

# Forced migration in a comparative life-course perspective

Forced migration is globally increasing in volume, types and contexts. Although legal and political action oriented approaches by UN and other international agencies are important, they are not sufficient for covering a growing part of forced migration. Going beyond the classic concept of refugees, we understand forced migration as change(s) of residence as taken-for-granted everyday life pushed by a considerable subjective and objective degree of enforcement and life-threatening caused by persecution because of racial, religious, ethnic, political, national or gender reasons or based on life threatening disasters or catastrophes.

Sociological expertise can help to understand and explain such dynamics by conceptualising forced migration as a protracted iterative social process of individual and collective action under life-threatening restrictions in institutionalised social contexts. This suggests a longitudinal and mixed methods approach integrating from local to transnational levels. Life-course research combines trajectories (as objective sequences of social positions and events in time) with biographies (as subjectively experienced and remembered flow of social practice and incidents). For forced migration, a general focus is on (1) the period in the life course before moving, (2) the often long lasting period of migration itself, and (3) the phase after arrival at or return to a safe and aspired place.



Image Credit: Jim Black/pixabay.com

In this international conference, we focus on forced migration in four countries of transit and of arrival: Jordan and Turkey, Colombia and Mexico. We aim to integrate a perspective on the institutional-political contexts and on the life-courses of forced migrants.

## Program

### Friday 30<sup>th</sup> of June – Room GD 1/338

11.00 **Welcoming and Inauguration**

11.30- **Forced migration in a life-course  
13.00 perspective**

**1. Forced migration in biographies  
– Biographical case reconstruction**

Arne Worm, University Göttingen

**2. Forced migration in biographies  
– Documentary Method**

Anja Weiß, University Duisburg Essen

**3. Life-course oriented studies of forced  
migration**

Franck Düvell, University Osnabrück

(20 min each, 10 min discussion each)

## Lunch break

14.00- **Forced migration in life-course**

15.00 **research: Formove-I**

Formove-team

1. *Mexico: comparing trajectories and biographies*
2. *Turkey: comparing trajectories and biographies*

## Coffee break

15.30 – 3. *Comparing overall results for Mexico  
16.30 and Turkey*

(20 min each, 10 min Q&A each)

**Comments** of Margit Fauser and Xochitl Bada  
(20 min each, 20 min final discussion)



Image Credit: Murat Erdogan

### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> of July Conference Center Room 1

10.00- **Comparative perspectives**

12.00

**The IAB-BAMF-SOEP survey of refugees**

Yuliya Kosyakova/University Bamberg

(20 min, 10 min discussion)

## The general scenery of forced migration: Jordan, Turkey, Mexico, Colombia – Historical and socio-cultural aspects

Christine Huth-Hildebrandt, German-Jordanian University; Murat Erdogan, University of Ankara; Gabriel Alberto Ruiz Romero, Universidad de Medellín; Oscar Calderón, B. Universidad Autónoma de Puebla

(15 min each, 5 min Q&A each; 10 min discussion)

### Lunch break

14.00- 16.30 **Between returning, staying and onward moving**

#### **Design and methodology of Formove II**

Formove-II-Team

(30 minutes, 15 min. discussion)

#### **Forced migration in life-course perspective – state of literature for Jordan, Turkey, Colombia, Mexico**

Christine Huth-Hildebrandt, German Jordanian University

Murat Erdogan, University of Ankara

Gabriel Alberto Ruiz Romero, Universidad de Medellín

Oscar Calderón, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla

(10 min + 10 min discussion each, 25 min final discussion)

**18.00 Joint closing party in an extended context in Bistro “Rote Bete”**

### **Arrival by public transport**

From Bochum's main train station, you can easily reach the Ruhr-University with the U35 subway (CampusLinie that runs every 5 minutes on workdays and takes some 10 minutes from the main station to the university.).

The conference will take place on **Friday**, 30.06.2023, in room GD 1/338. You can reach the building GD by following the Max-Imdahl-Straße from the **subway stop Gesundheitscampus**. This leads directly to the building. Room GD 1/338 is located on the 2nd floor/E1.

On **Saturday**, July 01, 2023, the conference will take place in **Hall 1 of the Ruhr University Event Center (Veranstaltungszentrum VZ)**. You can reach there by U35 subway **Ruhr-Universität station**. From there you follow the way to the Audimax/Mensa. The Veranstaltungszentrum is located directly behind the Audimax in the 2<sup>nd</sup> basement floor of the mensa.

### **Arrival by car:**

<https://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/anreise/pkw.html>



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### For further information:

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Image Credit: Pia Berghoff

## International Conference

# FORCED MIGRATION IN A COMPARATIVE LIFE- COURSE PERSPECTIVE

30.06-01.07. 2023

