Participation at Mobile Week Barcelona
UNU-GCM Senior Research Officer Francisco Cos-Montiel participated in a panel discussion on migration and borders in a connected world on the 19th of February, as part of the Mobile Week Barcelona events. Discussions included a focus on the future of work. One aspect of this is that an increasing number of people now supply digital services online through what is sometimes called the “human cloud”. The cloud allows for accessing work online, without migrating for a job. As the human cloud grows, so do concerns of the possibility of its creating a precarious global underclass. Studies show that while platforms for online work offer new sources of income, for people in poor countries in particular, it also drives down wages. The challenge of the future is therefore to keep up with the technological transformation of work, while promoting equitable prosperity for all.

Photo Featured in exhibit UN Secretariat
A photograph from UNU-GCM’s project ‘Women of the World: Home and Work in Barcelona’ is part of the Global Migration Group’s photo exhibit ‘Making Migration Work For All’ on display at the U.N. Secretariat. The exhibit is timed to coincide with the intergovernmental negotiations on the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. See more from Women of the World.

Negotiations for Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
On Tuesday, February 20th 2018, UN Member States gathered at the Secretariat in New York to commence negotiations on the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. UNU-GCM’s Director Parvati Nair and Visiting Fellow Christine McElwaine joined colleagues from across the UN agencies of the Global Migration Group to observe the discussions.

National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) visits UNU-GCM
On the 8th of February, UNU-GCM had the pleasure to host a visit by Dr. Andrés Ordóñez, Director of the Centre for Mexican Studies at UNAM-España, and Academic Secretary Diego Celorio Moraya. After taking part of a presentation of the institute’s current work and engaging in a conversation about possible future partnerships, the party also visited GCM’s photography exhibition “Hopeful Journeys” with images by the visual anthropologist Tatiana Diniz.

In the new policy report “The Case of (In)Voluntary Returns?” former UNU-GCM Intern, Emily Boyce, provides a critical analysis of voluntary returns policy and presents policy recommendations for a fairer migration management system. All of UNU-GCM’s policy reports are available on our website.

Looking Ahead: IMISCOE Annual Conference
UNU-GCM is excited to be a partner in the 2018 IMISCOE Annual Conference on “Europe, migrations and the Mediterranean: human mobilities and intercultural challenges” that will take place in Barcelona from July 2-4, 2018. Stay tuned for more information!