



AMIS Newsletter

Centre for Advanced Migration Studies

Welcome to the AMIS Spring Newsletter



Dear AMIS colleagues and friends,

Save the Date! AMIS celebrates its [10th anniversary on Oct 12, 2023](#) at South Campus, UCPH, marking the first intake of students to the Master of Arts programme in 2014. We will showcase AMIS research, and celebrate AMIS students, alumni and former affiliates and international visiting scholars. As a special invited guest, we are happy to announce prof. Nando Sigona, University of Birmingham, who will be our international keynote speaker at this festive occasion. More info will come, so stay tuned!

Everyone is welcome!

AMIS has the pleasure of hosting visiting scholars on a regular basis: Welcome to Ivan Meitus Chair and Professor of Law, Kif Augustine-Adams, who joins us from Brigham Young University Law School in the United States.

We would also like to welcome Ditte Shapiro and Rikke Egaa Jørgensen from the Boundary work project, who will be joining AMIS for the next 12 months as postdocs.

As this Spring Newsletter testifies, AMIS is a vibrant research center with an impressive level of activity and engagement among our colleagues and students. In 2023 AMIS completed its mid-term evaluation within the current 5-year agreement between the Saxo Institute and the Center. As you can read in the conclusions of the [self-assessment report](#), AMIS has established itself as a strongly profiled center for migration research at the humanities at UCPH with a very high application rate for externally funded research applications and a solid publication rate.

Best regards
Marie Sandberg, director



In November 2022 AMIS visited the Migration Museum of Denmark in Farum. In the photos AMIS staff and steering group is trying one of the assignments the museum offers to children in Secondary Education. [Read more about the museum.](#)

AMIS impact

Most-read blog post of *Border Criminologies* 2022

AMIS researchers contribute with op-eds, blog posts and interviews in public media on a frequent basis, for instance AMIS Associate Professor Zachary **Whyte** wrote the most-read blog post (2022) of *Border Criminologies* hosted by Oxford University: Whyte, Z. (2022). Hoping For Zero: Danish Externalization Plans to Rwanda and a Politics of Deterrence. [Read the blog](#)

Oxford Research Dictionary of African History

For the *Oxford Research Dictionary of African History*, AMIS Associate Professor Lotte Pelckmans has co-authored the section on "Post-Slavery" with Baz Lecocq. [Published online: 22 March 2023.](#)

Den Store Danske Encyklopædi – lex.dk

AMIS director Marie Sandberg and postdoc Katrine Kohl are part of the expert panel of *Den Store Danske Encyklopædi*, lex.dk. Check out the new entries on:

- [Flygtning](#)
- [Grænse](#)

Upcoming events

UCPH Migration Platform event April 25: (U)lige adgang for alle: Etniske minoriteters møder med den danske velfærtsstat

This seminar is organised by the UCPH Migration Research Platform (UCPH), a cross-faculty initiative open to researchers based at UCPH from all disciplines which aims to promote a broader interdisciplinary dialogue both internally at UCPH and within the international queer research field.

- [Read more about the seminar](#)
- [Read more about the platform](#)
- [Please join the UCPH Migration Platform Mailing list](#)



Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity: A Conference on Queer perspectives on Migration

AMIS Student Seminar

On May the 2nd, 2023, the students of the MA in Advanced Migration Studies from the University of Copenhagen, in collaboration with the students from the MA in International Migration and Ethnic Relations from the University of Malmö, will hold a conference on the topic of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Migration topics. The conference will take place at UCPH, South Campus. The major goal of the seminar is to study the topic of queer migration from several angles by engaging the participants through in-person and online guest lectures and student discussions. [Read more](#)

Everyone is welcome!

Belonging in Unceded Territory: Immigration and Settler Identity in Vancouver

AMIS Lecture May 3

Professor Antje Ellermann, director of the Center for Migration Studies, University of British Columbia, Canada, visits AMIS.

She will talk about her current research on the question: How do non-Indigenous Canadians – both immigrant and native-born – articulate and negotiate their identity as settlers on Indigenous territories? [Read more](#)

Everyone is welcome!

AMIS Alumni Survey

In the coming months, AMIS will be conducting its first alumni survey. The goal of the survey is three-fold: to learn more about what our graduates are doing, what they have taken with them from AMIS, and to support networking among AMIS graduates.

We know that AMIS graduates are doing a lot of interesting things all over the world, and we'd love to get a clearer picture of everything going on. Potentially, this could impact the way we structure the MA degree going forward. At the same time, we would like to learn more about what our graduates have taken with them from AMIS, from course content to relations with other AMIS students.

Finally, we hope that this survey can create a platform to support networking among graduates across the different cohorts.

The survey will be coordinated by AMIS Associate Professor Zachary Whyte together with current AMIS students. We plan to present some of the survey findings at [the AMIS decennial on Oct 12, 2023](#).

AMIS Research Internship – a report from AMIS students



CENTRE FOR ADVANCED MIGRATION
STUDIES - AMIS

MENTAL HEALTH IN HOMELESS MIGRANTS

A REPORT FOR NGOS

The Copenhagen Psychiatric Street Team reached out to AMIS, as they were interested in better understanding people experiencing homelessness in Copenhagen, who do not have a CPR number. The impetus for their interest in this area was an increased need amongst this population for mental health services.

We – Anuhita Basavaraju, Eleonora Macerata, and Phoebe McGowan – agreed to take on the research as part of our AMIS internships in 2022/23. Our fieldwork was conducted in four different locations, each of them providing care to homeless people. We spent four months volunteering with the goal of gathering experiences from migrants using these services for the homeless. Being both a volunteer and researcher in this environment was a very valuable experience, as doing so gave us insight into how the different organisations operate. Though we were initially expecting to only interview guests, we expanded to interviewing other important health service organisations (like the Red Cross Clinic) and staff / volunteers at our field sites.

When the three of us met to discuss our experiences conducting our fieldwork, we realised that there were common dynamics at our different sites. As a result, we expanded our project scope to include a brief targeted towards NGOs, which included considerations on how to best serve the mentally struggling, homeless, migrant population. For the report we leaned into our migration studies background and leveraged qualitative methods, our knowledge of migration theory, and included a basic introduction to migrant rights to healthcare in Denmark. We also included a link to a digitalised database of all the services which offer care to homeless migrants in Copenhagen.

The report is intended for those working in the field of homelessness, and those who may encounter migrants living on the street in their day to day lives. We wanted to offer some recommendations on different levels of engagement, as well as provide a guide to best serve the population. We are also working on an article which engages with our findings on a more academic level.

AMIS audiovisual

Documentary movie on diasporic transnational activism:

AMIS Associate Professor Lotte Pelckmans has screened her documentary movie on diasporic transnational activism 'Ganbanaaxun Fedde: a transnational anti-slavery network', to the students of the African studies Centre of Cape Coast university, as well as to the audience of the international conference she co-organised at Cape Coast University, with her colleagues Karen-Margrethe Simonsen and Emmanuel Esaboro, early February 2023. [Read more](#)

The film was also screened on the Mauritanian national day against slavery (march 6th 2023). [Read more](#)

The Hearing at CPH:DOX

Postdoc in the Boundary work project, Katrine Kohl, has participated in the expert panel at the world premiere screening of The Hearing. [Read more](#)

New Visiting Scholar



Kif Augustine-Adams is Ivan Meitus Chair and Professor of Law at Brigham Young University Law School in the United States. She received her juris doctorate *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School. Her scholarship focuses on intersections among citizenship, immigration, gender, and race. With a colleague, she created the Immigration and Refugee Initiative that took law students to volunteer in a US immigration detention center where they helped women and children fleeing violence navigate the legal process of a credible fear interview as a step toward claiming asylum under US law. Her recent scholarship on migration includes "[Sites of \(Mis\)Translation: The Credible Fear Process in United States Immigration Detention](#)" (with Carolina Núñez), 35 *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal* 399 (2021).

During her visit at AMIS from January through May 2023, Kif's primary research focus will be on the experiences in United States government custody of more than 266,000 irregular migrant and refugee children who arrived in the US unaccompanied or whom the government separated from family members between 2014 and 2020.

Publications

Vammen, I. M. S & **K. S. Kohl** (December 2022). [Affective Borderwork: Governance of Unwanted Migration to Europe through Emotions](#). *Journal of Borderlands Studies*.

Sandberg, M. (June 2022). [From Gatekeepers to Caretakers. The Often-Overlooked Role of Editors' Care Work in Peer-Reviewed Publishing](#): This essay is part of the series PoLAR Online Emergent Conversation on Peer Review as Intellectual Accompaniment. *Political and Legal Anthropological Review*, 45(1).

Whyte, Z. (June 2022). [Hoping For Zero: Danish Externalization Plans to Rwanda and a Politics of Deterrence](#).

See all our publications at our website.



amisan—
the alumni network of the Centre for Advanced Migration Studies