Migration Studies Relay

AMIS Steering Committee members in turn present their views on the main contributions of their respective disciplines for migration studies, followed by a general discussion of the possibilities and challenges of interdisciplinary migration research.

Presenters include Peder Gammeltoft (name research), Frans Gregersen (linguistics), Nils Holtug (philosophy), Pia Schwarz Lausten (Italian migration literature), Marie Sandberg (ethnology) and Margit Warburg (sociology of religion).

Audience contributions of further disciplines are most welcome!

Date: 24 April 2013
Time: 13.15 – 15.00
Place: Faculty of Humanities, Njalsgade 136, 2300 Copenhagen S, Room 27.0.49

The rise of the migration control industry: political, legal and democratic consequences

Post.doc Martin Lemberg-Pedersen (AMIS, University of Copenhagen) and Senior Researcher Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen (DIIS) will present their work on migration industries and border enforcement activities.

The talk traces how private actors have managed to enter European border control and facilitate a for-profit market for their control services.
Two cases are used to illustrate how private actors compete for different contracts, namely the border enforcement activities of G4S and the border infrastructure contracts of Finmeccanica. This drive to outsource the control of states' sovereign boundaries creates several legal challenges in terms of accountability and lacking transparency, as is illustrated by the Jimmy Mubenga case.
Finally, the outsourcing-drive has also had the effect of militarizing European border control, as states use EU funds to subsidize their military export markets and subsidize R&D projects for their biggest military industries.

Date: 6 May 2013
Time: 13.15 – 15.00
Place: Faculty of Humanities, Njalsgade 136, 2300 Copenhagen S, Room 27.0.47.