



AMIS Newsletter

Centre for Advanced Migration Studies

Welcome to the AMIS Spring Newsletter



So many lives lost, so much material destruction. My thoughts go to the people of Ukraine, families, friends, and fighters, who have all been affected by Putin's meaningless invasion and act of aggression.

On Tuesday, March 15th, staff and students of the AMIS program organized an open seminar about the diasporic mobilization of Ukrainians in Denmark: Ukrainian voices.

On Tuesday, May 31st AMIS will be hosting another event related to the war, this time taking a 360-degree view on the Danish Special Act. This event is organized as part of the UCPH Migration Platform, which is a new cross-faculty initiative at the University of Copenhagen with the aim of enhancing interdisciplinary cooperation and research activities within the field of migration studies. All are welcome!

New people: Due to her retirement professor Margit Warburg (ToRS) has been replaced in the AMIS Steering Group by Associate professor Andreas Bandak (ToRS) starting from 2022. Welcome to Andreas! Margit Warburg's contribution to AMIS has been invaluable and we would like to thank her wholeheartedly for her thorough engagement throughout the years. This newsletter also brings an interview with Zachary Whyte on the occasion of his appointment as AMIS Associate Professor, starting from January 2022. Warm welcomes to Zack!

New grants: Congratulations to Zachary Whyte who has received 'Rapid response funding for policy and impact research' from the Crown Princess Mary Center, UCPH, which is aimed at supporting research activities related to the war in Ukraine. You can read more on the project here.

Take care,

Marie Sandberg, director of AMIS



Photo: AMIS Publication Workshop in March 2022

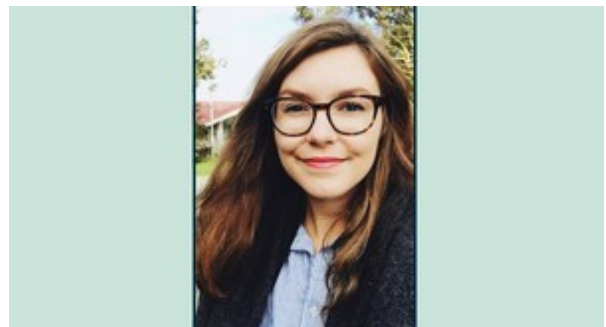
Which outlets to choose? BFI, Impact factor, journals, special issues, book chapters, working papers, disciplinary versus area studies, open access, etc. What 'counts' in academia? What is doable? What is enjoyable? Other reasons to publish. The AMIS publication workshop spurred lots of discussion and was organised by Line Bygballe Jensen, Simon Turner and Katrine Kohl.

New People at AMIS



Frowin Rausis holds a MA in Sociology (University of Bern) and a CAS in European Union Law (University of Zurich). Currently, he is a PhD candidate and affiliated to the Department of Political Science at the University of Lucerne (CH) as well as a research fellow at the National Center of Competence in Research for migration and mobilities studies. In his research project *The Invention of Safe Countries*, he studies the spread of policies that restrict access to asylum. Thereby, he focuses on the diffusion mechanisms that led to the adoption of safe country policies in Denmark, Switzerland, and South Africa.

Frowin Rausis is joining AMIS as a visiting scholar between February and June 2022.



Kristine Graneng is a PhD candidate at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim. She holds a MA in European Studies from NTNU. Her research interest primarily lies in the politicization of the EU, particularly how migration in recent years have been increasingly linked to attitudes toward European integration. In her PhD project, she examines to what extent and how migration has been debated in four referendums on EU-related issues in Ireland, Denmark and the UK.

Kristine is staying with AMIS in March 2022. During her stay in Copenhagen, Kristine will be working on a case study of migration discourses in the Danish referendum on the Justice and Home Affairs opt-out in 2015.

Tamar Todria holds MA degree in European Studies, currently she is a PhD candidate in European Studies at Institute for European Studies, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. Her thesis is on assessing how asylum seekers are treated in Southern European Countries, how migration policy effects them directly. As a case study is used example of Mediterranean basin. She has got Erasmus + Jean Monnet MEDiterranean border crises and European External Action EUMedEA grant and she has conducted field visit in Sicily. She joins AMIS as a visiting scholar in May 2022.

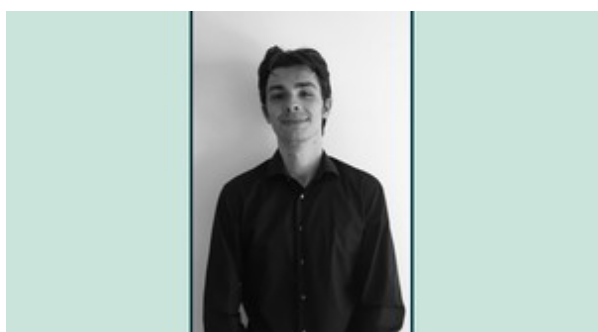
Aim of the research stay will be to get acquainted with and investigate recent developments in Danish Asylum System to draw comparison with the similar policy in the Mediterranean context.

Tamar is a member of Research Editorial Committee of EuropeNow published by Council for European Studies (CES) at Columbia university and is a member of IMISCOE PhD Board Network.

Student Assistants

Welcome to Benno and Maya who will be working together with postdoc Katrine Sypli Kohl and AMIS-director Marie Sandberg as student assistants in the "Boundary work"-project. The project '*Boundary work*' – *new interfaces between the state, civil society and refugees in a self-reliance and return context* explores the challenges posed by increased deportability to the dignity and well-being of refugees struggling to rebuild their life. The project is developed in a unique cooperation between DRC Danish refugee Council, Danish Red Cross, University College Absalon, and University of Copenhagen/AMIS. Drawing on collaborative ethnographic fieldwork methods, the project investigates the hyper-precarious everyday life of refugees under the conditions of deportability.

You can read more on the project [here](#)



Benno Brudnitzki

I am 25 years old and originally from the Danish minority in Southern Schleswig where I did my A-levels. It was in my sabbatical year time that I developed a great interest in refugee matters through my work in an asylum centre in Flensburg.

I have a bachelor's degree in Psychology and Social Science from Roskilde University



Maya Dyval

My name is Maya Dyval Bayraktar and I'm studying Anthropology at University of Copenhagen. I recently returned to Copenhagen after living in Istanbul, Turkey, where I also completed my bachelor project.

I am very interested in various issues surrounding migrants and religious

and several of the student projects that I contributed to write, were about refugee related issues, e.g. the well-being of unaccompanied adolescent refugees and refugees' rights to social benefits in Denmark. Since September 2021 I have been studying the master's programme International Security and Law which has given me a perspective on refugee issues from an international law and international politics perspective.

minorities in Europe. Throughout my studies, I have therefore explored issues of conversion, migration, and religious discrimination in a European context.

In addition to my studies in anthropology, I have a big interest in literature and spend a lot of time producing podcasts.

Interview with Zachary Whyte

Please present yourself and your research and teaching profile?

Please present yourself and your research and teaching profile?

I did my PhD in anthropology and refugee studies at Oxford University in 2009, based on a year's fieldwork at a Danish asylum center. From there, I have continued a focus on asylum and refugee issues, which I have used to explore ways in which migration is part of and can be used to understand questions of uncertainty, infrastructure, bureaucracy, remoteness, and everyday life, primarily focused on Denmark. My approach is interdisciplinary but founded on ethnographic methods, and very often collaborative. I have worked extensively with practitioners throughout my academic career in such diverse fields as housing, arts, sports, and policy, all of which I have come to through my academic work.

I have taught and supervised at various Danish universities over the past 12 years. I have been teaching at AMIS for the past four years, and I've really enjoyed developing the core AMIS courses together with students. I have tried to adapt to the particularities of the AMIS student body, who tend to very sharp and highly motivated but also come from quite different educational backgrounds. I believe that this diversity is a great resource in the classroom, which I try to activate as much as I can.

On a more personal note, I am a second generation immigrant in Denmark (both my parents are Americans, who moved here just before I was born). I live with my wife and two kids in Nørrebro, Copenhagen.

What are the most important questions for migration research at this moment?

My research starts from the position that migration is not an exceptional topic, that somehow stands outside of the normal run of life – even if it is sometimes presented like that in political arenas. Rather migration is fundamentally embedded in contemporary social life, also for people who don't themselves migrate.

To me, the most interesting questions in migration research thus work to examine the complexities of migration across different domains, looking for connections – some of which might be buried. This it seems to me both offers exciting possibilities for conceptual development but also does important ethical work by highlighting connections between people, things, places, and not solely divisive categorization. In my own work, this has for example involved a project that tracked particular Danish housing units, built to house Bosnian refugees in the 1990s, in Denmark and Bosnia, as well as a project looking at the arrival of national and international newcomers to the rural Danish island of Lolland.

At the time of writing, the war in Ukraine of course looms large and the reactions to it speak in to the increasingly polarized debates on migration in Europe. In this context, a connective approach seems particularly important to me.

How do you see AMIS contributing to and/or leading the way in this direction?

AMIS is a small but vibrant research community with a vital and engaged student body, who move on to do a great variety of interesting things. I see AMIS' role as three-fold: We do dynamic research that cuts across disciplinary boundaries; we work with a wide range of academic and non-academic partners; and we support our students and graduates to develop their thinking and skills so that they can engage with issues of migration in various ways. To me this all points towards a connective and dynamic approach to migration research, rather than one defined by siloed programs, which I really enjoy. I have been particularly delighted to work with the AMIS alumni network, [amisan](#), which I think offers great possibilities for further development.

Events



DIGINAUTS book launch

Time: May 20th, 2022, 11.00-12.00
Place: 4A.1.15, University of Copenhagen, South Campus, Karen Blixens Plads 8, 2300 KBH S and [online via Zoom](#)

Programme:

Marie Sandberg

Introduction and the scope of the book
On Contrapuntal Connectedness: Analysing Relations Between Social Media Data and Ethnography in Digital Migration Studies (with Nina Grønlykke Møllerup, Luca Rossi)

Luca Rossi

Migrant Digital Space: Building an Incomplete Map to Navigate Public Online Migration (with Vasiliki Makrygianni, Ahmad Kamal, Vasilis Galis)

Martin Bak Jørgensen

Impossible Research? Ethical Challenges in the (Digital) Study of Deportable Populations Within the European Border Regime (with Leandros Fischer)

followed by Q & A.

The Danish Special Act and the Reception of Ukrainian refugees in Denmark

Time: May 31st, 2022, 15.00-17.00
Place: 15A.0.13, University of Copenhagen, South Campus, , Karen Blixens Plads 8, 2300 KBH S and online via Zoom

Programme:

Intro and welcome by Marie Sandberg, Associate professor, head of AMIS, UCPH Faculty of Humanities

Presenters:

- Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen, Professor WSR, iCourts Centre of Excellence, UCPH Faculty of Law
- Zachary Whyte, Associate professor, AMIS, UCPH Faculty of Humanities
- Marie Louise Nørredam, Professor WSR and head of MESU, UCPH Faculty of Health Sciences
- Martin Lemberg Pedersen, Head of Policy and Society, Amnesty International Denmark

Discussion with Q & A, moderated by Simon Turner, Associate professor, AMIS, UCPH Faculty of Humanities

For further information see the [AMIS calendar](#).

For further information see the [AMIS calendar](#).

RE: Migration

Nordic Migration
Research Conference

17-19 August 2022
University of Copenhagen, Denmark

RE: Migration, NMR Conference 2022

The 21nd Nordic Migration Research Conference
August 17th - August 19th
amis.ku.dk/NMR2022

We are delighted to invite you to the 21st Nordic Migration Research Conference, **RE:Migration new perspectives on movement, research and society**. The conference is organised by the Nordic Migration Research Association and will take place in person at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark on August 17th-19th, 2022.

Conference Theme The term RE: – familiar from the subject lines of email threads – means regarding or in response to, and as such RE:MIGRATION is an invitation to reflect on key questions in migration studies in the current moment as interventions in an ongoing conversation. However, as a prefix, re- also introduces a temporality. It can speak both to a fresh start – rebuilding or reimagining – and to inevitable repetition. It therefore also invites us to consider migration not as singular or exceptional, but as part of the very rhythm of social life across the globe.

With this in mind, the 21st Nordic Migration Research Conference welcomes the diversity of migration studies scholars across disciplines to come into the conversation to discuss new perspectives on migration, research, and society. We have accepted almost 30 panels already, on a wide variety of topics, which you can read [here](#).

In line with our interest in promoting ongoing conversations in migration studies, we are delighted that Ghassan Hage, (Professor of Anthropology and Social Theory, University of Melbourne) will deliver the keynote on the topic of "De-problematizing Migration Research". In addition, we will host two roundtables, one

on "Decentering refugee governance" and one on "Migration research as a politicized field". We hope both of them will spark discussions and reflection that will carry through the conference and beyond. You can read more about the keynote and roundtables on the conference homepage.

Important Dates

Deadline for registration: June 6, 2022.

[RE:MIGRATION - New perspectives on movement, research, and society – University of Copenhagen](#)

Past events



Photo: the diasporic mobilization of Ukrainians in Denmark: Ukrainian voices

The diasporic mobilization of Ukrainians in Denmark: Ukrainian voices

On Tuesday, March 15th, AMIS hosted an open seminar about the diasporic mobilization of Ukrainians in Denmark. The event was organized as a joint effort of the staff and students of the program, and focused on the activity of the Association of Ukrainians in Denmark (AUD).

The ongoing war in Ukraine has engendered a massive mobilization of Ukrainian civil society in Denmark and we got to hear from 4 members of AUD about the work they are doing, the history and profile of the local Ukrainian community, the mobilization of that community over the last years – and of course especially in the last few weeks. More than 50 guests who joined the seminar offline and on zoom got to hear directly from the members of Ukrainian diaspora as well as to pose their own questions and participate in a discussion afterwards. The speakers Anna Coen, Anna Kryvous, Serhii Kostrikov and Liudmyla Waller provided a comprehensive insight into the nature of humanitarian work of AUD as well as the realities of newly arriving Ukrainians in Denmark. They also shared practical information about the most relevant and useful ways of helping people both in and outside Ukraine (the materials are available [here](#)).

Marie Sandberg, the Director of AMIS, acted as discussant, and provided useful perspectives on different forms of civil society engagement with humanitarian aid, drawing on her work with the Helping Hands project.

The seminar was moderated by Zachary Whyte, Associate Professor at AMIS, who organized it together with stud.mag AMIS Julia Zaitseva and Inga Kristensen.

S3 E22 - Et vendepunkt for EUs migrasjonspolitik?

EU sin respons på dagens flyktningsituasjon er en ganske annen enn den vi så under den flyktningekrisen i 2015. Hva gjør EU for å hjelpe mennesker som flykter fra Ukraina, og hvordan skiller dagens håndtering seg fra det EU har gjort tidligere? I denne episoden har vi besøk av Marie Sandberg, leder for Centre for Advanced Migration Studies ved Københavns Universitet. [Læs mere](#)

AMIS Publications 2021

Abdelhady, D, Joormann, M & Gren, N 2021, '['Welcoming' European welfare states are forcing refugees through mazes of harmful rules'](#) *The Conversation*.

Anders Baggesgaard, M. & Pelckmans, L. 2021: [Introduction](#), *Esclavages & Post-esclavages*. Vol. 4. Paris: Centre national de la recherche scientifique.

Andersen, D. & Sandberg, Marie, 13 okt. 2021: "How to Hatch the Wings of a Mockingbird: A Comment on the EU's New Migration and Asylum Pact and the Risk of Destroying Civil Society Engagement in Refugee Relief Work Internally to the EU Memberstates" *Journal of Borderlands Studies*.

Bendixsen, S. & Sandberg, Marie, 12 jul. 2021: "[The temporality of humanitarianism. Provincializing everyday volunteer practices at European borders](#)" *Intersections East European Journal of Society and Politics*. 7, 2, s. 13-31 18 s., 1.

Camara, B., Durst-Lee, L., Pelckmans, L. & Rodet, M. 2021: [The fight against descent-based slavery in Mali](#), *Africa is a country*.

Fynbo, L., Kohl, K. S., Hansen, N. N., & Jensen, K. H. 2021. *Screening af rusmiddelbehandling til de mest udsatte unge: Kvalitativ undersøgelse af, hvordan MOVE-manualen kan tilpasses unge med samtidigt stofmisbrug, psykisk lidelse og/eller alvorlige sociale problemstillinger*. [Læs mere](#)

Giansanti, E, Lindberg, A & Joormann, M 2021 (accepted for publication), 'The Status of Homelessness: Access to housing for asylum-seeking migrants as an instrument of migration control in Italy and Sweden', *Critical Social Policy*.

Kohl, K. S., Amilon, A., & Olsen, L. 2021. Trust and mistrust in public services for people with disabilities. Analysing the gap between the perspectives of caseworkers and disabled people in Denmark. *British Journal of Social Work*

Kohl, K. S., & Vammen, I. M. S. 2021. Europa spiller på følelserne i kampen mod irregulær migration: Kan migranter og flygtninge skræmmes eller udskammes til at blive væk eller tage hjem? [Læs mere](#) (kræver abonnement på Jyllands-Posten).

Kohl, K. S. 2021. [Making a familial care worker: the gendered exclusion of asylum-seeking women in Denmark](#). *Gender, Place and Culture*, 28(10), 757-778.

Kohl, K. S. Accepted/In press. The Stalemate: motivational interviewing at a carceral junction. *Incarceration - An international journal of imprisonment, detention and coercive confinement*.

Kohl, K. S., Mikkelsen, C. H., & Schauser, A. M. 2021. *Inddragelse og tillid i mødet mellem kommunerne og borgere med handicap: En gap-analyse for Det Centrale Handicapråd*. [Læs mere](#)

Kohl, K. S. 2021. Læringsmiljøer i danske børnefamilier. *Det Gode Børneliv*:

Lemberg-Pedersen, M, Chemlali, A., Whyte, Z & Tan, N. 2021: Danish desires to export asylum responsibility to camps outside Europe: AMIS Seminar Report, Macrh 2021, *Centre for Advanced Migration Studies*, University of Copenhagen, 53p.

Lemberg-Pedersen, M, Chemlali, A., Whyte, Z 2021: [Denmark's new externalisation law: motives and consequences](#). *Forced Migration Review* 68: pp. 36-39.

Mortensen, M. & Mollerup, N.G. 2021: [The Omran Daqneesh imagery from the streets of Aleppo to international front pages: Testimony, politics and emotions](#), *Global Media and Communication*, online first.

Pelckmans, L. 2021: [Récits cinétiques : le déplacement comme récit de contestation des wahayu, concubines de statut servile dans les regions frontalières du Niger et du Nigeria](#), *Esclavages & Post-esclavages*. Vol. 4. Paris: Centre national de la recherche scientifique.

Pelckmans, L., Rodet, M., Camara, B. & Durst-Lee, L. 2021: [Mali fails to face up to the persistence of slavery](#), *The conversation*.

Pelckmans, L. & Rodet, M. 2021: [Pourquoi l'esclavage par ascendance subsiste encore au Mali?](#), *The conversation*.

Pelckmans, L. 2021: [Post-Slavery and the Invisibility of Female \(E\)motions in Migration, Displacement and Refugee Studies](#), *AMMODI*.

Pelckmans, L., Rodet, M. et al. 2021: [Newsletter #2, Slavery and Forced Migration in Western Mali](#).

Pelckmans, L., Rodet, M. et al. 2021: [Newsletter #3, Slavery and Forced Migration in Western Mali](#).

Pelckmans, L., Rodet, M. et al. 2021: [Newsletter #4, Slavery and Forced Migration in Western Mali](#).

Rodet, M., Camara, B. Deleigne, M-Ch. & Pelckmans, L. 2021: [Under the Radar. Descent-based Slavery as a Form of Contemporary Slavery](#), *The Republic*.

Sandberg, Marie, Rossi, Luca, Galis, Vasilis and Martin Bak Jørgensen (eds.): *Research methodologies and ethical challenges in digital migration studies: Caring for (big) data*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2021.

Sandberg, Marie & Luca Rossi 2021: "Caring for (big) data: An introduction to research methodologies and ethical challenges in digital migration studies", in: Sandberg, Marie, Rossi, Luca, Galis, Vasilis and Martin Bak Jørgensen (eds.): *Research methodologies and ethical challenges in digital migration studies: Caring for (big) data* Palgrave Macmillan 2021

Sandberg, Marie, Nina Grønlykke Mollerup og L Rossi 2021: "Contrapuntal connectedness: Analysing relations between social media data and ethnography in digital migration studies". In: Sandberg, Marie, Rossi, Luca, Galis, Vasilis and Martin Bak Jørgensen (eds.): *Research methodologies and ethical challenges in digital migration studies: Caring for (big) data*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2021.

Sandberg, Marie, 1 maj 2021: "Borderless worlds for whom? Ethics, moralities and mobilities: Book review of 1st ed.", edited by Anssi Paasi, Eeva-Kaisa Prokkola, Jarkko Saarinen and Kaj Zimmerbauer, Abingdon, Oxon, Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2019. 238 p., including index. ISBN 978-0-815-36002-5, *Space and Polity*. 25, 1, s. 156-160 5 s., 10.

Selberg, N & Joormann, M 2021, 'In Memoriam Reza Banakar 1959-2020', *Retfærd: Nordisk juridisk tidsskrift*, vol. 43, no. 3, pp. 9-11.

Turner, Simon (2021) *Times of Violence: The Shifting Temporalities of Long-Term Ethnographic Engagement with Burundi* in *Conflict and Society* 7:1, 143-159. [Read more](#)

Turner, S. & Berckmoes, L. H. 2021: Pursuing futures through children: Crisis, social reproduction and transformation in Burundi's transnational families, *Migration Studies* No page nr. web. DOI.

