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Visit by Professor Jakob Rhyner, UNU Vice Rector in Europe

UNU-GCM was pleased to welcome Professor Jakob Rhyner, UNU's Vice Rector in Europe, to the Institute on January 27th 2015. During the visit, the GCM team presented on the Institute's research activities, including an update on the UNU Migration Network. It was also a valuable opportunity to learn more about the wide-ranging projects that are being conducted at the UNU Institute on Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), under the leadership of Professor Rhyner, and to consider potential research synergies between the institutes.

Director of UNU-GCM gives a talk at the Union for the Mediterranean

On January 23rd 2015, Parvati Nair, Director of UNU-GCM, participated in a conference organized by the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean's Commission for the Promotion of the Quality of Life and Human and Cultural Exchanges. In her talk, Parvati Nair considered cultural questions that arise in the context of migration. She stressed the importance of certain conceptual priorities that should inform practice and policy in migration governance in the Mediterranean: those of the fluidity of identity, of diversity and of openness to difference.

Fifth meeting of the UNU Migration Network

The 5th Meeting of the focal points of the UNU Migration Network took place at the UNU International Institute on Global Health (UNU-IIGH) in Kuala Lumpur on January 12th 2015. Participants discussed developments in the Network's activities, including the launch of a new research project on inter-community tensions as a consequence of climate-induced migration; the organization of a section on International Migration and International Security within the 9th Pan-European Conference on International Relations; and the planning of other future collaborations.

Symposium on Migration at UNU-IIGH, Kuala Lumpur

UNU-GCM Research Fellows, Valeria Bello and Megha Amrith, participated in a Symposium on Migration, organised by UNU-IIGH in Kuala Lumpur on January 13th 2015. The Symposium enabled researchers from across the UNU Migration Network to present their research findings to an audience of NGO and international organization representatives, academics and policy advisers based in Malaysia. The discussions focussed on the local implications of international migration policy and on how to bridge gaps between research and policy development.

Research Seminar by Dr. Stelios Stavridis

On January 28th 2015, Dr. Stelios Stavridis (ARAID Senior Research Fellow, University of Zaragoza and Honorary Associate Research Fellow, UNU-GCM) gave a seminar on how the emerging principle of Responsibility to Protect challenges principles of national sovereignty, non-interference, and the inviolability of borders. His presentation raised many important questions and his illustrations from current and recent events in Libya and Syria were particularly striking.

Profile: Janina Pescinski

Janina Pescinski joined UNU-GCM in January 2015 as a Junior Research Fellow, contributing to the programme on Female Agency, Mobility and Sociocultural Change. She holds a Masters degree in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action from the Institute d'études politiques de Paris (Sciences Po). Her interdisciplinary research interests include migration, human rights, diaspora networks, and civil society. Prior to joining UNU, Janina was a research consultant on West Africa with Amnesty International.

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