Global Migration Group: Updates from New York

On February 14th and 15th 2017, Dr. David Malone, Rector of the United Nations University and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, supported by UNU-GCM Director Parvati Nair and by UNU’s Office in New York, led a retreat of the Global Migration Group (GMG) at the Greentree Estate, NY, which was attended by senior and working level members, as well as by several senior invited guests. The retreat provided a space for reflection and discussion that coincides with the preparations by the UN system for the first phase of consultation in the process leading to a global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration to be achieved by Member States in 2018. On February 17th 2017, Parvati Nair moderated a session on work within the GMG on the Sustainable Development Goals at the 15th Coordination Meeting on International Migration organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. She also moderated a lunchtime side event organized by UN Women on ‘Addressing Women’s Human Rights in the Global Compact for Migration’.

Report on the Role of Civil Society in Global Migration Governance

A new policy report on ‘The Critical Role of Civil Society in the Development of Global Migration Governance Frameworks’, authored by Tendayi Bloom of The Open University and commissioned by UNU-GCM, is now available on the GCM website. The way in which the topic of migration has featured in international policymaking discourse has changed significantly in recent decades, and developments in the coming years will determine how the discussion continues to evolve. An important factor has been the role of civil society. The report argues that effective cooperation between all parties involved in migration and migration governance is crucial if the extant opportunity is to be fully seized.

Conference Report: Cities of Welcome, Cities of Transit

We are pleased to announce the publication of a conference report on ‘Cities of Welcome, Cities of Transit’, based on a conference that UNU-GCM hosted in Barcelona in July 2016, in cooperation with openDemocracy and the School of Law, Queen Mary University of London. The conference focussed on how cities come to the fore as key actors in the reception, relocation, and inclusion of refugees and migrants, in a context where significant political differences have arisen over migration. This newly published report outlines the wide-ranging discussions and policy-relevant recommendations that emerged over the two-day event.

UNU Gender Full Spectrum Series

In a new contribution to the United Nations University ‘Gender Full Spectrum’ blog series, GCM Junior Research Fellow Janina Pescinski argues how migrant women are empowering themselves politically at the local level, drawing on case studies from female migrant associations in Barcelona and Paris. The ‘Gender Full Spectrum’ blog series represents a journey through various UNU institutes and UN bodies, exploring gender’s multifaceted roles in different research areas.

Profile: Bavo Stevens, Junior Research Fellow

UNU-GCM is happy to introduce Bavo Stevens who joins the Institute as Junior Research Fellow. He holds a Masters degree in War Studies from King’s College, London and a Bachelors degree in Political Science from the University of Chicago. His research interests include migration and forced displacement, civil-military relations, and the dynamics of violence during conflict. We look forward to the contributions he will make to the Institute’s work.