

# **MOSAICS**



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

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#### Migration Talk at the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

On 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016, Research Fellow Megha Amrith gave a talk on 'Countering Xenophobia and Promoting the Inclusion of Migrants' at the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations in New York as part of their 'Migration Talks' series. She presented the findings from UNU-GCM research projects on xenophobia and on promoting the inclusion of migrants at local, national and global levels. The talk was followed by a lively discussion with representatives of Member States and of United Nations agencies, and revealed the importance of coordinating responses to promote positive narratives about migration across the world, particularly in view of the Summit addressing large movements of refugees and migrants to be convened by the UN General Assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

### 8th Coordination Meeting of the UNU Migration Network

On 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016, GCM Director Parvati Nair and Research Fellow Valeria Bello participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Coordination Meeting of the UNU Migration Network held at UNU-MERIT in Maastricht, The Netherlands. The meeting was an opportunity for the Network's focal points to discuss collaborations within the UNU Migration Network, future events and activities, communications strategies and details of each Institute's engagements with UN agencies and other key stakeholders.

## Research Seminar on Prejudice and the Securitization of Migration

On 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Research Fellow Valeria Bello gave a research seminar on 'Prejudice and the Securitization of Migration as Global Security Threats' at UNU-MERIT in Maastricht. Drawing upon data on international migration and other macro-economic variables, her talk addressed the securitization of migration in the context of global mobility and the role it plays in increasing prejudiced attitudes towards migrants. It also examined how exclusion from life opportunities can develop into different types of extremism. The talk was followed by an interactive discussion with the seminar participants.

# Workshop at 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Humanity in Action Conference

On 25<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Junior Research Fellow Janina Pescinski presented the Institute's research at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Humanity in Action conference in Athens, Greece. She gave a workshop entitled 'Mediterranean Cities of Hope: Welcoming Migrants in Europe', discussing how cities are emerging as humanitarian actors as local governments develop creative ways of welcoming refugees and migrants. It focused on Barcelona's role as a 'city of refuge', notably the innovative direct partnership the city government has negotiated with Athens.

## Register for Cities of Welcome/Cities of Transit Conference, July 14-15

Registration is still open 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 local policy makers – for the purpose of knowledge exchange, before an interested global public. Please register by July 8<sup>th</sup> 2016. Details on the conference and registration are on our website.

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