



AMIS Newsletter

Centre for Advanced Migration Studies

Newsletter Autumn 2024

Dear Friends of AMIS,

Welcome to the AMIS Fall Newsletter with a new photo on the masthead. **Marie Sandberg** is on research leave, and I have stepped in as Acting Director for the Fall term. Marie will be back by the next newsletter.

Fall is here, the time of year where we welcome our latest cohort of MA students to AMIS. It is always exciting to get to know the engaged and talented young people who join our program, and this year we have stepped up our welcome by hiring two new mentors – AMIS second-year students **Marilia Fotopoulou** and **Taylor Schoultz** – to support the new students.

The [Boundary Work project](#) here at AMIS brought the photo exhibition MIDLERTIDIGHED [TEMPORARINESS] to the University of Copenhagen, and gave us a chance to say goodbye to **Katrine Sypli Kohl**, who has been a real powerhouse and a wonderful colleague here at AMIS. Her groundbreaking research across the Boundary Work and [CAMP](#) projects was recently recognized by the *Nordic Journal of Migration Research* with its Best Article Award (the second time in a row it comes to AMIS!). Katrine is off to Aalborg University for now, but we will surely stay in close touch.

We continue to publish academic articles here at AMIS, including an interesting new special issue on "e-motions" by **Lotte Pelckmans**, but also to engage with more applied work, for example in the ERASMUS+ project, Global IRTS, where current and former AMIS students together with myself have conducted literature reviews and interviews to inform practices of including refugees and other displaced people through sports.

Read more on this and other news below.

Warm regards,

Zachary Whyte

Acting AMIS director



Photo exhibition: MIDLERTIDIGHED



The Photo Exhibition MIDLERTIDIGHED visited the University of Copenhagen in September 2024. The exhibition is made by photojournalist Ida Guldbæk Arentsen and Journalist Sara Nora Koust Kejlberg based on insights from the Boundary Work Project and curated by DRC Danish Refugee Council and Red Cross. [Read more \(in Danish\)](#)

NJMR Best Article Prize in 2022-2024



Katrine Syppli Kohl was awarded the *Nordic Journal of Migration Research* Best article Prize in 2022-2024 for the article "Disturbing Intimacies: The Pathopolitical Governance of Mixed-Status Families in Times of Return" at the 2024 Nordic Migration Research conference in Bergen.

As described by the journal:

This impactful article offers a nuanced and incisive exploration of the harrowing experiences of undocumented migrants in Denmark. Through masterful analysis of key concepts like deportability and in/visibility, the author brilliantly illuminates the cruel "border spectacle" that tears families apart in the name of immigration enforcement. The introduction of the powerful new framework of "pathopolitics" is a revelatory contribution, enabling a profound understanding of the immense human costs of these policies. Combining meticulous research with profound empathy, this is a vital and deeply moving work that shines an essential light on a pressing humanitarian crisis. An exemplary scholarly achievement.

[Read the article](#)

AMIS visiting scholar



Amanda Tallis is a doctoral candidate enrolled at the Department of Social Anthropology, situated within the University of Bergen. Her Phd-project is part of a larger project funded by the Research Council of Norway (2021-2025): [On Equal Grounds? Migrant Women's Participation in Work and Work-Related Activities \(Equalpart\)](#).

Tallis holds a master's degree in sociology from the University of Oslo (2021), where she researched the introduction program for newly arrived refugees in Norway. She has also worked as a research assistant at the Institute for Social Research in Oslo, Norway, contributing to several research projects on migration.

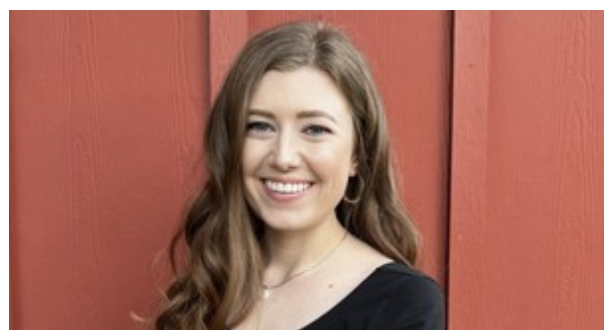
Her ongoing research revolves around aspirations and labour market inclusion amongst migrant women in Norway. Tallis has conducted one year of ethnographic fieldwork where she has followed a group of women in their daily lives.

From 1. September – 30. November 2024, Amanda will be a visiting researcher at AMIS. During these 3 months, Amanda seeks to develop her writing and analytical perspective by becoming part of the research environment at the center and discuss her ongoing project and share ideas with the researcher working at AMIS.

AMIS mentors



Marilia Fotopoulou



Taylor Schoultz

We are delighted to welcome our two new AMIS mentors, Marilia Fotopoulou and Taylor Schoultz. The mentors – a new role we are trialing this year – are second-year MA students, who support and engage with the first-year students, giving them tips and advice on their studies and life in Copenhagen, arranging events, and expanding connections between the two cohorts.

Last Saturday Marilia Fotopoulou and Cosimo Bianchi, an AMIS graduate working with [Crossing Borders](#) led 25 AMIS Master's students on a walking tour of Nørrebro, Copenhagen. [Read more about the tour.](#)

We are very excited about the potential in our new mentor system, and Marilia and Taylor are off to a great start!



Featured publications

"You are too expensive, you need to work faster!": Ukrainian agricultural workers navigating precarities in Denmark

Elena Horton and Zachary Whyte recently published this article in *International Migration*. The article explores the attempts of Ukrainian agricultural workers to navigate precarities of work, gender and legal status in Denmark after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Precarities of work sprang from differences between agricultural sectors, as year-round work with livestock involved a dependence on farmers, where workers accepted exploitative conditions in order to maintain their residence and work permits. Precarities of gender were reflected in the way women were made dependent on their partner through an "accompanying family members" visa, which shaped family lives and became problematic in the case of separations. Precarities of legal status were created by frequent legislative changes that made legal status uncertain and destabilized the long-term investments of Ukrainians planning to stay in Denmark. The article is open access and draws on the fieldwork Elena did for her AMIS MA thesis. [Read the article](#)

Global IRTS scientific report

As part of the Erasmus+-project [Global IRTS \(Integration of Refugees Through Sport\)](#), Zachary Whyte worked together with AMIS alum Elena Horton and AMIS students Martina Ferri, Anna Østerskov Gammelgaard, and Milena Götzke to produce the Global IRTS Scientific Report, which is now live. The report gives an overview of the evidence base for IRTS, combining academic literature reviews with insights from practitioners. The report will be presented to the project's more than 20 global partners and others at the Moving People – Moving Europe conference in Ljubljana in November. [View the report](#)

E-motions: A History of Unrecorded Female Rural Displacements in Post-Slavery Africa

Lotte Pelckmans co-edited a special issue introducing the term "E-motions", which came out in September in the *Journal of Migration History*. In their introduction, historian Marie Rodet and anthropologist Lotte Pelckmans argue for the importance of looking into intimacies, affects and emotions as underlying factors driving longstanding but overlooked small-scale displacements of (mainly) women in slavery and post-slavery Africa. The special issue features great contributions by excellent junior and senior scholars, discussing a variety of sources (songs, dances, court case material, NGO archival material, oral testimonies) in different parts of the African continent and in different periods of time. [Read more](#)



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