



International Scientific Conference

CONTEMPORARY MIGRATION TRENDS AND FLOWS ON THE TERRITORY OF SOUTHEAST EUROPE

Conference hall of the Library of the
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
University of Zagreb,
Ivana Lučića 3, Zagreb, Croatia

10 and 11 November 2016

Organisers:
Department of Ethnology and
Cultural Anthropology,
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
University of Zagreb
and
Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies,
Zagreb



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Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
University of Zagreb
Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, Zagreb

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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Bearing in mind the numerous migration flows and new forms of mobility present today, the conference aims to comparatively analyse recent population movement trends on the territory of Southeast Europe. The key topics we discuss are emigration, transit and immigration in a broader European and global context in the last twenty years – as manifested prior to accession to the EU, during accession to the EU and after accession to the EU, as well as in the light of the current “crisis” related to refugee flows.

Our wish is to, through presentations and discussions, expound and elaborate on the (im)mutability of push and pull factors, and other causes of migration, on the role of the political, economic and legislative macro context, to detect new destinations for immigration and/or to confirm the existing ones, to examine the influence of migrant networks. In addition to the role of the macro and micro context in migration processes, new forms of meso contexts will also be examined – for example, social networks, i.e. various forms of virtual communities, etc. Bearing in mind the general trends in contemporary migration, the aim is to compare the experiences from different countries and to detect the similarities between them, while also indicating their differences and national specificities regarding: the (re)definition of typologies (i.e. economic, family, permanent, legal, irregular; voluntary, compelled and forced, virtual and return migration, brain drain, transmigrants, expatriates...), views on the duration of migration processes (circular, temporary, seasonal), changes in the socio-demographic structure of migrants (e.g. the feminisation of migration), changes in the discourse and narratives related to migration (e.g. the politicisation, securitisation and criminalisation of migration), etc. Migration processes are examined from the viewpoint of the migrants themselves and the families that stay behind, the impact of these processes on the source area, transit area and destination, as well as their influence on the population that remained. The conference also touches on other post-migration phenomena such as the integration of (im)migrants into local communities, and on the current and future role of scientists in envisaging and deploying migration and integration strategies/policies.

The aim of this international and interdisciplinary conference is to discuss in depth aforementioned issues and to connect the experience/knowledge of scholars from various disciplines in order to contribute to the better understanding of the social and all other challenges that migrations pose to modern European societies.

Organising Committee

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 10/11/2016

- 8:30 – 9:00 REGISTRATION
- 9:00 – 9:20 OPENING
- 9:20 – 10:40 MIGRATION RESEARCH: THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FOREFRONTS
Moderator: Carolin Leutloff-Grandits
Simona Kuti & Saša Božić: Towards a more comprehensive study of transnational migration: the potential of an integrated concept of transnational social spaces
Sanja Cukut Krilić, Duška Knežević Hočevar & Simona Zavrtnik: Migration statistics in a transnational perspective: some conceptual remarks
Damir Josipović: The problem and controversy of “generations” in demographical and migration research in the face of mass migration from the Middle East
Maja Povržanović Frykman: High-skilled migration beyond “brain drain/ brain gain” debate: an outline of a mix-method study of the highly skilled migrants’ wellbeing in a transnational perspective
- 10:40 – 11:00 Break
- 11:00 – 12:20 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM: THE BALKAN ROUTE IN FOCUS
Moderator: Selma Porobić
Lucie Bacon & Morgane Dujmovic: Out of the “corridor”: co-presence and bypassing as resistance to migration control
Marijana Hameršak & Iva Pleše: In the shadow of the transit spectacle
Duško Petrović: The proliferation of borders on the Balkan migratory route
Uršula Lipovec Čebren & Sara Pistotnik: Migrants/refugees in search of health – obstacles, solutions and dilemmas
- 12:20 – 13:40 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM: “CRISIS”, FLOWS AND RESPONSES
Moderator: Marta Stojić Mitrović
Onur Yildirim: Can Turkey cope with the refugee problem? A historical perspective
Irena Avirović & Makedonka Radulović: Refugee crisis through the lenses of social media: the Macedonian case

Maja Dragojević: Refugee flows at the local level – case study of the Asylum Info Centre

Ljupka Mandić: Migration of socially deprived population and the readmission process

13:40 – 15:00 Lunch break

15:00 – 16:40 FORCED MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT WITHIN THE REGION

Moderator: Simona Kuti

Selma Porobić: Researching displacement, gender and wellbeing in Western Balkans today: reflections on the aptness of the forced migration as a research and interpretational framework

Ljiljana Đajić: Coping strategies and everyday resilience of female refugees in a Serbian village

Anela Hasanagić: Study of pathogenic and salutogenic health factors among women forced migrants in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Nina Bosankić: Engendering displacement in the local enclave

Jagoda Petrović: Psychosocial support to displaced persons, returnees and refugees in BiH

16:40 – 17:00 Break

17:00 – 19:00 INTEGRATION OF IMMIGRANTS AND MINORITIES

Moderator: Maja Povrzanović Frykman

Dragan Bačić & Marko Valenta: Can co-ethnics be immigrants? Analysis of several aspects of the integration of immigrants in Croatia

Vedrana Baričević: Economic integration of asylum seekers and refugees in Croatia

Marijeta Rajković Iveta & Rahela Jurković: Citizenship *de jure* vs. integration *de facto*

Sanja Klempić Bogadi, Sonja Podgorelec & Margareta Gregurović: Immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina in Croatia: a sense of belonging and acceptance in the *new* social environment

Jadranka Đorđević Crnobrnja: Social practices and strategies in integration process of Gorani in the receiving society

Snježana Gregurović & Drago Župarić-Ilić: Development of integration policies and pitfalls of comparison: the case of Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia

19:30 Dinner

Friday, 11/11/2016

- 10:00 – 11:20 MIGRATION, LABOUR, GENDER AND RELIGION
Moderator: Sonja Podgorelec
Martina Bofulin: Chinese in Southeast Europe: multiple forms of mobility at the beginning of the 21st century
Dunja Poleti Ćosić: Gender migration patterns – a case study of Serbia
Mladena Prelić: Labour migrations and depopulation of rural regions in Serbia: example of the village Belo Blato in Vojvodina
Petko Hristov & Violeta Periklieva: Local religiosity in the context of labour migrations: the cases of the Greek Catholics from Žumberak in Croatia and the Orthodox Christian Serbs in Eastern Serbia
- 11:20 – 11:40 Break
- 11:40 – 13:00 MIGRATION, DISCOURSES AND THE MEDIA
Moderator: Petko Hristov
Marta Stojić Mitrović: The discourse of fraud in the context of migration: epistocracy, credibility and “hidden intentions” of the actors of the migration process
Miroslava Lukić Krstanović: Migrations through media ocular/discourse: information, sensations, and knowledge
Peter Vatašćin: “The ones who changed the city’s soul”: Hungarians’ persistent discourses and stereotypes about Serbian former forced migrants in Subotica
Karmen Medica: Migration and media – dynamics of change
- 13:00 – 14:20 Lunch break
- 14:20 – 15:40 MOBILITIES AND DIASPORA: DECISIONS, EXPERIENCES, RETURNS
Moderator: Jasna Ćapo
Mina Hristova: “Should I stay or should I go”: migration patterns of Macedonia’s young people
Petra Kelemen: In search of a “normal” and “fulfilling” life: narratives of Croatian migrants in Germany
Ivaylo Markov: Narratives about migratory experiences and homeland among the Albanians from the Republic of Macedonia
Jaka Repič: Slovenian diasporas and return mobilities: art, place and memory

- 15:40 – 16:40 MOBILITIES AND DIASPORA: FAMILY, NETWORKS, LIFESTYLES
Moderator: Jadranka Grbić
Carolin Leutloff-Grandits: Marriage migration from Kosovo to the EU: possibilities and pitfalls of family and gender construction within national and transnational spaces
Jasna Čapo: Love-driven mobility and “pioneer” businesses: international migrants in Zagreb and Croatia
Nataša Rogelja: Lifestyle migrants in Greece: luxury or marginality?
- 16:40 – 17:00 Break
- 17:00 – 18:00 FINAL DISCUSSION AND CLOSING

ABSTRACTS

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**Towards a more comprehensive study of transnational migration:
the potential of an integrated concept of transnational social spaces**

The “transnational turn” in the study of international migration, and accompanying criticism of methodological nationalism in the social sciences have shifted the focus from nationally bounded “social containers” to transnational social formations and processes. Ostensible ubiquity of the phenomenon of migrant transnationalism has led to its popularity as a field of study, followed by its semantic and conceptual proliferation at the beginning of the 21st century. Such developments seriously undermined the theoretical usefulness of a new concept. Unlike its more famous but less precise conceptual (pre)cursor, the concept of transnational social spaces might offer a more viable analytic tool for studying diverse migration and post-migration phenomena. At the broadest level, transnational social spaces can be defined as “sustained ties of persons, networks and organisations across the borders of multiple nation-states” at different levels of institutionalisation (Faist 2000). We shall analyse the most significant theoretical approaches to the concept of transnational social spaces (Faist 2000; Pries 2001) or transnational social fields (Levitt and Glick Schiller 2004) in migration studies. Based on this analysis, we shall identify the most important elements and analytic dimensions of the concept. Finally, we shall illustrate the possibilities of employing an integrated concept of transnational social spaces in the study of migration and post-migration processes in the Southeast Europe, and discuss the potential benefits of such an approach.

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**Migration statistics in a transnational perspective:
some conceptual remarks**

Despite growing attempts to standardise and harmonise migration-related data collection in recent decades, fully comparable migration-data in a transnational context are still insufficient. The 2007 European Parliament regulation on migration statistics does provide clear definitions of immigration and emigration. However, due to the diversification of migration types and increasing complexity of migration at both the regional and international level in recent decades, the regulation's definition of an international migrant is vague. Also, the definitions of short-term migratory moves differ largely across countries. Reporting on cross-border mobility is not uniform in terms of the methodology applied in national contexts. There is also a lack of harmonisation of data across migration partner (sending and receiving) countries. Systems of address registration for foreign citizens differ largely and migration through deregistration from data systems is not systematically followed. There is also a lack of regional-level data. Large scale surveys, e.g. the Labour Force Survey (LFS), often produce unreliable data on the social and demographic characteristics of the migrant population given the low number of migrants included in these surveys. The differences in the concepts used in national statistics on migration are related to the history of specific countries as well as to their historical migration patterns that shape migration policies and also the availability and collection of migration-related data. Building on some of the results of an international project *SEEMIG – Managing migration and its effects in South-East Europe – Transnational actions towards evidence based strategies*, the paper will analyse these issues at the level of South Eastern Europe (SEE), within which both “old” and “new” EU member states as well as “third countries” participate in “migration networks”.

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The problem and controversy of “generations” in demographical and migration research in the face of mass migration from the Middle East

In the last half a century or so, the migration processes in Europe for its most part faced a significant overturn. Between the two competing principles of *ius soli* and *ius sanguinis* a certain merger of “applicable difference” has occurred. The famous and unsolved French-German dispute on the applicability of both concepts from the 19th century culminated after the collapse of the Socialist bloc. Countries with numerous diasporas, like Germany and Russia, however, not confined to these, faced a problem of the “national self” reformulation. The problem of extensive migration and pronounced ethnic differentiation of the nominally same ethnicities had seemed to be, at least in the German case, overcome by the introduction of “migration background”. According to that principle, certain populations were “positively discriminated” in order to achieve systematic integration. The intention turned into an essentialism of generations, which found domestication in South-Eastern Europe and elsewhere as well. Here, we argue that the alternative model is needed, especially since the new circumstances as a consequence of wars and tyranny, especially in the Middle East, force people out from their war-torn regions. Additionally, it must be stressed that the contemporary methodological apparatus is not suited to encompass a plethora of possible migration settings and outcomes in a changed international environment. Bringing forth the agony of people undertaking marches and voyages through dangerous routes, be it on land or sea, new concepts should be applied. For example, the differentiation between the forced and the economic migrant has caught the EU and other countries on thin ice. The controversy could be overcome by the application of e.g. “pseudo-voluntary migration” framework (cf. Josipovič 2013). Here, we present the role of official, semi-official, and unofficial migration industries facilitating wars, conflicts and migration flows.

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**High-skilled migration beyond “brain drain/brain gain” debate:
an outline of a mix-method study of the highly skilled migrants’
well-being in a transnational perspective**

For much of the last decade and especially since the onset of the economic crisis, OECD countries target the highly skilled labour migrants as they are perceived to offer economic benefits. These migrants are sought-after both within private and public sectors in the knowledge-based economies, where the discourse of mobility-as-opportunity suggests financial gains and career development. The research on high-skilled migration has been dominated by the “brain drain/brain gain” debate – the interest in economic effects of migration and the conditions of labour market integration. Socio-cultural, legal, and political implications have largely remained under-studied, as well as multiple factors on the level of individual experience, that contribute to attract and retain professionals both on the “drain” and the “gain” side. Drawing on the results of two qualitative pilot projects on international physicians in Sweden and Norway, this paper argues for the need of exploring individual well-being that rests not only on professional but also on non-work-related factors and the possibilities for managing work, family, private and social domains of life. These migrants’ experiences of local emplacement suggest that, even if privileged in terms of education and employment, they encounter specific challenges in the realms of socio-cultural integration. With regard to Southeast Europe as a region currently marked by “brain drain”, this paper will outline a mix-method study of the well-being of self-initiated high-skilled migrants who moved to OECD countries, that would be able to capture the processual character of their adjustment with regard to gender, age, geographical distance, and employment conditions in the destination country. A transnational perspective would, at the same time, allow for capturing the effects of migration concerning professional links, family and social obligations anchored in the country of origin. Possible comparative takes will be discussed, pertaining to countries of origin and destination locations, professions, family circumstances, and the duration of stay in another country.

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**Out of the “corridor”:
co-presence and bypassing as resistance to migration control**

What is the significance of the “migratory corridor” set up in the Balkans from September 2015? From the perspective of social geography, this paper questions the segregative functions of the “corridor”. Our methodology combines direct observations, interviews and migratory narratives. On the 30th of September 2015, we, two PhD students working on migration issues, met up in Bapska-Berkasovo. This border-crossing point between Croatia and Serbia served as the main transit zone at the beginning of the so-called “migration crisis” in this region. At that moment, the migratory “corridor” was setting up: barely out of the buses coming from Preševo, migrants were strictly supervised by Croatian police and led to the registration camp of Opatovac, opened ten days before. Sharing our perceptions from two different perspectives, migrants’ experiences and institutional dispositive, we started to wonder about the forms and the functions of this “corridor” which connects our respective fieldworks – Croatia and Serbia/Macedonia. The “corridor” is a tool of migration control: at first sight it aims to filter, contain, register, organise the move and the fixation. It reflects the authorities’ will of “managing migrations” while preventing dispersal and contact with local population. Yet, our observations on the field reveal situations of co-presence and alternative roads. Indeed, the “corridor” is permeable and challenged by migrants’ tactics, skills and knowledges as well as daily solidarities. From the perspective of social geography, this paper will question the meaning of the term “corridor” and its significance regarding its exclusive and excluding characteristics. Based on *in situ* and participatory observations, interviews with the key actors of the control and migratory narratives, we will argue that the various socio-spatial interactions occurring around and with the “corridor” can be interpreted as acts of resistance to migration securitisation.

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In the shadow of the transit spectacle

In the shadow of a specific form of the border spectacle (De Genova 2002) and the spectacle of statistics (Stierl et al. 2016), i.e. in the shadow of the spectacle of the mass transit of refugees on their way to the Western Europe, represented in the scenes of controlled humanitarian corridor crossing Croatia during the autumn and winter 2015/2016, so-called profiling and push-backs of refugees took place. Mostly invisible in the general public, profiling and push-backs led to a mass forced movement of refugees in the opposite direction and/or their explicit detention. By relying on the different types of sources, ranging from the public reports to our field observations, this paper focuses on the detentions in the Croatian part of the so-called Balkan corridor, with the focus on the months before and after its official closure in March 2016 and the detention zones of the camp in Slavonski Brod. Transformation of these zones in time and space, their status in the context of the camp and border control system, and their role in the production of various statuses of migrants will be presented, as well as the models of representation and reception of these zones within and outside the camp, their physical appearance and corresponding forms of social production and construction of space and underlying security and humanitarian practice, but also different forms of resistance to these practices.

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The proliferation of borders on the Balkan migratory route

In this presentation I argue that the construction of the transition centres and refugee camps on the so-called Balkan migratory route have increased border controls on different, less visible levels. Based on my fieldwork in the transition centre in Slavonski Brod, I came to a conclusion that transition centres and camps serve as junction points on the humanitarian corridor, creating a special humanitarian space with some distinctive features. The humanitarian corridor was the space of total surveillance and humanitarian care, where the rights of the refugees were partially suspended. On the other hand, the corridor was a tool for the expansion of “invisible” borders in the inner space of political communities. These borders created the invisible spaces of exception in the “hearts” of political communities. In my view, these refugee policies are part of the new, quite worrying, political consensus that has some proto-totalitarian features similar to the one between two world wars in Europe. In the presentation I will critically address some of these alarming features.

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**Migrants/refugees in search of health –
obstacles, solutions and dilemmas**

Based on extensive ethnographic research the paper will present various obstacles (legal, cultural, practical, etc.) faced by migrants/refugees in the Slovene healthcare system. In addition, some possible solutions aimed at overcoming these obstacles in Slovenia and other EU countries will be described. The authors will focus mainly on the research conducted in the framework of the project *Skupaj za zdravje* (2014–2016, project coordinator is the National Institute of Public Health) and will critically analyse the first training course on cultural competence for healthcare workers as well as pilot introduction by intercultural mediator for Albanian speaking community in one of the healthcare institutions.

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Can Turkey cope with the refugee problem? A historical perspective

This paper attempts to place the current institutions and policies of immigration in Turkey in a historical perspective, drawing attention to continuities since the early years of the Republic. The first part of the paper focuses on the Exchange of Populations that took place between Turkey and Greece in the 1920s. It offers a synoptic view of the process by which the nascent Turkish state dealt with the refugees who came to Turkey according to the terms of the Convention signed between the two countries. It shows that the Turkish state generally devised the existing institutional framework of the imperial period to handle the process (e.g. redistribution, resettlement, integration, etc.) and adopted on the whole an arbitrary approach, again reminiscent of the imperial era, towards the arising problems of the refugees. This framework and approach were combined to constitute the foundations of the Turkish state's stance on immigration and refugee issues. The second part of the paper goes on to argue that the recent flow of Syrian and Iraqi refugees to Turkey revealed the degree of continuity in the state's stance over those issues. It was not until the direct intervention of the EU owing to the booming effects of the refuge flow on its core countries that the Turkish state began to consider certain revisions in its institutions and policies. As the second part of the paper looks at these revisions, it addresses the question of "whether Turkey can successfully cope with the refugee problem" and offers an assessment of the prospects of nearly three million Syrian refugees in Turkey.

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**Refugee crisis through the lenses of social media:
the Macedonian case**

This research aims to analyze social media as a tool in promoting aid for refugees in the Western Balkan route, with a focus on the Macedonian case. It focuses on several blogs and Facebook groups which helped raise awareness of the European refugee crisis and acted as main information midpoint for volunteers and refugees. The study examines the impact of social media in facilitating migrants' journeys and the way these platforms raised awareness of the crisis in the public eye. Our analysis will focus mainly on the Facebook page *Help the refugees in Macedonia*. However, we do not exclude the possibility of including other blogs/groups which might emerge suitable for the research in the following period. On the basis of the media content analyses method, firstly we will divide their content into groups (personal stories of migrants, useful information with subgroups on travel information, calls for volunteers and calls for donations, thanking comments, and comments of hatred, if any) and subsequently we will try to highlight stories that were connected to major events of the refugee crisis.

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**Refugee flows at the local level –
case study of the Asylum Info Centre**

Since the summer 2015, Serbian state has taken different measures to manage an enormous influx of immigrants (i.e. issuance of transit certificates and confirmations on intention on seeking asylum in Serbia, etc.) within the wider context of the increasingly limited access to the EU for individuals from non-SIA countries, the EU-Turkey agreement, and eventual closing of the Western Balkan Route. As one example of the cooperation between the state and the civil society, as well as the answer to current trends, the Asylum Info Centre (AIC), where the author works, was opened in August 2015 and has helped thousands of immigrants since. The main areas of work of the AIC are: cultural mediation and translation, legal, medical and psychological aid, provision of communication, information and non-food items, along with providing a safe space area for children and mothers. Hence, the goal of this paper is twofold. The first part will present the reception of refugee flows at the local level through the case study of the AIC, as well as challenges that employees and volunteers in the AIC encounter. The second part is based on in-depth interviews with immigrants and focuses on their motives to migrate, the expectations they have from “Europe”, experiences of trafficking, smuggling, victimizations and problems arising due to cultural dissimilarities and a lack of information.

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Migration of socially deprived population and the readmission process

This paper gives an analysis of the migration process of persons from Serbia who were refused asylum and their position in the readmission process. The respondents were mostly from socially marginalized groups, from Roma settlements. The research was focused on their position in the perspective of social stratification and in relation toward social and migration policy in the EU and Serbia. The characteristics of their position in Serbia before emigration, during migration and stay in the EU were examined as well as the situation after their return to Serbia through the analysis of their experience in the world of labour, in education, the use of social services, creating networks and the motivation for migration. It has been established that the social exclusion of this population was manifested both in the country of origin and in the country of emigration. The process of implementation of the Strategy of Returnees' Reintegration based on the Readmission Agreement has been found to be complex and uneven. The existence of a gap between public policy and mechanisms for their implementation in the field of readmission and social protection has also been noted. A large number of respondents in emigration showed the patterns of behavior, related to social vulnerability, similar to those in the country of origin, while unemployment and lack of qualifications occurred as the most frequent problems. Gaps between public policies and the process of social inclusion of Roma, their emigration and readmission, are direct consequences of the ineffectiveness of previous public policies, and as such are open expression of the need to address the problem of poverty and social deprivation.

Selma Porobić, PhD, Assistant Professor

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**Researching displacement, gender and wellbeing in Western
Balkans today: reflections on the aptness of the forced migration
as a research and interpretational framework**

In the 2014-2016 period, I coordinated twelve multi-methods empiric studies (four per each country), involving 28 researchers in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Serbia and Kosovo, within the framework of the RRPP (Fribourg University and SDC funded) project *Engendering Forced Migration, Sociopolitical Transition and Mental Health in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Kosovo*. All components sought to contribute insights into the long-term effects of war-displacement by exploring challenges faced by, and the coping strategies employed by displaced women in the post-Yugoslav region today. Moreover, due to the under-representation of forced migration research in knowledge production within the region, the project aimed to strengthen domestic research capacity through training and practice. In this paper, I first set out some main lines of the framework within which these studies should be understood. Further, I comment on some striking patterns in the findings on the wellbeing of displaced women in the BiH, Serbia and Kosovo nowadays. Finally, I will offer some reflections on the limits and strengths of the contribution that displacement-centred research can offer in the region today, paying particular attention to the prickly questions that it may open up. The primary interests of this paper is to put forward a discussion on the relative role of displacement in determining current circumstances that may lead us to re-complicate "the issue" of researching displacement effects in the region today. We are led to ask: how is the experience of displacement during the post-Yugoslav wars entangled in current predicaments where many challenges are shared with others who were not displaced? In this respect, both in qualitative and quantitative research, we have to ask then: how long can and should war-time displacement last as a master narrative in our explanations?

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Coping strategies and everyday resilience of female refugees in a Serbian village

The presentation offers the key insights into analysis of the data collected through ethnographic research conducted during 25 days in October and November 2015, in three households in a village in Serbia, predominantly populated by refugees from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The research has tackled a rather broad range of the integration and gender issues. During integration, it is proved, both support and stress have been experienced in a deeply gendered way. The emphasis of the analysis was on the gender roles of refugee women, examining their responses to everyday stressful situations. What determines the experience of an individual clearly does not depend on the gender affiliation only, but on a complex constellation of factors, such as partner/domestic violence, age, cyclicity of family life, economic resources of the households, and other situational factors. The role of identity and identity development were also observed. For all refugee women in the study, everyday life revolves to a large degree around meeting the multiple, sometimes conflicting, expectations of others. On the other hand, they also have various expectations – and specific ones of their daughters. Those expectations are shaped by patriarchal patterns of dependence on male-controlled resources. Disobedience to such patterns is generally seen as disgraceful, and women who do not meet family expectations are labelled and pressured. Women's acts of resistance, it is demonstrated, can be empowering. However, contradictions related to such acts remain sharp. Openness to talk about their lives and problems, and the very content of their stories, strongly suggest relevance of the mental health issues and a clear need for psychosocial support programmes and giving a special space to refugee women's voices and concerns.

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**Study of pathogenic and salutogenic health factors among women
forced migrants in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

There are a lot of research papers examining mental health of refugees, IDPs and returnees from all over the world and most of those research findings imply that those people belong to vulnerable population. The aim of this study was to examine the mental health of people affected by the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 20 years after the end of that war, and to explore socio-demographic and health factors that contribute to the well-being of these particular groups. This cross-sectional study was implemented in 12 towns in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A total number of participants was 230 (250 including pilot study). All participants belonged to one of the groups: returnees (107), IDPs (114) and refugees (9). Data were collected during face-to-face interviews using 12 instruments: Socio-demographic questionnaire, Quality of life, Stress inventory, Anxiety questionnaire, Self-esteem questionnaire, Loneliness inventory, Optimism-pessimism Inventory, Scale for measuring coherence of life, Social support questionnaire, Time management questionnaire, The list of stressful events and QHI – The Questionnaire for specific health issues and appropriate support services. Results show that our participants have high scores on resilience scales and low scores on pathology scales, which means that they perceive themselves as mentally health population. Among *protective factors*, we found following: age, younger participants feel better, being married, improvement in social status, regular sources of income, residence in terms of living in own house or in family house. Factors that belong to *risk factors* are: gender (female have higher perception of stress), being IDP – they have higher number of stressful events, to have family member with physical or mental disability, to live in collective centres or social housing, to live out of the social help or to depend on someone's else financial support, to change the residence for several times, experience of loses in family, to have physical injury, to have mental health problems in that amount so that they looked for help, taking medications.

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Engendering displacement in the local enclave

While in the post-war period poverty has been one of the most pressing issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the displaced persons, in particular the elderly, in addition to returnees, are one of the most vulnerable populations when it comes to the risk of falling into poverty and stigmatization. In order to explore how does social positioning, the social network in particular, affect the psychosocial health of displaced women, both in terms of positive and negative aspects, a three-week ethnographic field work in one of the Sarajevo's local communities was conducted during which the author spent three weeks with five displaced women originating from three different villages in Eastern Bosnia. Given the diverse situation, past and current experiences and personal variables as well, displaced women cannot be seen as one homogenous group or category of people. Yet, several common denominators for displaced women living in these settlements were identified both in terms of challenges they face and coping mechanisms they use.

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**Psychosocial support to displaced persons, returnees
and refugees in BiH**

Due to the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1995), over 50% of the then population migrated and more than a million people fled from Bosnia and Herzegovina respectively. After signing the peace agreement in late 1995, around a million people were displaced in BiH. According to the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees, 32,745 displaced families and more than a million returnees, of whom around 450,000 refugees and 610,000 displaced persons, were registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2015. The subject of qualitative research in this paper is psychosocial support to victims of forced migration with emphasis on women – victims of violence. The focus-group interview was chosen as a suitable research technique which includes testing 50 professionals from mental health centres, social work centres, non-governmental organizations and administrative bodies. In ten BiH municipalities ten focus-group interviews were conducted during March and April 2016. Based on the analysis of the collected data, general conclusions relating to the four predetermined problematic segments were extracted. These are: project's psychosocial support; formal legal framework for the provision of psychosocial support; inter-agency and inter-sectoral cooperation; perspectives and recommendations.

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**Can co-ethnics be immigrants? Analysis of several aspects
of the integration of immigrants in Croatia**

Croatia is not perceived as a country of immigration neither in public nor in scientific or professional discourses, even though it has one of the largest proportions of population born abroad. According to the 2011 Census, 13.6% of Croatian population was born abroad, while typical immigration countries, such as Germany or Sweden, had lower proportions (12.9% and 12.2% respectively). One of the explanations why Croatia is not perceived as a country of immigration is the fact that most of the population born abroad are ethnic Croats who are therefore not perceived as foreigners. Given that there is no language barrier nor are there substantial differences in identity markers, these immigrants are not visible, neither in reality nor symbolically. The dominant discourse is that they are culturally homogeneous immigrants who culturally do not differ significantly from local population. Current debates on the integration of immigrants are dominated by the cultural discourse, which focuses on cultural differences as one of the key factors of (non-)integration of immigrants. However, given that immigrant populations are not only culturally, but also socially and economically different from domestic population, it is not possible to completely distinguish which factors dominate. Given that the level of cultural diversity of immigrants in Croatia is relatively low, an analysis of characteristics of the integration of immigrants in Croatia, especially ethnic Croats, offers a possibility to test the hypothesis of the importance of cultural differences for the integration of immigrants. Therefore, the main objective of this paper is to explore the extent to which immigrants in Croatia, primarily ethnic Croats are economically and socially integrated, in order to investigate the importance of cultural features versus structural elements that affect the speed and level of the integration of immigrants. The paper is based on an analysis of data collected by the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. The authors were given a sample of census results at the individual level on the sample of 423,769 people, of which 108,706 were born abroad.

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Economic integration of asylum seekers and refugees in Croatia

The paper shall study economic integration of refugees and asylum seekers in Croatia, focusing on legal, institutional and socioeconomic factors determining employment and working status of the chosen groups. The study will focus on the group of “new” refugees and asylum seekers, ignoring the question of economic integration of those groups of refugees who held the given status in Croatia during and after the conflict in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s. The paper aims to analyse several critical issues: (1) how are refugees and asylum seekers integrated in (formal and informal) labour market; (2) how can we explain existing realities in their economic integration (i.e. what are the facilitators and barriers in their economic integration); and (3) what are the consequences of the existing economic integration of the chosen groups, i.e. how the *economic citizenship* relates to normative and formal aspects of citizenship and assist to include or exclude these groups from fully fledged membership in society and political community. To analyse the chosen parameters, the study will look at several factors: (1) legal preconditions for work and employment (working rights and other related rights pertaining to one's legal status); (2) normative background (i.e. discourses and narratives on migration, refugees and foreigners in Croatia); (3) policies impacting work and employment of refugees and asylum seekers in Croatia (education, employment, qualification recognition, etc.); (4) sociocultural and socioeconomic aspects of refugee integration (sociocultural and socioeconomic characteristics of the population of asylum seekers and refugees; public perceptions of refugee issues, migration and refugee work in Croatia; needs of domestic labour market, etc.). To study chosen questions, the research will use qualitative methods. In particular, the study will conduct: (1) desk research (existing literature, legislation, strategies, policy and other documents); (2) semi-structured interviews with stakeholders (employment service, chosen ministries, NGOs and non-state organizations); and (3) semi-structured interviews with asylum seekers and refugees.

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Citizenship *de jure* vs. integration *de facto*

Having gained independence in the 1990s, the Republic of Croatia invited members of its diaspora to return to their home country. In the meantime, apart from being a transit country for numerous irregular migrants, Croatia has become a receiving country at an ever growing scale. The aim of this paper is to present two case studies (on the "returnees" and the refugees who were granted asylum), i.e. modern-day migrants in Croatia, and show whether becoming a citizen also means that the integration process is complete and/or successful. On the one hand, the analysis is focused on the Croatian diaspora descendants from South America (second, third and fourth generations of coethnic migrants from Venezuela, Argentina, Peru, etc.), who were granted citizenship on grounds of their ethnic origin, and moved to Croatia, where they had never lived before. On the other hand, the analysis dwells on the refugees from the Middle East and Africa who were granted asylum in Croatia. The authors examine legal, political, social, economic, cultural and religious dimensions of integration (Penninx 2004). The research was conducted in the period from 2011 to 2016. It is based on qualitative research in ethnology and cultural anthropology and the life stories of migrants, i.e. on approximately 40 interviews (with immigrants of both sexes, both families and individuals, people from various age groups, of various educational backgrounds, reasons for arriving to Croatia) and participant observation. The goal was to uncover the push and pull factors of migration, day-to-day immigration routines (command of the language or lack thereof, options available to learn the language and resume education, accommodation, recognition of degrees and documents, employment, leisure activities, etc.). After outlining the partially successful or failed integration in Croatia, at the end of the paper we present individual strategies of getting by and we look into the reasons for their moving to economically more prosperous EU countries, which they are entitled to as Croatian citizens.

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Immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina in Croatia: a sense of belonging and acceptance in the new social environment

According to the 2011 census, 584,947 people born abroad live in Croatia, and 409,357 or 70% of them were born in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A large number of immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina is the result of intensive labour migration during the socialist period and the migration caused by the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina have rarely been the subject of scientific research in Croatia, especially considering the sense of belonging in the new environment in the context of social integration. This paper presents the results of empirical research which aimed to examine some quality of life dimensions of adult Croatian citizens, born in Bosnia and Herzegovina, who immigrated to Croatia. The survey was conducted in Zagreb and its surrounding area in 2014 on a convenience sample (N = 301). Part of the results related to the immigrants' sense of belonging to a *new* social environment and perceptions of social status determined by their origin are presented in the paper. The results reveal that, on average, the immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina feel very accepted in the local community, and their origin is not an obstacle to acceptance and adaptation to the social environment. In their judgment they respect family and traditional values more than the local population, and they appreciate Croatia more than its "indigenous" people. Furthermore, they show a higher level of sense of belonging to the city and the country in which they live as opposed to the country of origin. It is also important to note that the majority of the respondents (93%) declared Croatian ethnicity and that they all had Croatian citizenship, while one third had a double citizenship: Croatian and Bosnian-Herzegovinian. Effects of the selected socio-demographic and socio-economic characteristics of respondents on the obtained results were checked and interpreted in the context of the theories of social integration and quality of life.

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Social practices and strategies in integration process of Gorani in the receiving society

Migrations of the Gorani people to Belgrade and other Serbian cities were particularly intensive in the end of the 20th and in the first decade of the 21st century. More than seventy percent of population emigrated from the Gora over a very short period. The destinations of immigration predominantly involved those Serbian cities where the Gorani people had already settled (in the 1970s or 1980s). The Gorani are Muslims. Between themselves, they often talk *Našinski*, i.e. a Gorani dialect in communication. There is a certain degree of difference in the way the women in Gora dress from their way of dressing in the places of immigration. In brief, there are cultural traits which the Gorani can use for identification with their Gorani community. The research I have been conducting in Belgrade and some other cities in Serbia has shown that the fact the majority population identifies the Gorani with the Gorani community is of great importance for understanding the process of integration of the Gorani into the immigrant social environment, as well as for understanding other post-migration phenomena. The intention of this presentation is to indicate and examine the mechanisms and strategies used by the Gorani in the process of integration in the receiving society. By analysing the narrative discourse, I endeavour to demonstrate and explain the ways that the integration of (im)migrants unfolds in the sphere of dress code, use of the official language, as well as anthroponymy within the frame of migration processes.

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Development of integration policies and pitfalls of comparison: the case of Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia

Apart from emigration flows that largely dominate in three analyzed countries (Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia), transit and immigration flows are becoming of more importance. In the past two decades different categories of migrants have been moving to these countries. In addition to migrants from EU countries, an increasing number of third country nationals is immigrating, including a significant number of applicants for international protection. After the adoption of the new EU *Action plan on the integration of third country nationals* in June 2016, issues of regulating migration flows and of new immigrants' inclusion in host societies have become overtly present in the political, but also in broader social context. The paper discusses the research findings of the *Migrant Integration Policy Index* (MIPEX) research conducted in 2014 and 2015 in Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia. The findings are interpreted in the context of the European integration and Europeanization processes which, apart from influence on the shaping and development of migration policies, affect integration policies towards third country nationals as well. As the MIPEX methodology fails to take into account the specificities of migration patterns and, moreover, it suggests certain normative expectations, the methodological validity and normative character of the MIPEX research are also examined.

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**Chinese in Southeast Europe: multiple forms of mobility
at the beginning of the 21st century**

The Chinese presence in the SEE is most often seen as a novel phenomenon connected to turbulent period of the 1990s. Although the profound changes in the mobility regimes in PRC as well as in the countries of SEE enabled larger numbers of mostly entrepreneurial migrants to settle in these post-socialist countries, their presence had earlier predecessors. The paper provides an overview of past movements of PRC citizens to the region and also highlights most recent developments connected to China's pivotal role in the process of globalization. It specifically looks at the diversification of the types of movements from PRC where migration of small-scale entrepreneurs from traditional "areas of overseas Chinese" is increasingly supplemented with migration of professionals, students and labourers on China's supported large infrastructural projects in the region, as well as with rapidly increasing tourism movements. In this regard, the paper attempts to connect these movements with the PRC's new strategic vision of cooperation with Europe (New Silk Road initiative) and the SEE region's role in this framework.

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Gender migration patterns – a case study of Serbia

The aim of this paper is to explore and explain gender-specific patterns of mobility in Serbia. Findings from feminist-inspired studies have confirmed that gender affects motivation, conditions of mobility and its outcomes. Although it has been indicated that gender is the most important factor among different social features that defines the migratory experience (being more important than the country of origin or destination, age, class, race, ethnicity, or culture), this topic still remains insufficiently explored in our scientific community. The analysis is based on data obtained from secondary sources, such as official statistical reports and empirical research. The paper reviews several hypotheses. Firstly, it is assumed that there are clear differences between male and female modes of movement. Secondly, it is hypothesized that the observed differences follow general gender regimes in which working mobility and forms of movement related to participation in the public sphere are more accessible to men, while women are more related to the model of residential moves for family reasons. Finally, it is expected to find that the dominant value orientation through the (re)production of gender regimes indirectly affects the spatial movements. Serbia makes a good case study because it has experienced a great variety of mobility types over the past 60 years – intensive rural-urban resettlement as part of the process of modernization, emigration of guest workers from the 1960s, the refugee crisis and a large number of internally displaced persons in the 1990s, brain drain, failed asylum seekers and returnees, as well as mixed migration flows of people who try to reach more developed European countries.

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**Labour migrations and depopulation of rural regions in Serbia:
example of the village Belo Blato in Vojvodina**

One of the most salient demographic trends in contemporary Serbia is depopulation of villages. Economic disadvantages, low quality of life and lack of developmental perspectives are some of the main reasons for the emigration of mainly younger population from rural regions. According to the 2011 Statistics, there were 200 rural settlements with zero inhabitants and about 700 additional villages that were heading in the same direction. The highest emigration rate was found in the South of Serbia, but Vojvodina, traditionally the most developed region in Serbia, has recently also been facing the same trend. In this presentation I will focus on the village Belo Blato in Vojvodina. This village is famous for its cane production, and during socialism, in respect of employment, it used to be connected to Zrenjanin, a nearby urban centre and its relatively developed industry. In post-socialist transition employment opportunities were reduced due to the decline of the industry and subsequent deindustrialization. On the other hand, the village, situated in an attractive environment, had a possibility for the development of eco and ethno tourism. However, the project developed toward that end has recently been suspended because of the lack of government support. Hence, more and more villagers, especially younger ones, are trying to find better opportunities in some of EU countries, particularly in Austria. Since some of the villagers are entitled to Hungarian passports, it makes it easier for them to compete on the EU labour market and seek employment in other countries. Regarding research methodology, I will consult the available statistical and other sources on the trends of contemporary depopulation processes of the rural areas of Serbia. On the local level I will interview local residents who intend to migrate (mostly to EU), possible returnees, as well as the local authorities that develop projects for a certain economic revival of the village.

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**Local religiosity in the context of labour migrations: the cases
of the Greek Catholics from Žumberak in Croatia and the
Orthodox Christian Serbs in Eastern Serbia**

The paper will present two single cases of functioning and attitude toward local religiosity in the context of labour mobility. The first case examines the permanent internal (from the villages to the cities) and external (to USA and countries in Western Europe) migration of the Greek Catholics from the region of Žumberak in Croatia. The second one refers to the temporary labour migrants (*Gastarbeiters*) from Eastern Serbia (Knjaževac region). The study will search for answers to the questions what is the attitude of the migrants toward local religiosity, what role does it play in the construction of their identity under the conditions of migration and what is the impact of migrations on the local religious life in the place of origin. The comparison of the two cases will try to reveal the similarities and differences in the role of local religiosity in the strategies for constructing different levels (national, local, confessional) of identity and in their hierarchization in two different contexts. First, two different types of migration: permanent internal and external migration of the Croats and temporary labour migration of the Serbs. Second, two different types of communities: the Greek Catholic community from Žumberak which in confessional aspect differs from the majority in Croatia, and the Christian Orthodox Serbs who are part of the religious majority in Serbia.

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The discourse of fraud in the context of migration: epistocracy, credibility and “hidden intentions” of the actors of the migration process

Various elements comprising the discourse of fraud appear in talking about migration. On the one side, there are “fake asylum seekers”, “bogus refugees”, “genuine” and “not so genuine” claims for asylum, even “fake economic migrants”, etc. On the other side, there are many examples that testimonies of migrants about abuses conducted by institutions and individuals from transit and destination countries, as well as from their countries of origin, are not considered as trustworthy by the officials or are being disapproved as being a part of some “hidden agenda”. Furthermore, the official data, especially about the “number of migrants”, “number of terrorists among the migrants” and “infectious diseases which the migrants carry”, given by governmental institutions and international organizations, are in some contexts considered as being misleading by the local populations of the host countries. In this text I would like to examine the pervasiveness of the discourse of fraud in the context of migration by taking into account the socio-political position and the power relations of the actors in given circumstances. I would especially deal with the issues of epistocracy, and particularly the “expertialization” and “(Eurocentric) nationalization of truth”, where the profession and nationality of the actor who conveys a knowledge, serves as the ultimate basis for the assessment of her credibility. Furthermore, I argue that it is possible to view this biopolitical embeddedness of truth as a manifestation of a generalized systemic violence toward the disfavoured foreigners and citizens alike.

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**Migrations through media ocular/discourse:
information, sensations, and knowledge**

Migrations/migrants in media discourse have been constructed into grand narratives and communication training grounds, becoming factors of value mobility, interpretative experiences, images and knowledge. Does migration visibility result from current media affairs, academic trends and political strategies or from the appearance of long duration? The first part of the analysis encompasses a retrospective of media coverage of the migrations in the recent decades (taking also into account the media policies of the former Yugoslavia). The second part refers to a comparative analysis – case study based on a research of press in Serbia and Croatia in the period between 2014 and 2016, with a special emphasis on the migrant crisis and the “Balkan Route”. The analysis focuses on the following problems and issues: 1. (dis)continuity of media coverage of the migrations, as a consequence of state policies as well as academic and research interests and trends; 2. migration topics (diaspora, labour migrations, irregular and forced migrations) as current political events/spectacle or media analysis long processes; 3. media shaping of messages in constructing migration/migrant issues – from facticity via sensations and images to knowledge and stereotypes; 4. problems of the media nationalisations of migrations as instruments of state policies and representative rivalry; 5. visualisation policies in the domain of gender positioning – media stereotypes “masculinisation” and “feminisation” of migrations. The focus of this research is to study and shed light on migrations in a wider field of media networking and transmission of messages, creating specific types of interactive experiences.

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**“The ones who changed the city’s soul”: Hungarians’ persistent
discourses and stereotypes about Serbian former forced
migrants in Subotica**

The wars of Yugoslav secession have many hidden social heritages across the Western Balkans. One of them is the issue of the former forced migrants which remains an understudied area, particularly in the case of Serbia. Furthermore, the role of the host population is an even more neglected topic. This is an often cited problem in researching forced migration and it poses many open questions about fieldwork in multiethnic areas, especially in Vojvodina. The town of Subotica is a highly complex society, in which the groups of former forced migrants who settled in the town in the nineties play a crucial role – at least on the level of discourses and stereotypes of local Hungarians who, as a minority group in Serbia, form a relative majority in the city. In the paper I will outline the main features of the discourses of the local Hungarian population: ordinary citizens, media and politicians. The findings are based on anthropological fieldwork and explore many aspects of the discourses and stereotypes, such as the main thematical units, statements, web of concepts, strategies, logical structures, and the actualization of these topics in concrete situations, particularly during the ongoing continental refugee crisis. The discourses of local Hungarians in Subotica highlight several important facts regarding refugee research. In complex multiethnic societies with large minority groups, the knowledge of many local languages cannot be avoided by social scientists, especially when it comes to persistent and antagonistic interethnic features. Moreover, the very research on different ethnical groups is much needed, simply because leaving out the host population leaves us without an elaborate and complete picture of a local society.

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Migration and media – dynamics of change

Media-migrant interaction is an integral part of everyday social context at all levels of modern society – institutional and non-institutional. Such dynamics promotes a whole range of social changes and processes. In recent times, transition from the mediation to the mediatization has been at the forefront of such processuality. Mediation is a transfer or transmission of communications by providing media, and mediatization includes active participation of the media to communicate the social and cultural context within which this action can be understood and interpreted. Mediatization refers to the beyond (meta)changes of media and forms of communication, which results in changes in daily life, changes of personal and collective identities in social relations and in society as a whole. Mediatization is increasingly and intensively changing the relationship between media and society. When reporting on migrants, depersonalized approach dominates, which encourages generalisation, and reinforces stereotypes and does not give a realistic picture of the situation. A lack of profiled people who could be presented as representatives of the migrant community is identified as a problem. The fact is that the media and journalists often refrain from publishing information from selected sources. The result of this cycle is confirmed by the general opinion that migrants typically incur only in cases that are detached from standard forms, with a strong emphasis on sensationalism in the presentation topics. Integration of migrant communities to a large extent also depends on how much they are recognized, identified and are attractive, at least for part of the public. By changing the form and means of communication the shape of uniting people and forms of social power are also changing. Changes in dealing with migrant issues become evident on three levels: in the media, in politics, and in everyday life.

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**“Should I stay or should I go”:
migration patterns of Macedonia’s young people**

In the light of the current political crisis and the so called “Colourful revolution”, a straw of the process which attracts less attention is the one concerning the migration of young Macedonians. The paper will try to follow the reasoning behind the development of the migration flows in the past several years, especially among young people. Is there a current identity crisis going on in the country, simultaneously working its way through the society altogether with the rising distrust in the current political leaders and the worsened economical condition of the country? It is well known in the theory that the inability of the individuals to foresee the future of their national community, thus of their state, would lead to a destabilization of their common identity bonds. Thus, the main questions are: who leaves Macedonia and where to? Is this a labour migration, an educational one or a simple escapism? Are those who are leaving doing so never to come back or only to stabilize their economic situation? The paper will be based on ethnographic research conducted in Skopje in 2013 and in Kriva Palanka at the very borders of the Macedonian state, in 2015/2016.

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**In search of a “normal” and “fulfilling” life:
narratives of Croatian migrants in Germany**

This paper will analyse narratives of Croatian migrants who have recently moved to Germany. I will pay attention to how these migrants explain their reasons for migration, and how they sketch their current and future life. Even though they come from different Croatian towns and with different backgrounds in terms of age, gender, education and family life, I will focus on several similar narrative junctions. I will be interested in the ways these people articulate and explain their migration trajectories, and in doing so how they connect, compare and contrast the two countries – Croatia and Germany. Furthermore, I will examine how they narrate their personal changes caused by migration, how they perceive their personal well-being, and how they speak about their plans. In this way, I want to show how the broader economic, social and political context is intertwined with personal decisions, feelings, plans and actions. I will pay special attention to the motif of “normal” and “fulfilling” life; I intend to focus on questions such as how the notion of “normal” life is constructed and explained, how the life should look like to be named as “fulfilling”, and how the feeling of personal satisfaction is defined and achieved. Since the fieldwork on which I base my presentation was conducted in collaboration with Croatian artist Tonka Maleković, I will also describe and analyse her artistic work on the topic of Croatian migrants in Germany.

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Narratives about migratory experiences and homeland among the Albanians from the Republic of Macedonia

The focus of research interest are migrations in search of livelihood and improving of the living conditions during the second half of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st century among the Albanians, inhabiting compact territories in the western part of the Republic of Macedonia. In the end of 1960s and the beginning of 1970s, as citizens of the Yugoslav Federation, they started to seek livelihoods working abroad (according to the recruitment treaties with FRG, Switzerland, Austria, etc.). Initially, migrants were solely men and migration was temporary. Such labour mobility was an important factor in improving living standards in the sending regions. Strong economic and social transnational practices oriented towards the villages of birth were established. As a result of the changed macro-conditions (economic, social and political) in the late 1980s and especially 1990s (when Macedonia became independent state), many Albanian migrants started to bring their families to the host countries. Living abroad with family changed migrants' priorities: the focus of transnational practices shifted towards integration and earning to provide for the nuclear family abroad, while remitting to the villages of origin took second place. Thus, there have been two groups of migratory narratives: the first one by temporary migrants and/or migrants who had been abroad and have returned to their place of origin; the second refers to those who have settled abroad and have raised their children and grandchildren there. The main aim of the paper is critical examination of these different narratives and stories about migratory experiences, migrants' attitudes toward the place of origin and perceptions of where is their "home".

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Slovenian diasporas and return mobilities: art, place and memory

Since the late 19th century at least, Slovenia has faced various important migration processes. Most of these migration flows have been well documented and explored in a large body of literature, primarily focused on Slovenian emigration to European and non-European countries, with a recent pronounced shift of focus on immigration flows. Return, however, has not been extensively and systematically explored in this context, despite some excellent studies on either return migration or other forms of return mobilities in Southeast Europe. Moreover, in migration studies, the very concept of “return migration” has often been seen as rather problematic and is therefore often analytically and ethnographically neglected. In the presentation I want to turn to the concept of return mobilities, which encompasses various forms of “returning” as understood by the migrants/people on the move themselves. Such an approach cuts through the official and political definitions of (return) migrants and instead focuses on the experience of “homecoming”. I will present ethnographic research on return mobilities in Slovenian diaspora in Argentina, and “return migrants” and relatedness of return with art, place and memory.

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**Marriage migration from Kosovo to the EU: possibilities and
pitfalls of family and gender construction within national
and transnational spaces**

Marriage migration is one of the few legal forms to enter the EU – thanks to the still valid perception that it is a human right to live with a family. Still, marriage migration is often also seen as a problem. Based on the public perception that fosters the immigration of cultural “Others”, and that especially women may be forced into such marriages, new laws also restrict the immigration of family members and often stigmatize such marriages. Marriage migration thus takes place within a rather restrictive legal frame, and also within negative public images about it. But what is the emic view upon such marriages? How do marriage partners position themselves towards such marriages? What are the hopes and possibilities they have, and what are the pitfalls? Does the legal frame provide protection for such pitfalls? In my study, I want to start from a transborder family network of people, originating from the rural region in southern Kosovo, who entered into a transborder marriage. I want to ask them for their imaginations and the realities they face, and for this purpose I will take notice from a locational and gendered perspective. I want to show that such transborder marriages may function as a way of empowerment for both partners, or at least for one of them, but may also end up in disempowerment for one of the partners, not just because the partners may have different imaginations about the marriage. Possibilities as well as conflicts often manifest themselves within the family and household arrangements in which the newly married couples live.

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**Love-driven mobility and “pioneer” businesses:
international migrants in Zagreb and Croatia**

Croatia has traditionally been an emigration country. Though to this day it remains an emigration country – emigration being on the rise in the current decade – my intention in this presentation is to make an enquiry into those people who immigrate into Croatia, and in particular in Zagreb and some of the towns along the Adriatic. The target population are young and middle aged people, past the education stage, who have settled with or without any specific plan of remaining. Who are they? Where do they come from? What brings them to Croatia and what do they do there? Is there a specific migration channel along which they immigrate? What are their plans and specifics of installation as well as ways of being and belonging in Zagreb and other towns? The presentation is based on encounters and interviews with immigrants as well as an analysis of web-based expats' networks. It is a preliminary account of research done within the project *City-making: space, culture and identity* (funded by Croatian Science Foundation, project no 2350).

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Lifestyle migrants in Greece: luxury or marginality?

Browsing through the websites of real estate agencies, reading Expat or sailing blogs, one realizes that the territory of Southeast Europe, and especially Greece, has become a popular "escape destination". On the ground of ethnography among liveaboards in Greece, people who travel, work and live on sailing boats, the paper will discuss the following questions: How can we conceptualise these novel forms of movements that seem to sit uncomfortably in between the standard dichotomized division of work within migration studies and wider social sciences: internal/international migration, temporary/permanent, developed North/underdeveloped South, migration/tourism, etc.? How do we theoretically and methodologically situate these individuals who are statistically often invisible and seem to evade the common categories of describing a mobile person, such as migrant or tourist? The paper starts from the premise that despite their less visible existence under the radar of not only the popular gaze but also research on population mobility (for a notable exceptions see Benson and O'Reilly 2009; Benson 2011), these individuals and groups' "quest for a better life" should not be treated as an elite phenomenon that exists in the vacuum of wider social, political and economic relations and has no bearing on the communities of origin or destination. The paper suggests a critical approach that situates these movements within wider national and international structural conditions and re-evaluates their perceived privileged character.

NOTES

