



UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE ON GLOBALIZATION, CULTURE AND MOBILITY

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

United Nations University
Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility
Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site – Sant Manuel Pavilion
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Vision

The United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility (UNU-GCM) aims to become a pre-eminent research centre focusing on globalization, culture and mobility through the lens of migration and media. It will engage in rigorous research in these areas, sharing knowledge and good practice with a broad range of groups, collectives and actors within and beyond the academy. Its commitments will be at local and global levels, whereby it will seek to bridge gaps in discourses and practices, so as to work towards the goals of the United Nations with regard to development, global partnership, sustainability and justice.

Mission

The United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility (UNU-GCM) aims to contribute to good governance, cultural diversity, democracy and human rights through a better understanding of cultural mobility and diversity in the context of globalization. It focuses on the major cultural and social phenomena of migration and media as hallmarks of the era of globalization. The institute fosters cutting-edge research in these areas at global and local levels through the lens of key cultural concepts, such as borders, gender and transnational connections. UNU-GCM aims thereby also to support the priorities of the United Nations with regard to its Member States, in particular those of gender equality, dignity and security for migrants and the notion of development as global partnership.



Commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Included in this Agenda are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. The United Nations University's global network of specialized research institutes collaborates

to address these complex challenges through a problem-oriented and interdisciplinary approach. UNU-GCM makes key contributions ranging across several goals, particularly 1) No poverty; 3) Good health and wellbeing; 5) Gender equality; 8) Decent work and economic growth; 10) Reduced inequalities; 11) Sustainable cities and communities; 13) Climate action; 16) Peace, justice and strong institutions; and 17) Partnership for the goals.

Message from the Chair of the Advisory Board

I would like to begin by going beyond the information that you will find in these pages and conveying the admiration shared by those of us who have witnessed the consolidation of this institute, in a short period of time, as a centre of reference for matters relating to culture, mobility and globalization, focusing on the migrations and mobility of the men and women who make up our world. The Institute is now a very important partner of the international family of institutions working on migration and mobility, and contributing to provide knowledge to policy makers.



Mobility and people movements are constitutive elements of our reality that penetrate and transform the latter. This has always been so, but the context of globalization adds a new intensity, and its impact is more visible than ever. The terms migration and refugee echo ever louder in our social and cultural relations and our political life. Understanding and correctly assessing these echoes, the reality that we deal with, is essential if we are to generate public policies and multilevel actions capable of triggering a more inclusive dynamic, to define a world more capable of inter-relationships, to establish mechanisms of governance that can lessen the problems and suffering that accompany mobility, and to maximise the potential that has emerged from migrations and exchanges throughout our shared history.

Mobility, migration and the international protection of people who require protection continue to feature in the international political agenda, at times tragically, as we have seen. In recent years, the Sustainable Development Goals have been adopted and the international community has come together to work on human mobility in this context. Thus, we have witnessed an important response by the international community to migration and refugees. This year is going to be an important cornerstone for international migration governance, as it is expected that the two Global Compacts on migrants and refugees will be adopted. Paradoxically, concurrently relevant members of the international family, such as the USA and some EU members, are echoing voices of renationalization and claiming the need to reassert border controls. A major effort is needed to overcome this paradoxical situation, so as to improve international governance and work on migration in the frame of the sustainable development agenda. I want to underline the role of the Institute in making this possible. I reiterate my sincere acknowledgement of the valuable work carried out by the men and women who, under the direction of Professor Parvati Nair, are collaborating to endow our governments, regional and international organizations and the UN family with knowledge and scientific evidence, in a field that is so sensitive for us all. I am confident that the institutions that make this possible will continue to contribute to the institute so that it may continue to develop its worthy work from Barcelona, bringing to the latter a vision that guarantees improved international migration governance so as to improve the lives of men and women on the move, and thus our own and that of our planet.

Anna Terrón Cusí
Chair of the Advisory Board



Message from the Rector

The United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility (UNU-GCM) was inaugurated in September 2013. With the generous support of the Kingdom of Spain, in particular the Ministry of External Affairs and Communication, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, the Generalitat of Catalonia, and the Barcelona City Council, it has the privilege of carrying out its work in the unique and very beautiful UNESCO World Heritage site, the Sant Pau Art Nouveau site in Barcelona.

UNU-GCM prioritizes the development of research that meets the United Nations University's overarching goals of addressing the formation of policy, as well as contributing to academic research of a cutting-edge quality. On-going work at the United Nations and between its Member States to forge a global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration by 2018 has meant that 2017 was a year when UNU-GCM's area of expertise was high on the global agenda and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future.

UNU-GCM was the lead actor within UNU when the latter was elected to chair the Global Migration Group of international agencies working on the issue for 2017, a very busy year of preparation for the negotiation in 2018 of a Global Compact on Migration by the member states of the UN, drawing on its own research work and the international networks of scholars and policy-makers it had developed since its creation in 2013.

The road ahead for research on migration and human mobility remains unmapped. Research at UNU-GCM resonates directly with many of the key elements highlighted at the negotiations aimed at shaping the global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration. As such, this institute is making good headway in directions that harness it to the work and research needs of the United Nations system. A key activity in 2017 was a week-long conference on addressing xenophobia and examining representations of migration in the media. In collaboration with UNU's Centre for Policy Research, UNU-GCM will produce a report that follows from this event. Other highlights include the publication of two books by research personnel at UNU-GCM, in addition to a range of policy reports and briefs, as well as a conference on migration and displacement in Africa.

Throughout 2017, UNU-GCM also engaged in close collaborations with academic entities and think tanks in Spain and elsewhere. Its location in Barcelona, a capital city of the Mediterranean, lends itself extremely well to the study of culture and migration in light of the Mediterranean's own long history of mobility and diversity. With excellent support from its hosts, and in the ideal setting of the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site, UNU-GCM has much to offer.

David M. Malone
Rector

Message from the Director

As questions of migration and refuge received unprecedented levels of global attention in 2017 within the international community, the work of UNU-GCM gained in relevance and timeliness. UNU-GCM's research focus on culture and mobility in the context of globalization addresses major global debates and issues surrounding migration.

A major achievement in 2017 was the privilege of supporting the Rector of UNU, Dr. David Malone in his Chairmanship of the Global Migration Group. This Chairmanship coincided with a landmark year when all Member States of the United Nations system embarked on shaping a global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration. UNU-GCM acted as Working Level Chair and also led the coordination of the Chairmanship within UNU, thus working closely with other parts of UNU as well as more widely across the United Nations. Throughout 2017, our work, aimed at putting research on socio-cultural aspects of human mobility at the service of policy formation, continued, as did our efforts to engage closely with academic, policy-making and other networks. We have engaged in a series of collaborations with entities and researchers in Spain and have presented our work at global forums, such as the annual Coordination Meeting on Migration held at the UN Secretariat.

Highlights of the year also included a conference on migration and displacement in Africa, a major conference on addressing xenophobia and examining representations of migration in the media, the publication of cutting-edge books by two of our research fellows, and our Annual Guest Lecture by Dr. Pietro Bartolo.

On a more local front, UNU-GCM has enjoyed the privilege of being part of a vibrant community of international organizations at the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site. Barcelona provides UNU-GCM with a vantage location from which to study questions related to migration and development. We also engage closely with the UN family in Spain. With ongoing support from our hosts and friends, we look forward to continuing our work and contributing in useful ways to the production and dissemination of knowledge on culture and mobility.

Parvati Nair
Director

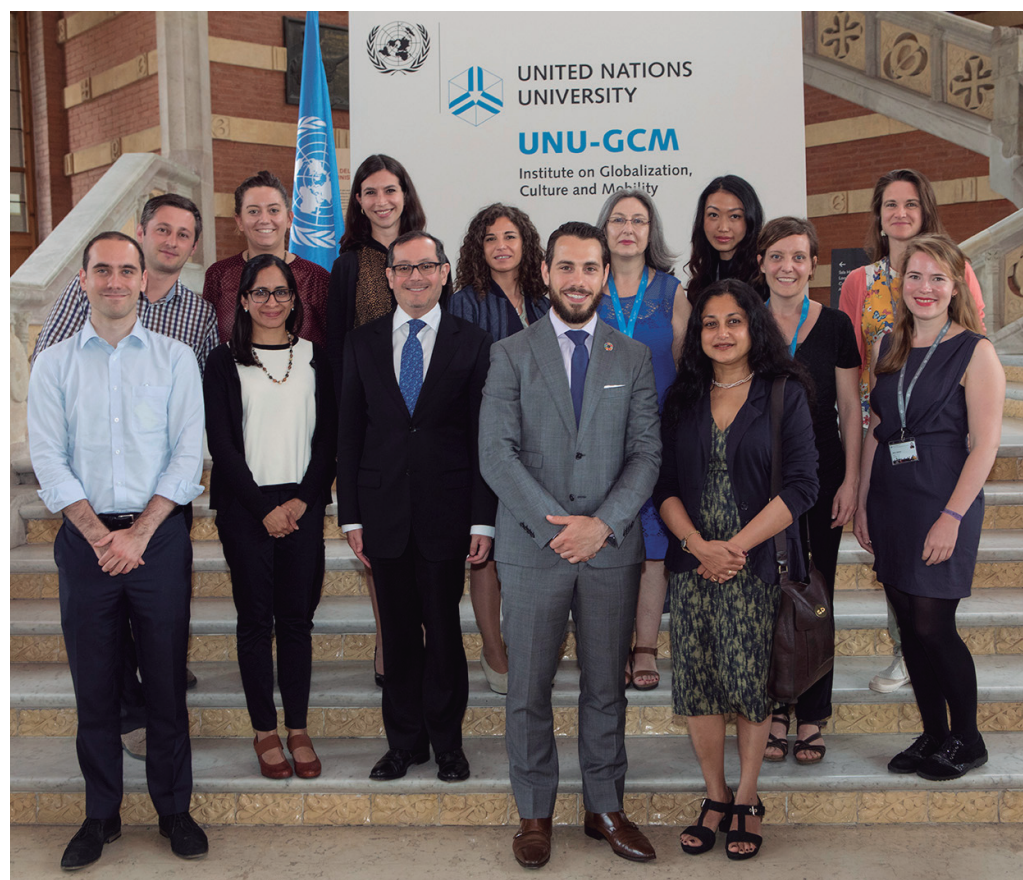


About UNU

The United Nations University shall be an international community of scholars, engaged in research, postgraduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. – UNU Charter, I.1

The United Nations University (UNU) is a global think tank and research/teaching organization, founded in 1975 as an autonomous organ of the United Nations General Assembly. Headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, UNU operates as a global network of research and teaching institutes and programmes, with a presence today in more than a dozen countries worldwide. The mission of UNU is to contribute – through collaborative research and postgraduate education, dissemination of knowledge and advisory services – to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare that are the concern of the United Nations, its Peoples and Member States. In its role as a think tank, UNU provides knowledge-based policy advice to the United Nations system and to UN Member States.

For more information, visit unu.edu/about/unu.



UNU-GCM

UNU-GCM Overview

UNU-GCM focuses on the inter-related research areas of globalization, culture and mobility. Its research programmes address key aspects of these areas, with close attention being paid to questions related to migration and media as twin facets of mobility in contemporary culture. UNU-GCM considers migration, understood as the movement of peoples and cultures, and media, understood as diverse and increased modes of communication via technological and other means, to be two important social processes that are occurring globally. UNU-GCM aims to contribute to a better understanding of these processes, so as to assist with the formation of policy at regional, national and international levels that promotes good governance, cultural diversity, democracy and human rights.

In order to achieve our aims, UNU-GCM calls upon interdisciplinary research approaches and methodologies. UNU-GCM also places emphasis on ensuring that its research outputs address diverse audiences, including academia, policy formation and a wider informed readership. Our work draws on lived experiences and is evidence-based. We further engage through events, activities and publications with civil society, NGOs and other officials working on issues relating to culture and mobility.

The team at UNU-GCM reflects our shared goals. Research Fellows come from diverse disciplinary backgrounds with different areas of expertise and work closely together on our selected lines of research. UNU-GCM also calls on the expertise of Visiting Researchers, who spend fixed periods of time in residency at UNU-GCM, and on that of research consultants. UNU-GCM also runs an internship programme, thus offering valuable experience to young researchers. In addition, we welcome and actively seek out collaborations with academic and other entities engaged in areas of work that relate to our own.



2017 Highlights

Supporting UNU's 2017 Chairmanship of the Global Migration Group

UNU-GCM coordinated UNU's Chairmanship of the Global Migration group in 2017, a landmark year when all Member States of the United Nations embarked on a two-year process to shape the global compact on safe orderly and regular migration, working closely with other key parts of the UNU system to support the Rector of UNU in delivering timely and efficient leadership to this forum of twenty-two agencies of the United Nations system working on international migration.



Megha Amrith published her book on February 2017

Book: *Caring for Strangers* by Megha Amrith

"Caring for Strangers: Filipino Medical Workers in Asia" (NIAS Press) is a seminal ethnography by Megha Amrith, exploring the personal narratives of migrant Filipino medical workers in Southeast Asia.



Valeria Bello launched her book at UN Headquarters in New York. Photo copyright: UN Publications

Book: *International Migration and International Security* by Valeria Bello

In "International Migration and International Security, Why Prejudice is a Global Security Threat" (Routledge), Valeria Bello uses an interdisciplinary analytic lens to uncover how global prejudice, extremism, and xenophobia have been heightened by international dynamics.



Photo copyright: UNU-GCM/Eva Guillaumet, 2017

Conference on Migration and Displacement in Contemporary Africa

This conference, hosted by the UNU-GCM in May 2017, brought together scholars of different disciplines to shed light on the diverse dimensions and experiences of migration and forced displacement within contemporary Africa, and from Africa to other regions.



Photo copyright: David Malone 2017

Conference on Addressing Xenophobia at the Bellagio Center

In October 2017, the conference “Addressing Xenophobia: Representations of Migration and the Role of the Media” brought together 23 UN officials, media practitioners, and academics working at the nexus of migration and media in order to focus on the potential, role and practices of the media in the context of responsible policymaking on international migration. The conference was convened by the United Nations University, organized by UNU-GCM, and hosted at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center in with support from the Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency.



Photo copyright: UNU-GCM/Eva Guillaumet, 2017

Annual Guest Lecture by Dr. Pietro Bartolo

Dr. Pietro Bartolo, a distinguished Italian doctor who has overseen the emergency medical response to migrants in Lampedusa for over two decades, delivered UNU-GCM’s 2017 Annual Guest Lecture, entitled “Let’s not think of them as clandestine migrants.”



Photo copyright: UNU-GCM/Eva Guillaumet, 2018

Hopeful Journeys photography exhibit

This photography exhibition, by visual anthropologist Tatiana Diniz, was based on life stories collected as part of a UNU-GCM project on migration in the Mediterranean.



Photo copyright: UNU-GCM/Eva Guillaumet, 2017

Launch of the Model International Mobility Convention

To mark International Migrants Day on 18 December, the UNU-GCM hosted a roundtable discussion for the launch of the Model International Mobility Convention, in collaboration with the Global Policy Institute at Columbia University (New York).

Our Hosts

UNU-GCM is hosted by the Kingdom of Spain. More precisely, in 2017, UNU-GCM was hosted by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, the Ministry of External Affairs and Cooperation, the Generalitat of Catalonia and the City Council of Barcelona. In 2017, UNU-GCM drew on funds granted to UNU by these institutions for developing its research. We are grateful to all our hosts for making our work possible.

Location

UNU-GCM is located in the Sant Manuel Pavilion of the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site. As a major modernist site in the world, designed by the architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner, it was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1997. Constructed between 1902 and 1930, the 12 pavilions that form the site housed the Santa Creu i Sant Pau Hospital for nearly a century, one of the most modern hospitals of its time. In 2009, the working hospital was shifted in order to facilitate the rehabilitation of the historic site. This constitutes one of Europe's major heritage restoration projects.

The Sant Manuel Pavilion was built in 1925 under the direction of Pere Domènech i Roura, the son of Lluís Domènech i Montaner, who took over the project following his father's death. This Pavilion once housed services in general and gastric surgery, but was rehabilitated to enable different uses and to recover its artistic and heritage value. Meters squared dot. Víctor Argentí, the architect in charge of the restoration, has put emphasis on the recovery of the original dimensions of this building with its surface area of 2.300 m². Thanks to this process, and with financial support from the European Fund for Regional Development (FEDER), the Sant Manuel Pavilion is now a functional building, reflecting its heritage value and also equipped with the utmost consideration for energy efficiency and sustainability.



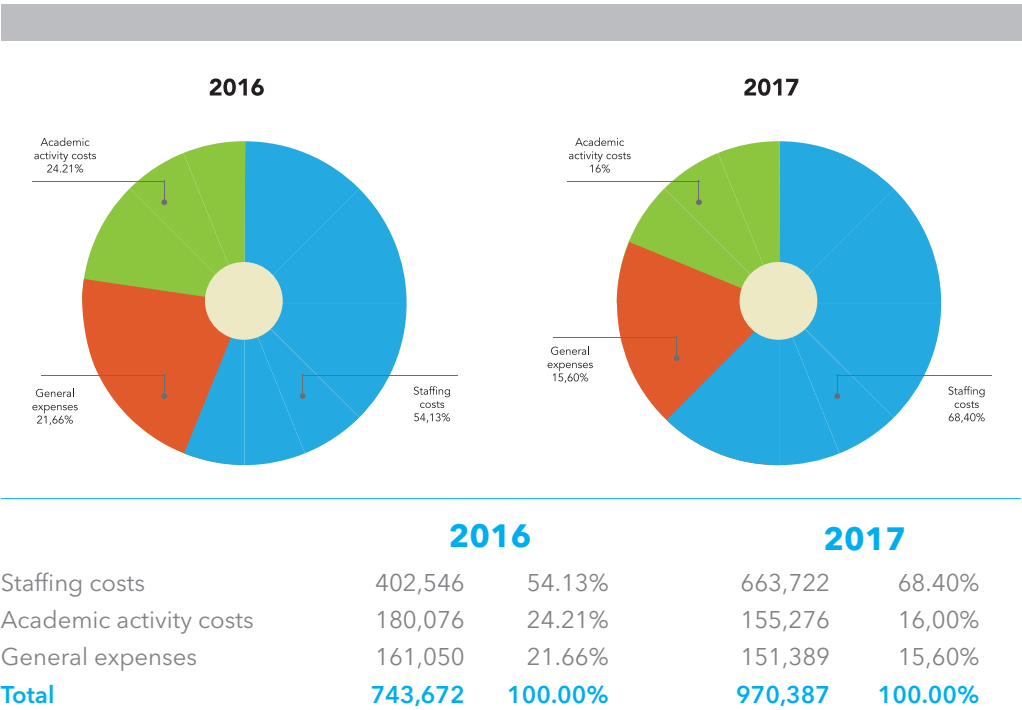
Advisory Board

UNU-GCM's Advisory Board is chaired by Anna Terrón Cusí. Other Board members in 2017 were Sally Khalifa Isaac (Cairo University, Egypt), Salam Kawakibi (Arab Reform Initiative), and Francisco Aldecoa Luzárraga (Complutense University of Madrid, Spain). The Board meets annually and the Rector and Director are ex-officio members.



UNU-GCM Advisory Board members on November 18th, 2017

Financial Overview



Contributions to policy-making at the United Nations

On 1 January 2017, UNU Rector and UN Under-Secretary-General Dr. David M. Malone assumed the role of Chair of the Global Migration Group (GMG). The GMG is an inter-agency group bringing together heads of agencies to (i) promote the wider application of all relevant international and regional instruments and norms relating to migration, (ii) support the process of the Global Forum for Migration and Development (iii) encourage the adoption of more coherent, comprehensive and better coordinated approaches to the governance of international migration. The GMG is particularly concerned with improving the overall effectiveness of its members and other stakeholders in capitalizing upon the opportunities and responding to the challenges presented by international migration.

UNU-GCM has been leading the GMG Coordination team at UNU, in collaboration with the Office of the Rector and UNU Office in New York, with the support of the UNU Migration Network, UNU Centre for Policy Research and UNU Vice-Rectorate in Europe, and the financial support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. UNU-GCM's Director served as the Working Level Chair for 2017 and carried out a number of activities of relevance to the ongoing consultation processes towards the shaping of a global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration in 2018, including: (i) preparing the initial baseline research report on xenophobia and the representation of migrants in the media, in collaboration with UNU-CPR; (ii) supporting the Rector in convening the experts retreat that took place at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Centre (16-20 October 2017); (iii) planning a launch event and additional dissemination activities.

In 2018, along with other relevant UNU partners, UNU-GCM will continue supporting the Rector's Office in backing the operations of the GMG (UNU will be part of the GMG Troika), as well as contributing to the regular activities of the group (GMG Working Groups and Task Forces, joint events, working-level meetings, etc.).



Research Programmes



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Research programmes at UNU-GCM have included Migration and Crises; Female Agency, Mobility and Socio-cultural Change; Statelessness and Transcontinental Migration; and Migration, Media and Intercultural Dialogue.

With all our research programmes, UNU-GCM focuses its energies on ensuring that its research is accessible to policy-makers, as well as to academics and a more general informed public. We aim for scholarly publications of a high standard. From each research line we also produce a series of policy reports and briefs that engage closely with issues relevant to the programme and to ongoing debates within the United Nations system and among its Member States, in particular linking our work to the SDGs.

All research programmes at UNU-GCM include a series of events and activities aimed at exploring and sharing knowledge on the topic or themes concerned. UNU-GCM also aims to include a wide variety of participants in its activities. As such, activities at UNU-GCM in 2017 ranged from film screenings and seminars to guest lectures and conferences.

Policy reports for all research programmes can be found on the UNU-GCM website: <http://gcm.unu.edu/publications/policy-reports>



Photo copyright: UNU-GCM/Eva Guillaumet, 2017

Migration and Crises (2016 - 2017)

Throughout 2017, UNU-GCM continued its research line on Migration and Crises, which began in 2016. Projects in this research line examine the human costs of these crises that have forced people to move, and the new instabilities and vulnerabilities that are introduced, such as increasing prejudice and discrimination towards migrants and refugees. It also considers the management of these migratory crises and the role of states, as well as non-state actors, in the increasing securitisation of migration.

At the same time, it takes into account the role of civil society movements, local governance, and grassroots and urban-based initiatives, in addressing the challenges faced by migrants and refugees, with a number of these actors playing a crucial role in providing humanitarian support and assistance, as well as solidarity, to those who have been displaced.

In 2017, UNU-GCM welcomed two visiting researchers, Drago Župarić-Ilić and Doerte Weig, who each spent three months at the Institute contributing to this research area. The current research programme on Migration and Crises is a clear example of this commitment. It addresses several Global Goals (1. No Poverty; 3. Good health and wellbeing; 5. Gender equality; 8. Decent work and economic growth; 10. Reduced inequalities; 11. Sustainable cities and communities; 13. Climate action; 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions, etc.), while also emphasizing the importance of Goal 17 (Partnership for the goals) at the local and multilateral levels, thus reinforcing UNU-GCM's position as a bridge between the international academic community and the United Nations system.

Outputs thus far have included academic publications, media articles, and participation in various international conferences. The research findings of this project will help to understand how policy-making can better prevent, deal with and manage migratory and refugee crises in the future.

Key outputs:

- Conference on Migration and Displacement in Contemporary Africa
- UNU-GCM Annual Guest Lecture by Dr. Pietro Bartolo
- Launch of the Model International Mobility Convention
- Policy Report Series 4: Migration and Crises

Selected Projects



Photo copyright: UNU-GCM/Tatiana Diniz, 2016

Hopeful Journeys | Researcher: Parvati Nair, Research Assistant: Tatiana Diniz

Hopeful Journeys is a multi-media project that examines the role of hope, on both personal and collective levels, as a strategy of survival and progress in the context of migration in the Mediterranean. The overarching objective of this project is to highlight hope as a vital social, psychological and strategic feature of human existence, bringing to light the centrality of human beings in reference to debates on migration. In turn, the focus on hope will foreground the urgency for a humanitarian approach to policy-making on migration.

The project covers the Mediterranean region with four symbolic locations: Melilla, Lampedusa, Athens and Beirut. Through interviews and photographic documentation, the matter of hope is traced at various levels.

The Spiralling of the Securitization of Migration | Researcher: Valeria Bello

Although human mobility is not a new phenomenon, the perception of current migration as both unprecedented and challenging has increasingly spread across societies all over the world. This work claims that most of the “crisis” around migration that European societies currently perceive depends on the climate of “emergency” and “exceptionality” around which this situation has been framed and that is the signal of a current spiralling in the process of securitization of migration. To show that it is the management of emergency rather than the governance of human mobility that takes place and that this particular framework of intervention is associated with the human insecurity of people, this project has focused on the reception system at different levels of governance and the relevant role of both state and non-state actors in either securitizing or desecuritizing the field of migration.

Additional Research Programmes

The research programme on **Migration, Media and Intercultural Dialogue** examined mobility in the context of cultural diversity and difference. The research conducted within this programme offered critical insights into current global intercultural dialogue initiatives. Based on research findings, its key recommendation is to view intercultural dialogue and exchange as fluid and dynamic, in contrast to concepts that examine 'culture' and 'civilizations' in divisive or static terms. Different forms of media were also analyzed and findings indicated how the media offers new spaces for cultural representation and the potential to improve public perceptions of migration and cultural diversity.

Key outputs:

- Series of ten policy reports
- Two-day international conference
- Academic publications on interculturalism, media, transnational identities, cultural and religious plurality

The research programme on **Statelessness and Transcontinental Migration** focused on situations of extreme vulnerability, migrant exploitation and on lives lived on the borderline. The research provided a critical examination of operating concepts in international policy arenas such as statelessness and human security, considering how specific understandings of these terms affect those who lack legal and political recognition. It also found that the involvement of private sector actors in border management accentuates the vulnerability of stateless persons. Other research findings indicated that a combination of institutional and civil society initiatives, operating at different scales, enable vulnerable migrants access to their rights and to basic services, and that new media might offer novel coping strategies.

Key outputs:

- Series of nine policy reports
- Two-day international conference
- Academic publications on statelessness, borders, non-state actors, undocumented migrants

The research programme on **Female Agency, Mobility and Socio-cultural Change**, which began in 2014, focused on one of the most significant social patterns that has emerged over the course of the last century—the feminization of migration. Too often, female migrants occupy vulnerable positions in their host societies, engaging in domestic work, sex work and other unregulated sectors. Despite being so vulnerable and despite established patterns of exploitation, the number of women who choose to migrate is rising. This research programme focused on this phenomenon, in order to better understand why and how migration may offer routes to empowerment to women.

Key outputs:

- Series of ten policy reports
- Two-day International Conference
- Women of the World: Home and Work in Barcelona photo exhibit and online feature





Photo copyright: UNU-GCM/Tatiana Diniz, 2016

Cross-cutting Themes

Across all of UNU-GCM's research work there are several cross-cutting themes, particularly in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals.

As part of UNU's commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the SDGs, UNU-GCM experts are working on cross-disciplinary and international research agendas to work towards the formulation and implementation of challenge-led research on the SDGs. To publicize how

our work contributes to the SDGs, UNU-GCM is also contributing to the UNU Sustainable Development Explorer. This UNU system-wide platform highlights how UNU's work is spanning the full breadth of the SDGs, with some 400 researchers engaged in more than 180 research projects worldwide.

UNU-GCM takes a sociocultural approach to questions of migration, keeping migrants themselves at the center of our work. As such, all our research contributes to ensuring human rights and dignity for all migrants. We also integrate a gender perspective throughout our research, considering the different migratory experiences of men and women and how migration changes conventional gender roles and family dynamics. In this way, much of UNU-GCM's research contributes to SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment.

UNU-GCM has also developed research on cities and migration, intersecting with its different research programmes and contributing to SDG 11 on sustainable cities. This work recognises how cities are where migrants of different backgrounds converge to seek work opportunities, engage with social networks and build new lives. From a policy angle, our research has examined the crucial role of local government in developing inclusive policies for migration and diversity. We have also studied how different actors in cities – local authorities, non-governmental organisations, and urban citizens – are playing an increasingly humanitarian role, displaying an openness and supporting migrants and refugees in a context where state rhetoric and policy has largely focussed on closure and containment. Our academic research on migration and cities brings the fields of migration studies and urban studies into productive dialogue, and examines migrants' experiences of the cities to which they move, their social networks, processes of community formation in urban neighbourhoods, and how migrants create a sense of home and belonging.

Collaborations

UNU Migration Network

In 2017 UNU-GCM continued to be centrally involved in the UNU Migration Network after handing over the coordination to UNU-MERIT in 2016. The UNU Migration Network serves as a research platform across which Institutes of the UNU share expertise on migration. It has been formed from the premise that migration is a major phenomenon of the twenty-first century, with impact at local and global levels.

The UNU Migration Network includes all those UNU Institutes working on the topic of migration with the aim of examining in depth the needs of people who find themselves in the particular situation of migrancy from different disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives. Migration can enrich societies, but it can also give rise to challenges for both individuals involved in the migration process and governments and non-governmental organizations with stakes in the process. The UNU Migration Network analyzes and informs on all these aspects.

As a collaborative initiative, the mission of the UNU Migration Network is to support the sharing of knowledge and research practices; to find links between supposedly different approaches to the study of migration, such as those between environmental causes for migration and economic consequences; to inform policy on matters related to human security; to promote comparative regional perspectives on migration; to consider patterns of internal migration; to jointly influence governments or regions; it also contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals and to UNU's role as a policy-influencing body.

It further acts as a vehicle for good initiatives and local practice to be discussed more widely. It offers a forum for the development of new synergies between UNU's Institutes in order to both create and spread cutting edge research.



Members of the UNU Migration Network and other academics present their research on a panel at UN Headquarters in New York City. Photo copyright: Julia Blocher, 2017

External Collaborations

UNU-GCM welcomed the opportunity for a series of rich collaborations with universities in Spain and elsewhere, with other agencies of the United Nations, international organizations and think tanks throughout 2017.

UNU-GCM works as a bridge between research and public policies, and is considered a solid partner within the UN system. In 2017, international research and policy collaborations with other UN agencies have included, among others, single agencies and international organizations such as the International Organization of Migration (IOM), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI).

UNU-GCM also held meetings with representatives of the United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC) and the United Nations Department of Public Information (UNDPI) to explore partnerships in support of both the academic strategy and the Chairmanship of the GMG.

At the local level, UNU-GCM participates in the activities of the network of UN agencies located in Spain, currently coordinated by UNWTO in Madrid.

In 2017, several academic partnerships have strengthened the organization's capacity for long-term cooperation and collaboration, both at the international level (e.g. Global Policy Initiative, Columbia University of New York, USA) and at the local level.

Through a partnership with the Barcelona Institute for International Studies (IBEI), the Institute offered classes on international migration as part of the IBEI master's programme, and welcomed four IBEI students, each for a period of two months, during 2017.

A new internship programme for PhD students was also recently launched thanks to a collaboration with the Diaphora Network (European research and training platform), strengthening the ties with the European Commission and other universities across Europe.



Jonathan Harouny and Tricia Magalotti, PhD interns from the Diaphora Network.

UNU-GCM has also continued to offer a range of opportunities for students to gain insight in the technical and administrative departments, working as interns for six months closely with both the Management and Administrative personnel.

UNU-GCM in the Media

UNU-GCM welcomed the chance to further expand on its research in the mainstream media in 2017. Researchers at UNU-GCM wrote widely in the online magazine *Our World* as well as for the online media platform *openDemocracy*. UNU-GCM was also featured in print and online media in connection with the UNU-GCM Annual Guest Lecture by Pietro Bartolo and for the launch of the Model International Mobility Convention.

Media Articles by UNU-GCM

Nair, Parvati "Refugee or migrant? Sometime the line is blurred" in *The Conversation* and *Our World*, 20 June 2017.

Pescinski, Janina "How Migrant Women are Leading Locally in France, Spain and Beyond", *Our World*, 21 February 2017.

Pescinski, Janina "Humanitarian citizens: breaking the law to protect human rights", *openDemocracy*, 28 August 2017.

Stevens, Bavo "Making Space for Children in the Global Compact on Migration", *Our World*, 10 May 2017.

Stevens, Bavo "Development Aid Alone Won't Reduce Migration", *Our World*, 12 July 2017.

Stevens, Bavo "Global Environmental Change Is Creating Immobility "Traps"", *Our World*, 27 August 2017.

Highlights of UNU-GCM in the Media

"Un médico en el infierno del naufragio" *El País*, 8 December 2017.

"El largo sueño del médico de Lampedusa" *El Periódico*, 12 December 2017.

"El médico de Lampedusa señala a Occidente como causa de las migraciones" *ABC*, 18 November 2017.

"La Universidad de la ONU señala la poca regulación de la movilidad internacional" *ABC*, 18 December 2017.

"Naciones Unidas propone un modelo internacional de movilidad más garante de derechos y flexible" *cuatro.com*, 18 December 2017.



Annex 1. Publications

Policy Reports

Policy Report Series 4: Migration and Crises

04/01

Amrith, Megha (2017) Cities as Humanitarian Actors in Contexts of Displacement.

04/02

Bezabeh, Samson (2017) UN/ Masking Narratives: An Alternative Account of Horn of Africa Migration.

04/03

Bello, Valeria (2017) Europe and the Mediterranean Crises: Trapped Between Prejudice and Solidarity.

Policy Brief

Bloom, Tendayi (2017) 'The Critical Role of Civil Society in the Development of Global Migration Governance Frameworks,' UNU-GCM.



Conference Proceedings

(2017) Cities of Welcome, Cities of Transit.

Academic

Monographs, Edited Books and Special Issues

Amrith, Megha (Feb 2017) *Caring for Strangers: Filipino Medical Workers in Asia*, Copenhagen: NIAS Press.

Bello, Valeria (April 2017) *International Migration and International Security. Why Prejudice is a Global Security Threat*, London and New York: Routledge.

Bello, Valeria, Bloom, Tendayi and Amrith, Megha (eds) (2017) *Interculturalism in Times of Crisis*, Special Issue in *International Migration*, 52(2).

Bloom, Tendayi, Tonkiss, Katherine and Cole, Philip (2017) *Understanding statelessness*. Routledge; London and New York.

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

Bello, Valeria (2017) 'Interculturalism as a New Framework to reduce Prejudice in Times of Crisis in European Countries' in Bello, Valeria, Bloom, Tendayi and Amrith, Megha (eds) *Interculturalism in Times of Crisis*, Special Issue in *International Migration*, 52(2).

Bello, Valeria and Tendayi Bloom (2017) 'Interculturalism in Times of Crisis: An Introduction' in Bello, Valeria, Bloom, Tendayi and Amrith, Megha (eds) *Interculturalism in Times of Crisis*, Special Issue in *International Migration*, 52(2).

Gordano-Peile, Cecilia (2017) 'Feminist birds of passage: Feminist and migrant becomings of Latin American women in Spain'. *European Journal of Women's Studies*. 15 November 2017.

Garcia Faroldi, Livia (2017) 'Determinants of Attitudes towards Immigration: Testing the Influence of Interculturalism, Group Threat Theory and National Contexts in Time of Crisis' in Bello, Valeria; Bloom, Tendayi and Amrith, Megha (eds) *Interculturalism in Times of Crisis*, Special Issue in *International Migration*, 52(2).

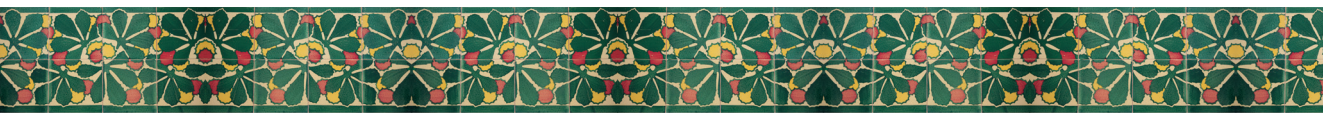
Passarelli, David (2017) 'Realising the rights of stateless persons: the doctrine of fiduciary duty and the role of municipal government' in Bloom, Tendayi, Tonkiss, Katherine and Cole, Philip *Understanding statelessness*. Routledge; London and New York.

Interns' Reports

Ruckstuhl, Austin 'Protecting LGBTI Refugees: The Role of Cities,' UNU-GCM Policy Report, 18 January 2017.

Soltani, Anoosh 'Global Representations and Local Realities: How does the Veil Shape the Experiences of Muslim Immigrant Women in Public Places of New Zealand?,' UNU-GCM Policy Report, 04 April 2017.

Zhou, Luoyi 'Institutionalized Barriers to Inclusion: A Case Study of China's Rural Migrant Workers in Urban Areas,' UNU-GCM Policy Report, 27 June 2017.



Annex 2. Events

APRIL- JUNE 2017 | New York, United States of America
'Academic Thinking on Migration' Panel Series in New York



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Throughout the spring of 2017, UNU-GCM researchers contributed to the UNU Panel Series on Academic Thinking on Migration. These seminars were convened by the UNU Migration Network, with the support of the UNU Office in New York, for a diverse audience of UN delegations and agencies, civil society organizations and academics. The series was held against the backdrop of thematic consultations feeding into negotiations towards a Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Upcoming panel details are on the UNU Migration Network website.

On 20 April 2017, UNU-GCM Research Fellow Valeria Bello spoke on a panel on 'The Rise of Nationalist Politics and Policy Implications for Migration'. Drawing on different academic perspectives, panellists addressed the main reasons behind a recent increase in anti-migrant violence in certain contexts, what we can learn from historical examples, how policies at the sub-national, national, regional and global levels address xenophobia and how groups seeking greater inclusivity might redress divisive politics.

On June 8 2017, Research Fellow Megha Amrith spoke on the panel 'Cities of Welcome: The Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees in Urban Areas'. This panel gathered experts from diverse backgrounds to explore questions related to the inclusion and integration of migrants, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and refugees in cities around the world. Panellists discussed examples of cities looking to cultivate a 'culture of welcome'.

On 22 June 2017, Senior Researcher Officer Francisco Cos-Montiel spoke on the panel 'Addressing Women's Rights in a Global Compact on Migration'. Panelists offered critical academic perspectives on gender and migration and identified actions and strategies that member states and other stakeholders can take to promote and protect women's human rights in migration governance.

30 MAY 2017 | Barcelona, Spain
Conference on Migration and Displacement in Contemporary Africa



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This conference, organised by UNU-GCM, shed light on the diverse dimensions and experiences of migration and forced displacement within contemporary Africa, and from Africa to other regions. It brought together scholars who examined this from different disciplinary perspectives, and who situated these displacements in a broader geopolitical context, while addressing the multi-level governance of migration. They also drew upon field-based research to challenge dominant narratives that circulate in policy and media debates on themes such as smuggling, xenophobia and gender, giving space to understanding the aspirations and agency of migrants. The conference also featured a screening of film excerpts from the Dadaab Stories project, and concluded with a keynote lecture by Dr. Nicholas Van Hear on 'Imagining Refugia', in which he suggested alternative ways of thinking about global mobility outside of the current international migration regime.

16-20 OCTOBER 2017 | Bellagio, Italy
Conference on Addressing Xenophobia: Representations of Migration and the Role of the Media

The conference "Addressing Xenophobia: Representations of Migration and the Role of the Media" brought together 23 UN officials, media practitioners, and academics working at the nexus of migration and media in order to focus on the potential, role and practices of the media in the context of responsible policymaking on international migration. It was convened by the United Nations University and took place at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center from 16-20 October 2017.

The conference sought to explore the role of the media in shaping narratives around migration that influence public opinion and policymaking. Media entities, in their role as purveyors of information, play an indisputable role in shaping public discourse on migration and in directing electoral priorities that impact directly on policies on migration, which, in turn, determine migration-related practices and experiences on the ground. This conference focused on the nexus of media and migration in order to provide an evidence base that may usefully feed into ongoing migration policy negotiations at the international level.

18 NOVEMBER 2017 | Barcelona, Spain
UNU-GCM Annual Guest Lecture by Dr. Pietro Bartolo

Dr. Pietro Bartolo delivered UNU-GCM's 2017 Annual Guest Lecture, entitled 'Let's not think of them as clandestine migrants.' Dr. Bartolo is an Italian doctor who, for more than two decades, has overseen the emergency medical response to the incessant waves of migrants and refugees passing through Lampedusa. This powerful lecture reminded attendees of the desperate situation many migrants face, along with the urgent need for an improved response that respects human rights and dignity. The evening also included a poetry reading of three specially commissioned works by the poet Dominic Hand, winner of the prestigious 2017 Newdigate Prize in the UK. There was additionally the opportunity to explore a photography exhibit, as part of the ongoing UNU-GCM project 'Hopeful Journeys'.

22 NOVEMBER 2017 | Maastricht, The Netherlands
Presenting research from the UNU-GCM 'Migration & Crises' project at the Migration Network Conference

The UNU-GCM research team participated at the UNU Migration Network Conference on November 22, in Maastricht, The Netherlands, where they presented the research findings of the project "Migration and Crises". This project sheds light on the important ways through which different non-state actors contribute to, either constructing or deconstructing, migration as a crisis. Research Fellow Valeria Bello examined the role of reception centres' management in the securitization of migration. Junior Research Fellow Janina Pescinski discussed the criminalization of humanitarian assistance to migrants. Junior Research Fellow Bavo Stevens analyzed how NGOs help urban refugees to navigate experiences of involuntary immobility in Bangkok.

23 NOVEMBER 2017 | Chihuahua, Mexico
UNU-GCM signs a funding agreement with the Government of Chihuahua, Mexico

On November 23 UNU-GCM signed a funding agreement with the Government of Chihuahua, represented by the Institute of Women of the Government of Chihuahua, for the new UNU-GCM project Migration, Gender and the Future of Maquila work in the Northern border of Chihuahua, Mexico. The project is designed to help prevent thousands of workers - many of whom are women and migrants - from losing their jobs due to increased automation, as technology transforms industries in Chihuahua.

18 DECEMBER 2017 | Barcelona, Spain

European launch ceremony of Model International Mobility Convention



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To mark International Migrants Day, on December 18 UNU-GCM hosted a roundtable discussion for the launch of the Model International Mobility Convention, in collaboration with the Global Policy Initiative at Columbia University (New York). The event was formally opened by Mr. Isidre Sala, Director General for Multilateral and European Affairs of the Generalitat of Catalonia. Professor Michael Doyle, Director of the Columbia Global Policy Initiative presented the objectives of the Model International Mobility Convention and reflections were offered by Prof. Parvati Nair, Director of UNU-GCM.

The roundtable discussion commenced with a video speech by Mr. Thomas Gass, Under Secretary General of the United Nations at UNDESA and Member of UNU's Council. Ms. Anna Terrón i Cusí, Chair of UNU-GCM's Advisory Board, H.E. Mr Arturo Cabrera, Ambassador Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the UN in Geneva, and Professor Binod Khadria, Professor of Economics and Education at Jawaharlal Nehru University also shared their reflections. The event provided a valuable discussion on alternative frameworks for governing mobility at the international level in a way that offers a flexible legal framework encompassing multiple scenarios of mobility, with rights and obligations on states and persons alike.

To address gaps in international law on human mobility, and the growing gaps in protection and responsibility that are leaving people vulnerable, the Model International Mobility Convention proposes a framework for mobility with the goals of reaffirming the existing rights afforded to mobile people (and the corresponding rights and responsibilities of states) as well as expanding those basic rights where warranted. The eight chapters of the Model International Mobility Convention were developed by a multidisciplinary Commission of eminent academic and policy experts in the fields on migration, human rights, national security, labour economics and refugee law.



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