya, Linda Oucho, African Migration and Development Policy Centre (AMADPOC), Nairobi
- The mediating role of traditional and social media in African migration, Leander Kandilige, University of Ghana
- Digital tech, inequality, and migration: Ethical and political considerations, Tim Unwin, Royal Holloway, University of London

Chair: Pragna Rugunanan, University of Johannesburg

*Film presentation and talk* by Cyrus Sundar Singh: Imagining and representing migration and mobility in the 20th and 21st centuries

*Panel 3: Migrant information processing and decision making in relation to the use of advanced digital technologies: Insights from the African continent*

- Digital viabilities: Technologies of repair and reconstruction in South Asian migration to Cape Town, South Africa, Leah Koskimaki, University of Western Cape
- The role of digital transfers in the formalisation of migrant remittances, Alexandra Tapsoba, Joseph Ki-Zerbo University, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
- Decision-making among Hadiya migrants: Digital technologies, borders, and brokers, Fana Gebresenbet, Addis Ababa University
- The role of digital technology in constraining migration in Africa: A reflection of the role of the European Union, Cletus Muluh Momasoh, University of Cape Town

Chair: Faisal Garba, University of Cape Town

*Panel 4: Researching the ethical and legal considerations related to the use of advanced digital technologies by people on the move particularly as regards data privacy and surveillance*

- The legibility of asylum seeker bodies in era of datafication: the case of smartphone screening, Koen Leurs
- Migration, gender, care, and law: Perspectives from the Americas, Helena Alviar García, Sciences Po and STIAS Fellow
- Rebooting migration? The role of technology and digital tools in migration, Jasmijn Slootjes, Migration Policy Institute Europe
- Mobile phone data analysis as part of the asylum procedure: A critical appraisal, Niovi Vavoula, University of London

Chair: Ana Beduschi, University of Exeter

*Concluding Roundtable: What have we learnt on migration, advanced digital technologies and decision making: Interdisciplinary perspectives*

Discussants: Ilan Chabay, Arizona State University and STIAS fellow; Alex Ezeh, Drexel University and STIAS Fellow; Haroon Akram-Lodhi, Trent University and STIAS fellow; Stephen Gelb, STIAS Fellow.

Chair: Anna Triandafyllidou

**La francophonie canadienne en chiffres: Résultats de l’enquête sur la population de langue officielle en contexte minoritaire,** March 20, 2025

Co-convened by Anna Triandafyllidou, Chair CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University and Linda Cardinal, Université de l’Ontario français

*Panel 1 : Méthodologie de l’enquête sur la population de langue officielle en situation minoritaire*

Discussant: Marc Valade, Observatoire en immigration francophone au Canada; Marie-Hélène Toupin, Statistics Canada; Dominique Pépin-Filion, Statistics Canada; Éric Caron-Malenfant, Statistics Canada.

Chair: Lamine Kamano, Université de Moncton.

*Panel 2 : Résultats de l’enquête sur la population francophone en situation minoritaire*

Discussant: Luisa Veronis, Université d’Ottawa; Dominique Pépin-Filion, Statistique Canada; Éric Caron-Malenfant, Statistique Canada; Marie-Hélène Toupin, Statistique Canada.

Chair: Amal Madibbo, University of Toronto.

*Panel 3 : La francophonie canadienne et l’immigration*

Discussants: Halimatou Ba, Université Saint-Boniface; Alain Dobi, Réseau en immigration francophone CSO Hamilton; Dada Gasirabo, Centre Oasis pour femmes, Toronto; Martin Normand, Association des collèges et universités de la francophonie canadienne

Chair: Soukaina Boutiyeb, Alliance des femmes de la francophonie canadienne

## ANNEX V: Migration Working Group sessions

### April 30, 2024 - Diaspora and Transnationalism

Chairs: **Amin Moghadam**, Research Lead, CERC Migration and **Masoud Kianpour**, Research Fellow, CERC Migration

- Bridging deep divides: Diaspora activism in Canada's Chinese and Iranian communities, Alidad Mafinezam
- My Ukraine is here: Travelling memories of belonging in the Ukrainian diaspora in Canada (1945-1991), Elisa Lucente, University of Pavia
- The Ghanaian diaspora and return visits to their homeland: Ghanaian Canadians’ articulations of home, place attachment and sense of belonging, Vivien Bediako, York University
- Living in between: A narrative inquiry of 1.5 generation Iranians’ experiences of belonging and mental well-being in a transnational context, Shiva Mazrouei, McMaster University

### June 18, 2024 - Year-end Symposium

Chairs: **Melissa Kelly**, CERC Migration Senior Research Associate and Mentorship Program Lead and **Anna Triandafyllidou**, Chair CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University

*Panel 1: Critical reflections on Canadian immigration and integration policies*

- Quantitative analysis of the Canadian economic migration programs: Charting a path forward for Canada’s settlement strategy, Chika Agbo
- Reversing the tide: Innovative migration policies and their role in the socioeconomic growth of rural Canadian communities, Jodi-Ann Francis-Walker
- Towards a theory of seamless migrant entrepreneurship: A multi-case study approach, Bradley Bernard

Discussants: Rupa Banerjee and John Shields

Chairs: Dike Ike and Rica Agnes Castaneda

*Panel 2: The role of institutions in migration and integration governance*

- Addressing the governance gap for climate-induced displacement through institutionalism, Irmak Kurtulmus
- An institutional ethnography approach to the study of transnational governance, Nick Dreher
- The role of community land trusts in protecting immigrant business from gentrification: Case studies of Toronto, Nicole Gordon

Discussants: Irina Isaakyan and Richa Shivakoti

Chairs: Chika Agbo and Georgiana Mathurin

*Panel 3: Migration and integration in transnational perspective*

- Between two shores: Export strategies and financial performance of Canada's 1.5-generation immigrant entrepreneurs, Yu Wei Ye
- What drives green entrepreneurship among returnees? A case study of Nigeria, Dike Ike
- Decisions, decisions: Migration decision making among international students coming to Canada, Rica Agnes Castaneda

Discussants: Mehrunissa Ali and Amin Moghadam

Chairs: Irmak Kurtulmuş and Bradley Bernard

*Panel 4: The lived experiences of migrants and their descendants in Canada*

- African and Caribbean Black women with precarious migration status: Canada the welcoming and multicultural country?, Georgiana Mathurin



- Intersecting migration and artistic labour: Applications of the aspirations-capabilities framework to newcomer cultural workers in Toronto, Luísa Cruz
- Hacer Hogar (Making Home): Placemaking through arts-based practices and documentary media, Pablo Rincón Díaz
- Family History and its Impacts: Exploring the Narratives of Third Generation Holocaust Descendants in Toronto, Noah Draper

Discussants: Usha George and Zhixi Zhuang

Chairs: Nick Dreher and Yu Wei Ye

**January 28, 2025 - Temporary Migrations - Labour force and migrant mobility**

Chairs: **Younes Ahouga**, CERC Migration and **Hari KC**, CERC Migration

- Gendered nationalism in wartimes: Ukraine's exit ban on military-age men and oversight of the displaced women and children by Aryan Karimi & Yuliya Byelikova, University of British Columbia
- Women's resistance at the core of the global economy by Abdoul-Malik Ahmad, Laval University
- How to build a highly skilled migrant by María Cervantes-Macías, University of British Columbia
- The two-child ideal family size: How migration to the U.S. influences fertility choices back home by Ana P. Canedo Guichard, University of Montreal
- Trap or stepping stone? The multiple roles of hospitality in temporary migrants' trajectories in Quebec by Capucine Coustere, Concordia University

**February 25, 2025 - Migrant Integration and Policy**

Chairs: Ashika Niraula, CERC Migration and Amin Moghadam, CERC Migration

- Chinese lowans' community resilience to the Covid-19 pandemic by Shu Wan, University at Buffalo
- Nested [broader-selective] integration of South Asians: Mediating role of language, ethnicity, and networking by Kashif Raza, University of British Columbia
- How to build a highly skilled migrant by Ana Luisa Martinho & Joana Topa, Polytechnic University of Porto, Centre for Organisational and Social Studies of the Polytechnic Institute of Porto & University of Maia, University of Lisbon
- The challenges of migrant Christianity: Catholic and Protestant approaches to cultural diversity and integration by Ester Gallo & Francesca Scrinzi, University of Trento, University of Glasgow
- Franchise constellations: New framework and dataset to connect the study of immigrant and emigrant electoral rights by Klaudia Wegschaider, Yale University
- Embodied faith: Material religion and Egyptian diaspora in Milan by Eslam Alaa ElBahlawan, University of Milano-Bicocca

**March 25, 2025 - Refugee and forced migration studies**

Chairs: **Yousef Khalifa Aleghfeli**, CERC Migration and **Asma Atique**, CERC Migration

- Queer refuge: Stories of home and problems of upward mobility by Ayse Irem Karabag, York University
- Moving beyond the camp: Refugee governance, humanitarianism and the lives of Sudanese refugees in Kampala, Uganda by Ahlam Elgamal, Oldenburg University
- Searching for Raaha: Rituals and paraphernalia of housing precarity by Hatim Rachdi, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
- Politics of deservingness in Canadian refugee policy: A case study on Afghan resettlement (2021-2023) by Kushan Azadah, York University & Toronto Metropolitan University
- Food on display: Connecting home(land) and identity negotiation of the Rohingya refugees in Brisbane city by Abdul Aziz, Monash University Malaysia

**ANNEX VI: Scholar of Excellence Workshops, 2024 - 2025**

**April 23, 2024- The “integration business”: A radical critique on migration, development and reception services**

Co-convened by CERC Scholar of Excellence **Nina Glick Shiller**, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, and **Anna Triandafyllidou**, Chair, CERC Migration

*The Migrant Integration Business*

- The four logics of capital extraction of the “Integration Business”, Nina Glick Schiller, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology
- Migration service as a re-integration business, Ninna Nyberg Sørensen, Danish Institute for International Studies
- Political economy of containment industries: Confinement and (im)mobilized labour in the making of Linz, Ayse Çaglar, University of Vienna
- Philippine migration and the political economy of “hope”, Pauline Gardiner Barber, Dalhousie University
- Migration industry and city making, Henrik Lebuhn, Humboldt Universität Berlin and Nir Cohen, Bar Ilan University

Chairs: Usha George, Toronto Metropolitan University and Omar Lujan, Toronto Metropolitan University

*Unmasking Migration and Development*

- Global inequalities and migration critique, Manuela Boatcă, Freiburg University
- Towards a counter-hegemonic agenda on migration and development, Raul Delgado Wise, Universidad Autonoma de Zacatecas, Mexico
- Labour migration as extractivist capitalism and imperialism, Henry Veltmeyer, Universidad Autonoma de Zacatecas, Critical Development Studies (CDS) network
- Rethinking the migration–development nexus in Africa, Faisal Garba, University of Cape Town

Chairs: Chris Gore, Toronto Metropolitan University and Shiva S. Mohan, Toronto Metropolitan University

**May 28, 2024 - The Global Governance of Migration: What role for the Research Community?**

Co-convened by CERC Scholar of Excellence **Thomas Lacroix**, Sciences Po, and **Anna Triandafyllidou**, Chair, CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University.

*Roundtable 1: Torn between relevance and independence?*

- Florita Gunasekara, Walder Foundation
- Binod Khadria, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Metropolis International
- James Milner, Carleton University
- Martha Munezhi, TMU
- Mireille Paquet, Concordia University
- Dilip Ratha, Director of KNOMAD, World Bank

Chairs: Terry Martin, Science- Policy Interface Agency and Richa Shivakoti, TMU.

*Roundtable 2: Torn between advocacy and fundamental research?*

- Harald Bauder, Toronto Metropolitan University
- Leander Kadilige, Centre for Migration Studies, University of Ghana
- Laavanya Kathiravelu, Nanyang University of Technology
- Claudia Masferrer, Colegio de Mexico
- Robert Mcleman, Wilfrid Laurier University
- Colin Rajah, Civil Society Action Committee, Geneva

Chairs: Terry Martin, Science- Policy Interface Agency, and Oreva Olakpe, Toronto Metropolitan University.



October 1, 2024 - Talking about migration words, data and images

Co-convened by CERC Scholar of Excellence **Daniel Hiebert**, Professor Emeritus University of British Columbia, **Steven Vertovec**, Director, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity and **Anna Triandafyllidou**, Chair, CERC Migration.

*How do we understand and process information on migration?*

- How should we interpret public opinion data about immigration? Andrew Parkin, Environics Institute
- How do people form their judgements on migration-related issues, Jonas Kunst, University of Oslo
- Fair protection: Public perceptions of fairness in asylum decision-making, Lenka Drazanova, European University Institute
- Visual narratives of human smuggling: Analysing social media imagery in migration services, Alice Massari, University of Copenhagen and CERC migration; Luigi Achilli, European University Institute

Discussant: Cristina Bianchi, IRCC

Chairs: Anna Triandafyllidou, TMU and Yousef Khalifa Aleghfeli, Toronto Metropolitan University.

*How can we effectively communicate migration data knowledge to a broader audience of stakeholders?*

- Steven Vertovec and Dan Heibert- Introducing the Superdiversity data visualization project
- Natalia Banulescu-Bogdan, Migration Policy Institute
- Kerry Lynn Maze, Global Migration Data Centre, IOM
- John Lauermann, Pratt Institute
- Ali Mazalek, Synaesthetic Media Lab, Toronto Metropolitan University
- Neil Ruiz, Pew Research Center

Chairs: Stein Monteiro, Conference Board of Canada and Sarah Hoyos-Hoyos, CERC Migration

October 22, 2024- How she thinks: Re-centring academic leadership in migration studies

Convened by **Anna Triandafyllidou**, Chair CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University.

- Mehru Ali, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada
- Maruja Asis, Scalabrini Migration Centre, Philippines
- Naika Foroutan, Humboldt University, Berlin
- Usha George, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada
- Alka Kumar, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada
- Nasra Shah, Lahore School of Economics

Chairs: Anna Triandafyllidou and Irina Isaakyan, Toronto Metropolitan University

- Marshia Akabar, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada
- Melissa Kelly, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada
- Marth Munezhi, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada
- Oreva Olakpe, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada

Chairs: Zhixi Zhuang and Ashika Niraula, Toronto Metropolitan University

March 11, 2025- The many faces of irregularity in migration

Co-convened by **Sabrina Marchetti**, Ca' Foscari University of Venice and CERC Migration Scholar of Excellence, and **Anna Triandafyllidou**, Chair, CERC Migration.

*Panel 1: Irregularity in migration – Conceptual and policy developments*

- (ir)regulatory frameworks, the regulation 'bonfire', and sustaining the regularization of migrant labour, Eda Yazici and Bridget Anderson, University of Bristol
- The McDonaldization of (ir)regularity in aviation's infrastructure, Weiqiang Lin, National University of Singapore

- Evolving Concepts: Ir/regular Migration and Citizenship in Hong Kong, Nicole Constable, University of Pittsburgh
- The work of Status: Precarious status and differential inclusion in Canada, Luin Goldring, York University
- How do you mean, irregular? Navigating policies, social representations and subjective experiences of migrant workers in Europe, Sabrina Marchetti, Ca' Foscari University of Venice and CERC Migration Scholar of Excellence, Lena Näre, University of Helsinki, and Letizia Palumbo, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Chairs: Rachel Silvey, University of Toronto and Shiva S. Mohan, CERC Migration

*Panel 2: Irregularity in Migration – Perspectives from Africa and Asia*

- Vietnamese irregular migrants' trajectory from entry into Japan to return to Vietnam: Viewed from the perspective of migratory agency, Jotaro Kato, Mukogawa Women's University
- Exploring irregularity in African migration and governance strategies: Individual strategies and states' responses, R. Mireille Manga Edimo, University of Yaounde
- State, non-state actor and inter-regional logics and migration in Africa and Africa-EU relations, Christopher Nshimbi, University of Pretoria
- Family, community and the journey: Understanding irregular migration from Nigeria, Ngozi Uzomah, University of Nsukka
- Migrant aspirations and information campaigns: Why states use migration information campaigns to discourage irregular migration, Josh Watkins, National University of Singapore

Chairs: Anna Triandafyllidou and Oreva Olakpe, CERC Migration



ANNEX VII: Media Coverage 2024-25

Date	Title	Media outlet	CERC Migration spokesperson
May 1, 2024	Feds set hard cap on Start-up Visa program applications, pause self-employed persons program	<i>BetaKit</i>	Stein Monteiro
May 13, 2024	TMU receives \$3M from BMO for research on integrating newcomers into the workforce	<i>TorontoMet</i>	Anna Triandafyllidou, Marshia Akbar
May 13, 2024	TMU receives \$3 million grant for research on integrating newcomers into the Canadian workforce	<i>Canadian Immigrant Magazine</i>	Anna Triandafyllidou, Marshia Akbar
june 6, 2024	5 strategies to make education refugee-inclusive for Ukrainian students	<i>Global Partnership for Education</i>	Yousef Khalifa Aleghfeli
June 19, 2024	Housing and infrastructure for a growing population	<i>The Globe &amp; Mail</i>	Anna Triandafyllidou
July 2, 2024	Toronto's temporary resident population surged. Now, many are feeling unsupported and scapegoated	<i>Toronto Star</i>	Naomi Alboim
July 12, 2024	À la une	<i>La Chaîne d'affaires publiques par câble</i>	Anna Triandafyllidou
July 16, 2024	This Canadian province is trying to attract immigrants by partnering with an English soccer team. Will it work?	<i>Toronto Star</i>	Anna Triandafyllidou
August 15, 2024	IRCC takes over sole administration of Start-up Visa Program from NACO, CVCA	<i>BetaKit</i>	Stein Monteiro, Bradley Bernard
September 5, 2024	Canada's migrant farm workers need better protection. A new program could help — if grocery chains and consumers buy in	<i>Toronto Star</i>	Anna Triandafyllidou, Tanya Basok, Erika Borrelli
October 7, 2024	Digital Arrival City: Masoud Kianpour, Toronto Metropolitan University on how migrants' identity narratives are shaped my social media	<i>Digital Arrival City Podcast</i>	Masoud Kianpour
October 8, 2024	Is the Canadian immigration dream over?	<i>Open Canada</i>	Anna Triandafyllidou
October 24, 2024	Canada will slash 2025 target for permanent residents by 21 per cent	<i>Toronto Star</i>	Naomi Alboim
November 22, 2024	Project pairing new immigrants up with Indigenous people makes a stop in Winnipeg	<i>APTN News</i>	Cyrus Sundar Singh
December 12, 2024	Digital Arrival City: Lucia Nalbandian and Nick Dreher, CERC Migation on the Migration Tech Tracker	<i>Digital Arrival City Podcast</i>	Lucia Nalbandian, Nick Dreher

January 7, 2025	These international students are trying to find jobs. But a tight job market leaves them with few options	<i>CBC</i>	Rupa Banerjee
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March 14, 2025	Dans la mosaïque: Rattrapage du vendredi 14 mars 2025	<i>Dans la mosaïque CBC Radio-Canada</i>	Amin Moghadam, Emma Bouillard
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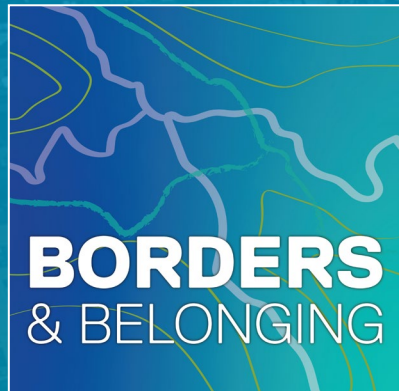
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