

INTERSECTIONAL SOLIDARITIES AND RESISTANCES IN FACE OF VIOLENT MIGRATION REGIMES

**International workshop in Ghent
on 12 & 13 October 2023**

Migration regimes across the globe regulate and affect the mobility of people along lines of gender, race, class, and more, and subject people with specific intersectional identities to particular forms of violence. A wide range of formal and informal criteria of deservingness is typically used to exclude people from public services and limit their access to international protection, thus putting them at varying degrees of risk to sexual, physical and economic exploitation. This includes gendered, racialized and class-based requirements for family reunification, as well as Eurocentric, middle-class assumptions of sexuality for SOGI asylum applications (i.e. based on sexuality and gender identities).

While a growing body of work has been done on the effects of migration regimes on variously marginalized people, less attention has been paid to the equally **intersectional forms of solidarity** that have emerged in response to them. Hence mutual aid collectives of and for women on the move exemplify how resistance is sometimes organised through and within such shared gendered identities that can translate into specific types of sorority. In a different vein, scholars have documented the rise of intimate, kinship-like support practices between young, male, racialized migrants on the one hand, and white, middle-class, middle-aged women. And in yet another way, autonomous collectives organized around LGBTQI+ identities have engaged in close alliances with people on the move concerned primarily with material and legal precarity. Whether such resistance takes place within migrant-led, autonomous or humanitarian collectives, it typically involves power relations and efforts to overcome them that are situated within, or cut across intersectional experiences.

Such practices of support have been approached through a wide range of theoretical approaches, including resistance studies, autonomous social movements, intersectionality, feminist ethics of care and hospitality, and decolonial solidarity. A key thread we see running through these fragmented debates is a sensitivity for how actors negotiate between acting in resistance to migration regimes and reproducing neocolonial power relations. In this workshop, we seek to stimulate debates on these key threads **among scholars and activists** from a wide range of geographical and disciplinary backgrounds.

Call for abstracts

Please send an abstract of **max 250 words** to naike.garny@kuleuven.be **before June 20th 2023.**

We will inform selected participants by July 10th, and invite them to submit **draft papers** (ca. 3 to 5 pages) before September 30th.

After the workshop, we will select and invite participants to submit **full papers** by December 20th, to a special issue on this topic in *DiGeST* (Journal of Diversity and Gender Studies).

We welcome empirical and theoretical contributions from disciplines in the broad social sciences and the humanities. We particularly welcome papers on the following topics:

- ▶ Practices of resistance and solidarity in the face of intersectional forms of violence towards people on the move, especially when linked to gender, sexuality, race, and/or homelessness
- ▶ Decolonial and intersectional approaches to power dynamics within solidarity practices with, by and for people on the move
- ▶ Perspectives from and about the global South
- ▶ Alliances, conflicts and interpersonal relations within autonomous social movements, grassroots humanitarian action, and migrant-led infrastructures of solidarity
- ▶ Practices of solidarity organized with, by and for marginalized subgroups of people on the move
- ▶ Gendered practices of storytelling, representation and aesthetics
- ▶ Concepts and theories of care and resistance
- ▶ Creative methods, new epistemological frameworks, or ethical considerations about researching resistance and solidarity in the face of migrant regimes

Confirmed keynote speakers

Prof. dr. [Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh](#), Professor in Migration and Refugee Studies, University College London

Prof. dr. [Jane Freedman](#), Professor in Political Sciences, Paris 8 University

Practicalities

Participants do not have to pay a registration fee, but are expected to fund their own transport and accommodation. If you do not have research budgets for travelling, please let us know, as we have a limited budget reserved for travel grants.

This workshop is convened by [Tancrede Pagès](#), [Robin Vandevordt](#), [Naiké Garny](#) and [Sarah Murru](#), with the support of:



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