

# **MOSAICS**



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

ISSUE 41 NOVEMBER 2016

#### **Annual Guest Lecture and Masterclass by Professor Noam Chomsky**

UNU-GCM was delighted to host Professor Noam Chomsky in Barcelona for our Annual Guest Lecture and a Graduate Masterclass. During these two public events organized by UNU-GCM, Professor Chomsky provided a critical analysis of contemporary international challenges, particularly in relation to migration. On 5th November, Professor Chomsky gave a lecture on 'Crises of Immigration' to an audience of over 1,400 people at the Palau de Congressos de Catalunya. He argued that such crises are in fact moral crises in wealthy Western states, while offering a rich analysis of historical examples of forced migration and displacement, and the painful and enduring legacies of colonialism, slavery and military intervention, which are at the very roots of the challenges that we face today. The Masterclass with Professor Chomsky on 7th November was held at the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site for a smaller audience of 200 participants, with reflections on his work by Professor Paula Casal, University Pompeu Fabra and Dr. Paul Bou-Habib, University of Essex. The full text of Professor Chomsky's lecture is available on the UNU-GCM website, together with a video interview. His visit provided a truly inspiring opportunity to exchange with one of the world's great intellectuals.

#### **Symposium on Migration and Climate Change**

UNU-GCM Research Fellow Valeria Bello was pleased to contribute to an international symposium on migration and climate change in Madrid on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. She presented on the political challenges of environmentally induced migration, arguing for a stronger governance approach in this field, greater participation of local communities and seeing migration as a resilience strategy. The symposium was organised by the Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo (ECODES) and SdeO Communications. The event brought together national experts and representatives from universities and international organisations that work on these themes.

#### **Experts Meeting on 'Cities Welcoming Refugees', Athens**

UNU-GCM Research Fellow Megha Amrith was pleased to participate in an Experts Meeting on 'Welcoming Cities for Refugees: Promoting Inclusion and Protecting Rights' on 23rd November in Athens. The meeting was co-organized by UNESCO and the Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation. It focussed on the critical role that cities in Europe play in the inclusion of refugees and migrants and brought together Mayors, representatives from international organisations, civil society and academia. The meeting was preceded by a High-Level Conference on the same theme that was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

## Joint Workshop between UNU-GCM and IEMed

UNU-GCM was pleased to collaborate with IEMed for a joint workshop on perceptions of migration in the Mediterranean and their policy implications. The workshop examined from different disciplinary and methodological perspectives the socio-political and visual mechanisms underpinning perceptions and representations of migration and mobility in the region. The speakers at the workshop included GCM Director Parvati Nair and Research Fellow Valeria Bello, together with Lorenzo Gabrielli, Visiting Researcher at IEMed (and former Visiting Fellow at UNU-GCM), and Xavier Aragall of IEMed. The workshop was followed by a lively discussion.

### **New Intern**

UNU-GCM is pleased to welcome Larraitz Ventoso as an administration intern for the period of October 2016 to January 2017. She will be assisting with the Institute's administrative activities.

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