Welcoming Cities Roundtable at UNESCO

On 9th May, GCM Director Parvati Nair participated as a panellist in a roundtable on ‘Welcoming Cities for Refugees: Promoting Inclusion and Protecting Rights’. The event was held at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris and marked the launch of a project led by UNESCO, the Foundation of the UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Marianna V. Vardinoyannis and the European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR). The project aims to empower municipal authorities to foster the inclusion of refugees and migrants. UNU-GCM looks forward to continued collaboration with the project on these important topics.

Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) workshop

On 18th May, GCM Director Parvati Nair participated in a thematic workshop on ‘Migration for Harmonious Societies’ in Geneva along with colleagues from other agencies of the Global Migration Group (GMG). The workshop was organised by the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and it aimed to explore ways forward to foster responses to the challenge of achieving harmony and cohesion in the midst of diversity. The GFMD is a voluntary, informal, non-binding and government-led process open to all Member States and Observers of the United Nations, to advance understanding and cooperation on the mutually reinforcing relationship between migration and development and to foster practical and action-oriented outcomes.

UNU-GCM welcomes four new interns

UNU-GCM is pleased to welcome four new interns to the Institute this month. Maya Odeh and Austin Ruckstuhl are MA students at the Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals (IBEI) and they join the team as research interns for the period of May to July 2016. They will be working within GCM's current research programme on Migration and Crises.

Fatima Agharbi and Alba Hernández Lacoma have also joined the team as administration interns for the period of May to July 2016 and will be assisting with the Institute’s administrative activities.

Invitation: Cities of Welcome/Cities of Transit Conference, July 14-15

We invite you to join us for ‘Cities of Welcome/Cities of Transit’ – a conference jointly organised by UNU-GCM, openDemocracy, and the School of Law, Queen Mary University of London. It will take place from July 14-15 2016 at the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site in Barcelona. This timely conference will look at the ways in which the arrival and transit of refugees is currently shaping urban environments across Europe, and generating various forms of solidarity and welcome, as well as tension and violence. This is a highly topical issue with a number of legal and policy parameters that have not been fully analysed. There is a lot to be gained from bringing together those most closely involved – civil society organisations, activists, academics and academic and policy makers – for the purpose of knowledge exchange, before an interested global public. Registration for the conference is now open, further information can be found on our website.

Profile: Lorenzo Gabrielli, Visiting Researcher

Lorenzo Gabrielli joined UNU-GCM as a visiting researcher in April 2016. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from LAM - Science Po Bordeaux, France (2011) and is currently researcher at GRITIM-UPF, associate lecturer at Political Science Department at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, and associate researcher at Centre Emile Durkheim, Sciences Po Bordeaux. His research interests are on border politics and the multilevel governance of international migration in the Euro-African border space; the geopolitics of migration in the Mediterranean; the external dimension of European immigration policies; transit migration in the West Mediterranean area; the ‘migration–development’ nexus, as well as other issues relating to migration phenomena.