



MOSAICS



The monthly newsletter of the United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility (UNU-GCM)

ISSUE 35

APRIL 2016

Conference on 'Strengthening the UN's Research Uptake'

On 25th- 26th April, UNU-GCM Director Parvati Nair participated in a conference on 'Strengthening the UN's Research Uptake' held in Geneva and co-organised by United Nations University, Tokyo and The Graduate Institute, Geneva. She offered framing remarks on the vital need for research to improve global migration policy. The two-day event brought together research and policy units from across the UN system, as well as leading think tanks and research organisations from around the world, with the goal of improving the interaction between them and to highlight the fundamental role of research in strengthening evidence-based policy development.

Expert roundtable on xenophobia, OHCHR, Geneva

On 21st April, Research Fellow Valeria Bello participated in an expert roundtable on 'Changing the public narrative on migration: Promoting tolerance and countering xenophobia against migrants', organised by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in Geneva. At this roundtable, she contributed her research findings on prejudice and offered insights into developing counter narratives that could foster inclusiveness, both in Europe and worldwide.

Seminar on 'Current Challenges: Cities and Migration'

On 14th April, Research Fellow Valeria Bello gave a seminar on 'Current Challenges: Cities and Migration', within the project *Barcelona Gov: Formación y Gobernanza*, organised by the *Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals* (IBEI). In this seminar, she demonstrated how current challenges relating to migration have more to do with the narratives surrounding migration than with the actual facts. She highlighted that migration is an enriching element for societies, bringing dynamism, growth and positive economic and cultural exchanges.

Symposium on migration at the European Culture Days, Karlsruhe

On 23rd April, Research Fellow Megha Amrith gave a talk on 'The Aspirations of Migrants' at a symposium entitled 'On the Move. Nowhere at Home?', organised by the Centre for Cultural and General Studies (ZAK), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology. The symposium took place in conjunction with the European Culture Days 2016, hosted by the city of Karlsruhe on the theme of migration. The symposium addressed current and historical experiences of migration, as well as themes such as identity, belonging, inclusion and solidarity.

GCM hosts a screening of the film *Mediterranea*

On 13th April, UNU-GCM was pleased to host a screening of *Mediterranea* (2015), a film by Jonas Carpignano. The event included a commentary by Professor Yosefa Loshitzky, Professorial Research Associate at the Centre for Media and Film Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. Both the film and the commentary afterwards led to a lively discussion with the audience on many relevant issues in the current migration debate, including smuggling, family, integration and racism.

Launch of 'Mediterranean journeys in hope' on openDemocracy

UNU-GCM is very pleased to launch 'Mediterranean journeys in hope', in partnership with openDemocracy. 'Mediterranean journeys in hope' is a media page that seeks to humanise the debates on migration and question the delineation of refugees from other migrants by taking hope, a basic pathway for survival in the context of human mobility, as our starting point. It will feature contributions from UNU-GCM researchers, policymakers and others.

United Nations University
Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility
Sant Manuel Pavilion, Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site
c/ Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167
08025 Barcelona, Spain
Email: communications.gcm@unu.edu
Web: gcm.unu.edu



Find us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn:
UNU Institute on Globalization, Culture and
Mobility