

Migration Mobilities Bristol (MMB)  
Annual Report  
2019-20



# Migration Mobilities Bristol (MMB) Annual Report 2019-20

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Welcome to our second MMB Annual Report. The focus we set ourselves for 2019-20 was to build our international networks. We developed some fantastic plans. We joined the IMISCOE network of European migration scholars. Our Trans-Oceanic Mobilities network was to be launched in May with a visit from US scholars on the theme of Mobility and the Biome. We successfully applied for a Benjamin Meaker Fellowship for Professor Nandita Sharma from University of Hawaii. We won funding for visits to Latin America to develop projects with institutions in the region. Then, of course, came COVID.

It took a month or so to adjust. We moved most of our events online and revised our objectives so we could not just bounce back but bounce forward. We developed an internal group space to host University publications, research and events on migration and COVID-related matters. [Take a look](#) if you haven't had a chance to explore this yet. We launched two new blog series: '[Letter from Afar](#)', which collates research and experiences of colleagues responding to COVID-19 in very different contexts, and '[MMB Latin America](#)', which is the first output from the MMB Latin America working group. The University of Bristol hosts a wide range of activity and research related to Latin America that spans multiple schools and faculties. Interests include political violence and post-conflict reconstruction, labour and mobility, and the circulation of ideas and transnational exchanges. We have started to showcase work with and from the region and to work to develop common research agendas. Keep an eye out for our Dialogue events next year and check out our [Latin America](#) website.

The Black Lives Matter protests also marked an important opportunity and challenge for MMB's work. Pulling down Colston's statue put Bristol on the map. Anti-racism is entangled with migrant rights and vice versa – until Black Lives Matter irrespective of immigration and citizenship status, Black Lives will continue to be disposable. We believe MMB has an important role to play in making these connections and will be highlighting research and analysis on this in the coming year.

In recent months we have been developing the MMB Online Short Course: Essentials, a free course that will be launched in November 2020. It is our opportunity to publicise UoB research on migration to a generalist public, and we are also planning a paid-for MMB Online Short Course: Premium, which will be synchronous, next summer. If you want your work to feature on this course, let us know. You won't have to teach on it, and it's a great way to get your research to a wider audience.

Many thanks to our fantastic Research Challenge Co-ordinators and Management Group for all their ongoing hard work and support. A special thank you to our Strategic Leads Ann Singleton (Policy), Diego Acosta (International), Katharine Charsley (Postgraduate) and Julia O'Connell Davidson (Anti-Racism). Thanks too to Josie Gill who is stepping down as Director of the Centre for Black Humanities and so from her position on the Management Group, and to Chris Bertram, an original co-director of Bristol Institute for Migration and Mobility Studies. And thank you to all of our members who make MMB such a vibrant and productive place.

Finally, remember that MMB is here to support you. In the coming year we will continue 'drop-in sessions' online. If you have an idea you want to think through or a question about impact, or you are in search of contacts, do come along (details will be on our website). We'd love to hear about new and ongoing research projects that you are involved in even if they are only loosely connected to migration or mobilities. The easiest way to do this is by completing our [online form](#).

The MMB Team: Bridget Anderson, Emma Newcombe and Emily Walmsley



## MMB Research

There has been something of a reflexive turn in migration studies. Migration scholars are increasingly reflecting on the ways in which our research contributes to the perception of ‘migrants’ as a problem group, and indeed to reinforcing the social and legal distinctions between ‘migrants’ and ‘citizens’. At the same time, many also want to intervene, to improve policy rather than simply criticise it from the sidelines.

MMB’s core mission is to foster new thinking on people and movement, and we recognise that just because the categories of migrant and citizen are constructed does not mean that we can therefore simply shed them. Immigration status matters, being subject to immigration control and/or being ultimately deportable has all kinds of impacts on a person’s life. So too do everyday ideas about ‘national identity’ and belonging. Our research includes projects that work with contested conceptual terms like ‘integration’ and seek to stretch and include them, projects that span several disciplines and work across faculties, and projects that are at the cutting edge of intersectional approaches.

Starting from a position that does not assume the difference between migrants and citizens means we can draw out connections and common interests between them. The [ETHOS project](#), for example, has examined how the movement of people on social assistance is restricted in different European countries.

We also learn from the thinking and experiences of non-academics – most obviously migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, but also legal advisers and cultural workers and organisers. Bringing together those with experiences of migration and academics (remember that these are not always discrete groups: many academics have migratory experiences, and migrants may well be used to an academic environment) can generate new insights and perspectives. This can be seen in the joint project of Nariman Massoumi and Bristol Refugee Rights that takes asylum seekers behind the camera lens as creative directors exploring the asylum system.

The MMB network has more than 250 members from across the University of Bristol in a range of disciplines including English, film studies, geography, history, law, modern languages, music, philosophy, politics and social policy. Now that we have established a strong internal network, we have begun to focus on establishing external and international links – more information can be found on this in the next section.

*“It is one thing to have the support of an individual, it is another to have the support of a community. Connecting to MMB gives this sense.”*

During the pandemic many MMB members have been publishing articles and blog posts on the impact of COVID-19. Their commentary has ranged from issues of flying in migrant fruit pickers during lockdown to the denial of rights to Indian migrant informal workers to international labour solidarity to ethnic inequalities and the spectre of eugenics. We have listed these publications on the [COVID-19 page](#) of the MMB website – please take a look and do let us know if you have a title you would like us to add.

We also now have a page dedicated to [MMB member publications](#) in general – there are so many we can no longer fit them all in the newsletters! In recent months these have included Colin Yeo’s new book [Welcome to Britain: Fixing Our Broken Immigration System](#) (Biteback), an article co-authored by Gregory Schwartz on [‘Labour mobility in transnational Europe: between depletion, mitigation and citizenship entitlements harm’](#), Victoria Canning’s article on [‘Corrosive control: state-corporate and gendered harm in bordered Britain’](#) and Katharine Charsley’s co-authored book [Marriage Migration and Integration](#) (Palgrave Macmillan).

Further information on the people that make up MMB can be found [here](#).

*“MMB offers a great community and support network that not only allows for the bouncing of research ideas but also challenges its members take that extra step towards research excellence in the area of migration and mobilities.”*

## Strategic activities 2019-20

In this section we will explain the activities we have undertaken in order to achieve our objectives: internal networking and capacity building; external outreach and international collaboration; and developing foundations for MMB's long-term sustainability and growth. As mentioned, we have had to quickly adapt the activities that we had planned for the spring and summer but working from home and not being able to travel or spend money hasn't stopped us from being busy!

### Internal networking and capacity building

*"The support I received from MMB and the University of Bristol more generally has been outstanding. I have applied for funding with several universities and the support I received here has really been the best - supportive, rigorous, and very professional."*

Our priority over the last six months has been to provide online spaces for members to come together and to offer support and encouragement to UoB staff in order to put us in the most advantageous position possible for when we have a clearer idea of what the 'new normal' will be.

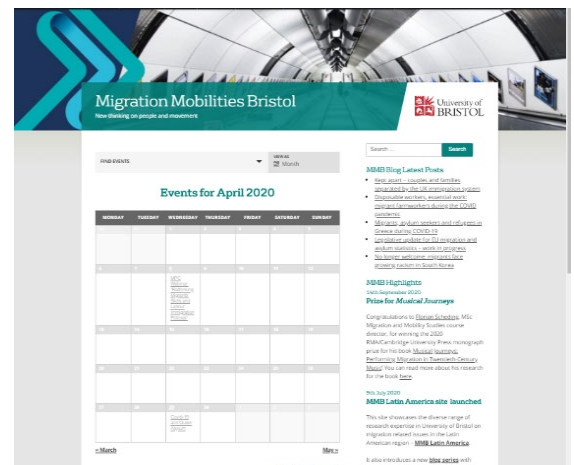
We now have more than 250 UoB members and local collaborators on our internal forum (and more on our external listing), which includes an internal SharePoint site and group email address that members are free to post to.

We've supported colleagues on research development bids and impact plans and are happy to continue to offer advice and support on funding bids by responding to questions and running regular drop-in sessions.

### Key events organised and supported

Over the past year we have supported a wide programme of networking activities that has brought people together to engage around mutual intellectual interests. With our face-to-face events cancelled since March, we have been organising and supporting a number of online webinars, symposiums and film viewings instead. These have included:

- 'Rethinking Migrants' Skills and Labour Immigration Policies' – a webinar held by the Migration Policy Centre on 8 April, which can be viewed [here](#).
- 'Midnight Traveller' (Fazili 2019) – a virtual film night fundraising event on 16 May. More information [here](#).
- "'A Member of the Family?'" The Exploitation of Migrant Domestic Labour' – a MMB webinar with Anna Boucher (University of Sydney) on 2 June. A video recording of the event will be made public after the publication of Anna's book later this year. More information on the event [here](#).
- 'Performing (non)Belonging and Post-Brexit Imaginaries' – an ideas exchange workshop for first-generation migrant theatre and performance makers on 9 June. Details of the event and videos of the performance and discussions can be seen [here](#).
- 'Creativity and Policy: Work in Progress Online' on 24 June. A conversation with two ongoing Brigstow projects led by MMB members: 'Kept apart: making prose-poetry with people separated from families by the immigration system' and 'Scrutinising the immigration system through collaborative filmmaking with refugees and asylum seekers'. More information [here](#).
- 'Our Families and Other Migrants: Looking to the Future' – a MMB webinar on 29 June in which four experts reenvisioned a better, fairer UK immigration system for the future, as COVID-19 has highlighted the worst of the system. A recording of the event can be seen [here](#).



## MMB Management Group

MMB's Management Group of academics come from at least five disciplines, across at least three faculties (see list below) and meet three times a year in November, February and June. This group advises the MMB Director and Manager on strategic direction, achievement of objectives, measures of success and MMB's annual programme of activities. We are grateful to our Strategic Leads 2019-20: Ann Singleton (Policy), Diego Acosta (International), Katharine Charsley (Postgraduate), Julia O'Connell Davidson (Anti-Racism), who have given specific advice and ideas over the past year.

We thank Josie Gill for all the support she gave MMB over the past two years as Director of the Centre for Black Humanities. She has now stepped down from this position and we are delighted to welcome her replacement Madhu Krishna to the MMB management group. Also huge thanks to Chris Bertram, an original co-director of Bristol Institute for Migration and Mobility Studies and a founding member of MMB. His unfailing advice and support working across faculties has been invaluable and we wish him all the best for his retirement. We also welcome Joanna Burch-Brown who comes from the Department of Philosophy as a new recruit to the group.

### MMB Management Group 2020:

<u>Professor Diego Acosta</u>	University of Bristol Law School, <i>International Strategic Lead</i>
<u>Ms Pankhuri Agarwal</u>	School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies, <i>MMB Early Career Representative</i>
<u>Dr Katie Bales</u>	University of Bristol Law School
<u>Dr Joanna Burch-Brown</u>	Department of Philosophy
<u>Professor Katharine Charsley</u>	School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies
<u>Professor Madhu Krishnan</u>	Department of English and Centre for Black Humanities
<u>Dr Jacqueline Maingard</u>	Department of Film and Television
<u>Dr Naomi Millner</u>	School of Geographical Sciences
<u>Professor Julia O'Connell Davidson</u>	School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies, <i>Anti-Racism Strategic Lead</i>
<u>Dr Laurence Publicover</u>	Department of English, <i>Postgraduate Strategic Lead</i>
<u>Ann Singleton</u>	School for Policy Studies, <i>Policy Strategic Lead</i>

## External outreach and international collaboration

We have continued to find ways to showcase the amazing breadth and depth of migration-related research at Bristol and also to build relationships internationally that will benefit future research and teaching promotion.

### Websites

We have further developed our web presence within the University main site. The [MMB website](#) now includes a page on COVID-19 related work as well as the blog, events listings, research projects of MMB members, publications by our members, information about studying migration and mobility studies, and details of the MMB team, IMISCOE and our newsletter. We also have an active [Twitter account](#).



Alongside the main MMB website we have set up a site for MMB Latin America, a group made up of MMB members researching migration and mobility related issues in the region. Working across many different disciplines their key areas of interest include:

- political violence and post-conflict reconstruction in communities experiencing local, national and cross-border displacement;
- labour and mobility, and the historical legacy of slavery in contemporary work relations;
- representations of territorial boundaries and the tensions between political and ecological rights;
- neoliberal market expansion, wildcat economics and the movement of people and capital to and from the global margins;
- the circulation of ideas and translational exchanges across borders within Latin America and beyond.

This group of scholars came together as the MMB Latin America working group during 2019-2020 and their work is profiled together in this website for the first time. The site is also intended to facilitate further research in the region and collaboration between scholars in Bristol and Latin America.

### Blogs

Since the onset of the pandemic and the absence of face-to-face events we have been publishing our blog weekly. It has become a key forum for us to connect with members and document the impact of COVID-19 on the study of migration and mobilities.

In early April, Bridget reflected on the questions raised and injustices highlighted by the coronavirus regarding global immigration systems. These posts, '[No more "back to normal" – "normal" was the problem](#)' and '[Lessons we've learned from COVID so far](#)', led to our new blog series '[Letter from Afar](#)'. For this we invited fellow



*A street in Shandong, China, during lockdown, April 2020  
(image: Gauthier Delecroix)*

researchers of migration and mobilities from across the world to tell us about their experience of [doing research in these extraordinary times](#).

We heard from our colleague Angelo Martins Junior in Brazil, where he is watching first-hand the [violent disregard for life](#) shown by the government in its dealings of COVID-19, and from Ailsa Winton in Tapachula, southern Mexico, where the authorities recently dumped hundreds of undocumented Central Americans at the [border with Guatemala](#), even though it was closed by the Guatemalan government in April. We also



*Lining up for the Food Co-op, Park Slope, Brooklyn  
(image: Victoria Hattam, August 2020)*

heard from colleagues in China, Hawai'i, South Korea and Greece about their experiences living and working through the pandemic. The series was wrapped up with a thought-provoking post from Victoria Hattam in New York City on the [somatic shifts resulting from COVID and what this might mean for political change](#). The series has provided a very wide-ranging view of the pandemic's impact on migration and mobilities across the globe and the diverse challenges faced by our fellow scholars. Do [take a look](#) if you've not yet had a chance.

In between our COVID-related blog posts we have had a range of fascinating and diverse contributions from MMB members including

Tamar Hodos on [decorated ostrich eggs in the ancient Mediterranean](#) and Sarah Spencer on the question of [transnational migration and integration](#) in the UK.

Meanwhile, in June, a post from Bridget on [Black Lives Matter – whatever their nationality](#) drew attention to the need for migration studies to address 'race' more directly and its role in making the nation-state. This followed a post by Sociology student Evelyn Miller on how she feels like a [space invader](#) as a mixed South Asian woman negotiating the UK's education system. In 2021 we will be running a series on migration, race and racism that will explore this subject further.

Over the summer we also launched a blog series for the [MMB Latin America](#) website. This has received contributions from throughout the region as well as from members of our own Latin America working group. Many have inevitably focused on COVID but in doing so they've raised critical issues about movement in Latin America, ranging from racism and the legacy of slavery to the influence of mass media and the fragility of the informal labour market. Planned as two-month summer series it will now be continuing long term, though less regularly, due to demand.

### Newsletter and News Digest

We have started a Newsletter to all our members – in Bristol and beyond – as a quarterly update of everything that's going on related to MMB. We also publish a monthly News Digest for our University of Bristol members and local collaborators, with more regular news of MMB's activities. Please feel free to pass these on to friends and colleagues when you receive them so that they can [join the mailing list](#).

### IMISCOE

We have continued our membership of the organisation 'International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion (IMISCOE),' which offers networking and publishing opportunities on migration and integration, particularly for early career scholars. The network involves 51 member institutes and more than 700 scholars from all over Europe and focuses on comparative research, publications, the organisation of events, PhD training and awards and communication. It supports more than 30 research clusters, runs a highly regarded IMISCOE Annual Conference and publishes a research series, textbook series and the journal *Comparative Migration Studies*.

## Policy and international engagement

Ann Singleton and Diego Acosta have taken on roles of 'Policy Strategic Lead' and 'International Strategic Lead' at MMB.

Ann has encouraged and supported MMB members in developing the policy and practice aspects of their work and served as the 'go to' for policymakers and media for innovative ways of thinking. Working closely with PolicyBristol and World Universities Network Ann has represented MMB at various events and initiatives, in particular the [Global Migration Data Analysis Centre \(IOM GMDAC\)](#) and the [IOM's Migration Data Portal](#). She is keen to find ways to shape research agendas in relation to policy needs (to identify and address policy gaps) but also apply critical conceptual frameworks, perspectives and methodologies when working with the policy-research-civil society nexus.

Diego has been establishing links with universities and research centres in other regions. This process has now begun with South America and with a focus on recruitment for the MSc on Migration and Mobility Studies, particularly of non-UK students. He has also been advising on events or workshops with scholars and policymakers who present and discuss about regions beyond the UK/Europe.

We're very excited to be working with the recently established Perivoli Africa Research Centre (PARC), which champions new approaches to research and partnership that advance Africa's achievement of its own aspirations. Take a look at PARC's [website](#) if you haven't yet had the chance. We've brought together a network of UoB academics working on issues related to Africa and mobility, and hope to collaborate on shared interests in care work and in population data.

MMB has also been collaborating with US scholars on the theme of mobility and the biome. Our Trans-Oceanic Mobilities network was to be launched in May with a visit from colleagues at The New School, New York. We successfully applied for a Benjamin Meaker Fellowship for Professor Nandita Sharma from University of Hawaii and we won funding for visits to Latin America to develop projects with institutions in the region. We were not able to do these planned activities in the end due to the pandemic, but we've scaled back our ambitions and have found other ways to make these connections instead.

Meanwhile, MMB has launched a new collaboration with the Migration Policy Centre at the European University Institute in Florence. The project, [Mig-Res-Hub](#), will be looking at how migrants and migration policies affect the resilience of essential services during COVID-19.

## MSc and online short courses

MMB has been considering ways in which teaching and research can be better connected and we have increased the support we give to the teaching and marketing of the MSc Migration and Mobility Studies.

We are also developing income-generating [online short courses](#). The MMB Online Short Course: Premium will run in early summer 2021 and is aimed at graduate students and those interested in knowing more about migration and mobilities. It will be launched with the free, self-taught MMB Online Short Course: Essentials in autumn 2020, offering an introduction to critical migration studies.

Both the Essentials and Premium courses will operate as a pilot for recurring annual online courses and spin offs tailored to different audiences, including one aimed specifically at policymakers and practitioners. They will also serve as a taster for our MSc in Migration and Mobility Studies, as well as gauging interest in a distance learning MSc programme or MRes in this field in the future. We plan to evaluate the development and delivery process so that best practice learning can be shared within UoB.



## Objectives for 2020/21

We have refined the objectives from last year to map more closely onto broader university objectives for capacity building, leadership, international recognition and sustainability:

- Build a strong, interdisciplinary community of scholars working on migration and mobility within UoB in order to promote new thinking, intellectual exchange, collaborations and research capacity; and contribute to developing the next generation of leading scholars;
- Develop opportunities to showcase UoB work and build new research and teaching collaborations locally, nationally and internationally;
- Develop a solid foundation for MMB's long-term sustainability and growth.

Activities for making progress towards these objectives will include:

- Consolidation and continuation of meetings with Heads of School across faculties in UoB;
- Offering spaces and opportunities for intellectual debate and discussion that UoB staff will be motivated to engage with;
- Develop work with other URIs/SRIs and University initiatives including collaboration with PARC and Bristol Digital Futures Institute;
- Showcasing research projects on the MMB website and connecting up research with outreach, publications, teaching and collaboration;
- Facilitating at least one activity/publication/event for the Trans-Oceanic and Latin America groups; as well as thematic activities on issues including: race, digitalisation, environment and health and care, work and asylum
- Developing our online short courses on migration and mobilities (Essentials and Premium);
- Supporting UoB staff to enter high quality funding bids in the field.

The following sections of the report showcase the MMB Research Challenges and some of the scholarship, expertise, projects and publications that the University of Bristol has in these areas.

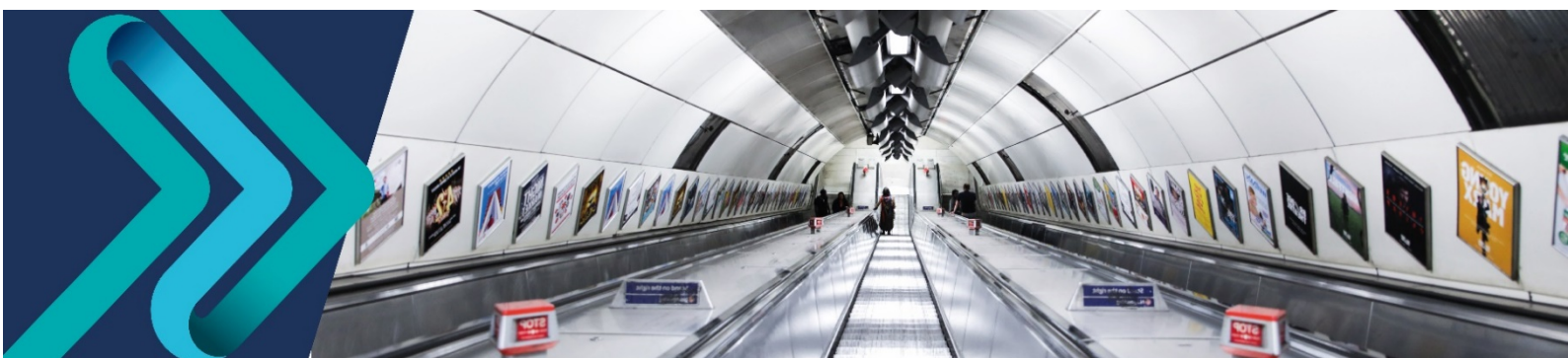
## 1. Imagination, belonging, futures

The production and maintenance of territorial borders through practices of state surveillance and citizenship play a central role in how nationhood is imagined. They are also key to the politics of inclusion/exclusion and the separation from, and attachment to, place. The 'imagination, belonging, futures' research challenge seeks to explore and identify new and alternative forms of belonging and relationships by engaging with the ideas and utopian visions precipitated by the global mobility of people across borders.

We examine mobile populations in different historical periods and geographical spaces, focusing on the social and cultural notions of home, exile, identity and community formation – and how these ideas change over time and space. We explore the politics and aesthetics of belonging by employing radical, participatory and self-representational methodologies alongside a critical engagement with filmic, literary and figurative strategies.

How do dominant representations and spatial imaginaries become established, and how can they be, or how are they being, unsettled? What possibilities lie in the individual, collective and utopian imaginaries of mobile groups and what insights might they offer into new or alternative ways of living and working together? What implications might aesthetic, narrative and representational strategies have in policy making? In what ways can the study of the mobile imagination help us rethink or problematise established categorisations of migrant, refugee and citizen?

**Research challenge co-ordinator:** [Dr Nariman Massoumi, Lecturer in Film and Television](#)



## Selected Research

### Dr Jacqueline Maingard, Reader in Film

My research expertise is in film that represents migrants and refugees, violations against them, their reasons for leaving their home countries, their border crossings and journeys, their experiences of camps and detention centres, of law and officialdom, and the trauma that accompanies their lives. Hearing the 'voices' of migrants and refugees themselves is essential for creating policies and programmes that respond to their needs and afford them agency, and for extending knowledge in the public sphere. Their subjective points of view are crucial and films make an important contribution in expressing these, whether through agencies or in their own filmmaking endeavours. My background is in both the social sciences and the arts, in Africa and Europe, and my expertise straddles the combined realms of film/filmmaking and community work. I have published research articles on films dealing with migration. I curate screenings and organise public events. I design and contribute to educational programmes (for example, the EIUC Masters Programme, on 'African Cinema and Human Rights'; and Bristol Futures, on 'Global Citizenship').

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### Dr Florian Scheduling, Senior Lecturer in Music

My work explores concepts of migratory musical culture and aesthetics and links these to wider socio-cultural backgrounds. My book *Musical Journeys: Performing Migration in Twentieth-Century Music* (Boydell Press, 2019) zooms in on specific migratory moments to enable discussion on themes such as institutionalisation, nationalism, displacement, modernism, and Jewishness, and uncover the potential of seemingly marginalised migratory musics to inform dominant historiographical narratives. Drawing on exile, diaspora, migration and mobilities studies, critical theory, and post-colonial and cultural studies, '[Musical Journeys](#)' weaves detailed biographical and contextual historical knowledge and analytical insights into music into an intricate fabric that does justice to the complexity of the musical migratory experience.

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### Dr Laurence Publicover, Senior Lecturer in English

I work across early modern studies and oceanic studies; I am the author of *Dramatic Geography* (Oxford University Press, 2017), which examines early modern English playwrights' representations of travel and cultural encounter in the Mediterranean world, and of several articles on English Renaissance drama, maritime culture and their intersection, most recently '*King Lear* and the Art of Fathoming' (*Renaissance Drama* 46.2 [2018], 167-91). I am also in the process of co-editing, with Dr Susann Liebich, a volume of essays on reading, writing and performing at sea. Current research projects include a book on cosmic uncertainty in English Renaissance tragedy; an article on dramatic representations of piracy and the North African coast for a collection entitled *Re-Membering Hospitality in the Mediterranean World*; and a co-written article on whales in the nineteenth-century literary imagination for a collection entitled *Maritime Animals*. I was co-founder and co-convenor of the research cluster 'The Perspective from the Sea' from 2014 to 2018, and in 2016-2017 I co-directed a project entitled 'The Invisibility of the Sea' with colleagues at Bristol from Earth Sciences, Law, Biology and Anthropology, which resulted in an [exhibition of works](#) by the artist Rodney Harris.

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### Ann Singleton, Senior Research Fellow, School for Policy Studies

My work focuses on improving the use and understanding of international migration data in the development of policy. I am Senior Advisor to the IOM's [Global Migration Data Analysis Centre \(IOM GMDAC\)](#) and I have been instrumental in the development of the [IOM's Migration Data Portal](#). I am a member of UNSD's International Expert Advisory Group on Migration Statistics, advised the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers and EU Presidencies and many governments. Between 2002 and 2004 I was responsible for policy on statistics in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Home Affairs and introduced the EU's first legislation on migration and asylum statistics.

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### Dr Denny Pencheva, Teaching Assistant in Politics, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies, and Associate Teacher in EU and UK migration policies, School for Policy Studies

My research explores the nexus between international security and migration. I am particularly interested in the relationship between securitised migration politics and policies and the heterogeneous nature of migration flows. I am interested in the role of supranational institutions (EU) and intergovernmental organisations (UNHCR, IOM, etc.) in governing different aspects of global migration (regular and irregular). Recently, my work has sought to explore the impact of Brexit on the representation and human rights of EU migrants in the UK. In terms of regional expertise, my work has focused on the UK, Scandinavia, Central and Eastern Europe, and the Balkans.

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### Scrutinising the immigration system through collaborative filmmaking with refugees and asylum seekers

[Dr Nariman Massoumi](#), Film and Television, [Professor Bridget Anderson](#), Sociology, Politics and International Studies, [Dr Katie Bales](#), Law. With Alice Cutler, [Bristol Refugee Rights](#), and Irene Elizabeth, independent film-maker.

Can a collaborative filmmaking process provide an empowering space for refugees and asylum seekers? Can filmmaking be used as a critical tool in examining the current immigration system? This project aims to incorporate refugee voices through a collaborative forum that enables refugees to scrutinise the system. It aims to create a space where refugees can have agency over the labyrinthine system they must navigate. It will result in a critical filmic representation of the institutional structures and actors involved in creating and sustaining the immigration system that negatively impacts their lives and will explore questions around the effective visual portrayal of these processes and how collaborative filmmaking can provide an educational and empowering space for refugees and asylum seekers. More information on the MMB project page [here](#).

### Everyday integration: the local contexts, practices and mobilities of integration

Professor Jon Fox, Professor of Sociology

This project aims to reinvent integration from the bottom up. It will capture and build on the experiences and best practices of local communities and organisations in Bristol, and through this contribute to policy and scholarship. Led by Jon Fox (SPAIS) the project is funded by the ESRC and runs for two years starting in October 2019. Co-investigators are Bridget Anderson (SPAIS), Therese O'Toole (SPAIS) and David Manley (Geography). More information on the MMB project page [here](#).

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### Reimagining refugee rights: addressing asylum harms in Britain, Denmark and Sweden

Dr Victoria Canning, Senior Lecturer in Policy Studies

This study was based in Britain, Denmark and Sweden from 2016-2018, and documents the harms increasingly embedded in the lives of people seeking asylum. In particular, it focuses on the gendered implications of seeking asylum. It highlights the fact that hostile attitudes and environments compound the impacts of violence, torture and sexual abuse. At the same time social and psychological support is reduced, leaving many people in an unsupported limbo, and women survivors of violence on the periphery of societies.

More information on the MMB project page [here](#).

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### The politics of representation: representation of marriage migrants by different institutions in South Korea

Minjae Shin, PhD Researcher in School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

Over the last two decades, cross-border marriages between South Korean men and migrant women, largely from developing countries in Asia, have dramatically increased. The cross-border marriage trend in South Korea is that such marriage is institutionalised and systematised. There are several institutions in South Korea that are closely associated with cross-border marriages: 1) international marriage brokerage agencies, 2) governmental support centres, and 3) NGOs. These institutions have played prominent roles in maintaining South Korea's cross-border marriage system by providing a wide range of services, interacting with and challenging each other.

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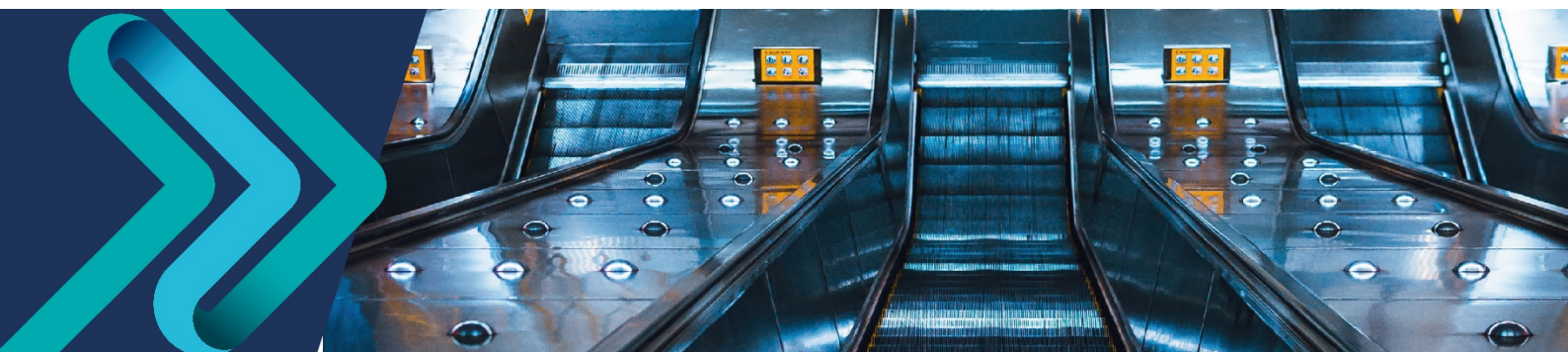
## 2. Control, conflict, resistance

This research challenge seeks to understand people's different abilities to move and how their conflicts and struggles are shaped by everyday constraints on their movements and presence. We explore our current situations through attention to our pasts and through this aim to contribute to political and theoretical debates on mobility, control and resistance – and how these relate to class, gender, age, nationality, 'race' and sexuality.

Conflicts have arisen historically between social actors seeking freer and safer movement and those determined to tighten controls on mobility. We seek to connect this to questions of 'differential inclusion' where people's presence is (barely) tolerated when they attempt to stop moving. This means taking into account how the violent ruptures of modernity – such as enclosure, colonialism, slavery and partition – have had on-going implications for techniques of mobility control and people's resistance to them. Through theoretical, historical and empirical work we seek to understand and challenge the structural inequalities and systems of domination, such as 'race', caste, class, gender, age and nationality, that restrict rights and freedoms in the global world in different ways. In order to do so we ask:

- How do people differently devise moves and tactics to circumnavigate and resist constraints on their freedom?
- What are the links between historical and contemporary techniques used by states, social groups and political organisations to control and prevent the unwanted movement of particular populations?
- How can past efforts by rightless and marginalised people to move closer to freedom shed light on the pursuit and practice of freedom by such people today?
- How can narratives and lived experiences of mobilities problematise and expose the limits and ambivalences of dichotomies such as resistance/accommodation, agency/control, freedom/domination?

Research challenge co-ordinator: [Dr Angelo Martins Junior](#), Research Associate, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies



## Selected Research

### Dr Katharine Charsley, Reader in Sociology

My research centres on the topic of marriage and migration and I have expertise on marriage-related migration to the UK. My most recent project interrogates the notion that ethnic minority marriage migration is a problem for integration – a logic which has been used to justify restrictions to spousal migration/reunification in the UK and elsewhere in Europe. This work has particularly focused on the British South Asian populations, which are the largest ethnic group involved in this kind of transnational marriage. I am currently working with a grassroots support group to develop a project on the impact on British families of being denied the ability to live in the UK with their spouse as a result either of failure to meet visa requirements such as minimum income (which carry particular disadvantage for low earning social groups) or errors in visa decisions. I run an international research network on marriage and migration, with over 120 mailing list members (all researchers in the field).

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### Professor Diego Acosta Arcarazo, Professor of European and Migration Law

I am presently interested on South America's migration and citizenship laws and policies, and on issues of regional free movement of people law globally. Within that research framework, I have offered pro-bono advice on numerous matters. For example, I was invited to present in May in front of the Chilean Senate on their new migration draft bill and to the Peruvian Congress on another new draft migration law. My presentation argued that the law should not continue its legislative path to Congress since it was unconstitutional and breached numerous international treaties.

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### Dr Camilla Morelli, Lecturer in Social Anthropology

My research examines the lives of indigenous children and youth who are migrating from rainforest areas to urban settlements in Peru, where most of them live precariously in urban slums and struggle with economic hardship, social exclusions and marginalisation. Children and youth constitute the largest demographics of indigenous and rural population in Latin America, and they are often at the centre of migratory processes from rural to urban areas across the world. And yet, their own voices, perspectives and agency are often unheard in both academic research and developmental projects both at national and international level. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork with indigenous people conducted over the past ten years, I use qualitative and collaborative methods (including storytelling, photography and animation) that can bring out the voices and experiences of young migrants themselves, so as to document the challenges of migration from their own perspectives.

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### Dr Katie Bales, Lecturer in Law

My research centres on forced migration, labour law and the welfare state and I have worked on the State's compliance with human rights obligations with particular focus on welfare reform and the immigration detention of children. My current research project focuses on the political economy of state organised forms of work including prison labour, workfare, community payback and labour within immigration detention. I also have an interest in access to higher education for forced migrants and helped to establish the sanctuary scholarship scheme at the UoB as well as sitting as a trustee for Bristol City of Sanctuary.

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### Sarah Fakray, PhD Researcher in Sociology

My research examines the everyday lives of refused asylum seekers and undocumented migrants who are living destitute in the city of Bristol. Using in-depth interviews and 'go-along' ethnographic observation, I aim to find out how the extreme socio-structural disadvantages they face impact on lived experiences. I also consider the ways in which they can exert agency, access help and find solidarity with others. I am particularly interested in whether Bristol's city of sanctuary status and large number of support organisations and networks make much of a difference to the experiences of those who have been refused asylum or are living undocumented, and to what extent a person's background and difference matter in terms of survival strategies and outcomes. Integral to this project is the employment of skilled translators and interpreters as co-producers of meaning. Their work enables my communication with participants in a range of languages including Pashto, Arabic, Bengali, Sorani, Farsi and Somali. My PhD is funded by the ESRC and supported by the South West Doctoral Training Partnership.

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### Dan Godshaw, PhD Researcher in Sociology

My research seeks to better comprehend the under-researched terrain of immigration detention in the UK and explore the complex, intersectional and multiscale dynamics of identity, power and personal relations that operate within and beyond these hidden carceral spaces. By developing recent work in sociology, criminology, gender studies, human geography and migration studies, the project expands understandings of postcolonial and co-constitutive relationships between masculinity, race, class, immigration status and border harms. The research design – a qualitative mixed methods engagement with currently and formerly detained men alongside practitioners – enables me to examine how everyday lived experiences in detention, and their often traumatic impact on individuals and families, are tied to broader issues including state power and citizenship, neoliberal border control and the international securitisation of migration. This work is ESRC funded and supported by the South West Doctoral Training Partnership.

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### Modern marronage? The pursuit and practice of freedom in the contemporary world

Professor Julia O'Connell Davidson, Professor in Social Research, and Dr Angelo Martins Junior, Research Associate, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

This five-year ERC-funded project is concerned with the continuing significance of Atlantic World history, but also upturning conventional discourse by interrogating the problem of freedom – as opposed to slavery – in the contemporary world. It therefore takes marronage as its starting point. Dictionary definitions of 'marronage' describe it as the process of extricating oneself from slavery and connect it to the histories of enslaved people who ran away and formed 'maroon' or 'quilombo' communities in the Americas. However, as political theorist Neil Roberts has argued, 'marronage' can also be more broadly understood as action from slavery and toward freedom, and we approach marronage as a concept that can encompass many different ways in which enslaved people sought to practice freedom.

More information on the MMB project page [here](#).

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### Peace Festival: creative methodologies for unearthing hidden war stories

Matthew Brown, Karen Tucker, María-Teresa Pinto and Goya Wilson, School of Modern Languages and School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

Societies moving to post-war contexts face multiple challenges. Many of these are echoes from the war and its historical roots. Memories of war resonate throughout the transition process; they penetrate cultural practices, the public arena, the institutional level, and the social fabric. Colombia is at a crucial historical juncture. Long-lasting peace will not be possible without memory-seeking initiatives that think creatively about the past and its place in imagining the future. This project will bring together the most adventurous groups who are seeking to open up ways of thinking about peace in Colombia and its neighbour Peru.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

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### Paid to care: domestic workers in contemporary Latin American culture

Dr Rachel Randall, School of Modern Languages

The project explores paid domestic workers' (self-)representation in contemporary film, testimonial literature and digital and visual culture from across Latin America. It argues that domestic workers — who are often rural-urban migrants — have become key cultural figures that condense concerns surrounding intersectional experiences of race-, gender- and class-based discrimination. It also investigates the ways in which the legacy of transatlantic slavery weighs on modern day domestic labour relations in Latin America.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

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### 3. Bodies, borders, justice

This research challenge explores how state borders create and manage sexual, racial, cultural, age, ability and class differences. It examines the effects of bordering on human relationships, on rights and on justice.

International mobility – often labelled as ‘migration’ – tends to come with weakened rights and vulnerability to injustice, ranging from oppressive inclusion to violent exclusion. State borders create, reflect and reinforce many other forms of bordering within state territories manifesting, for example, in ‘hostile environment’ policies and their consequences.

The ‘bodies, borders, justice’ research challenge studies how the making of borders intersects with and contributes to the construction of sexual, racial, cultural, age, ability and class differences. Borders and differences are both shaped by and structure personal relationships, and this research challenge foregrounds the role of emotions in facilitating or undermining interpersonal bonds in contexts such as schools, workplaces, civil society and family homes.

From a critical perspective, we unpack the past and present (re)production of embodied and territorialised cultures, including languages, religions and artistic practices, through legal and social institutions in the global North and South. Our overarching aim is to develop, in dialogue with other academics, professionals and activists, strategies to expand the possibilities of justice in a mobile world.

Key concerns include:

- How do state bordering practices and nationalised imaginaries contribute to creating other social categories, particularly ‘race’?
- How are identities mediated by the representation of mobility in written, oral and visual discourses?
- What common processes lie behind the subordination of various mobile populations?
- What conceptions of justice legitimise attempts to immobilise people for certain periods in specific locations, from the state to the prison?

Research challenge co-ordinator: [Dr Natasha Carver](#), Lecturer in International Criminology,



## Selected Research

### Dr Natasha Carver, Lecturer in International Criminology, School for Policy Studies

My research focuses on family life and intimate relationships after migration. My particular interest is on how states use legislation in the name of protecting their 'national culture', and the impact such measures have on migrants. As such, I work on arranged/forced and transnational marriage, female genital circumcision/mutilation (FGC/M) and the criminalization of migrants and migrant families more broadly. My forthcoming book, *Marriage, Gender and Refugee Migration* (Rutgers UP, 2020), examines perceptions of 'families-in-crisis' among Somali migrants to the UK. I have two ongoing research projects. The first (with Saffron Karlsen, Christina Pantazis and Magda Mogilnicka, University of Bristol) critically appraises legislative and policy measures aimed at preventing and eliminating FGC/M (see project entry below). In the second project I am examining group prosecutions of people from a migrant background for child sexual exploitation in the UK, and (often) their subsequent deportation.

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### Dr Devyani Prabhat, Reader in Law

I am an expert on British nationality and citizenship and have written three books on various aspects of nationality and citizenship. I have a specific interest in young people and children and their right to nationality as well as rights associated with long term legal status such as refugee and stateless status. At present I am working on statelessness and the right to vote with partners in Asylum Aid (now named Consonant), UNHCR and UNICEF.

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### Dr Mengia Tschalaer, Marie Curie Research Fellow, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

I have recently completed a two-year [European Commission Horizon 2020 funded research project on queer asylum in Germany](#). I am concerned that despite the Directive 2011/95/EU, which recognizes human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity as grounds for seeking asylum in Europe, lesbian, gay, trans, queer and intersex (LGBTQI+) people seeking asylum remain often unrecognized and invisible in the asylum system. My data shows that LGBTQI+ refugees and people seeking asylum face particular legal and social challenges that are related to stereotyping, lack of socio-legal support, and poor housing situations. First, while recent EU policy and law reflect reform endeavours to improve the quality of sexual orientation/gender identity asylum interviews, decision-making on LGBTQI+ claims remain poor and inconsistent and often rely on stereotyping. Second, LGBTQI+ people seeking asylum often lack access to legal and social support because there is a lack of information for LGBTQI+ refugees on how to find support and where. Third, LGBTQI+ refugees and people seeking asylum feel a heightened sense of loneliness and social isolation as they are often inadequately housed; they also experience hate crime and sexual assault, which increases the risk of mental health related issues such as depression and suicide.

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Yasha Maccanico, PhD researcher, School for Policy Studies, and Researcher at Statewatch, member of Migreurop and Osservatorio Solidarietà

My thesis title is 'European Immigration Policies as a Problem: State Power and Authoritarianism'. My work on immigration policies at the EU and national levels addresses their inherent features and their relationship to state power and authoritarianism, hypothesizing that they are more about justifying a power grab by producing hierarchies to be subsequently used as a wrecking ball, than about immigration *per se*. At the EU level, this amounts to placing frontline states in situations of structural disadvantage (the substance of the EU's 2015 Agenda in this field) to justify developing the EU's security and immigration management structures. At the national level, it stops migrants being recognised as people, thus justifying violence, detention and states resorting to unlawful practices. At the intergovernmental level, it makes it possible to Europeanise discrimination and ethnic profiling as routine practices enacted by law enforcement agencies in pursuit of strategic goals. Official documents and the interaction between the EU and national levels show how this policy field is enabling a subversive agenda to prosper within and beyond the EU's borders, through externalisation, whereby authorities strive to overwhelm normative frameworks, the international system and limits to state power(s) in pursuit of ambitious policy goals.

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Jáfia Naftali Câmara, PhD Researcher, School of Education

My research focuses on refugee and asylum-seeking students' experiences and perspectives of education in the United Kingdom. I am examining how policy impacts the access to education and experiences of education once enrolled, as well as education's role in promoting [or not] integration and belonging in schools and communities. I aim to discover how students will respond to this study's context, which has been designed to include participatory methods and recognise their experiences, celebrate their cultures and amplify their voices in the context of education.

At present, I am part of a team at the School of Education developing a new leadership programme for supporting young refugees (see more [here](#)). I am also writing a report on the impact of laws and regulations related to COVID-19 on migration and (im)mobilities in Brazil, for the Max Planck Society.

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ETHOS – Toward an empirically informed theory of justice and fairness

Professor Bridget Anderson and Dr Pier-Luc Dupont, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies (SPAIS) and Migration Mobilities Bristol (MMB)

ETHOS was a Horizon 2020 project (Jan 2017 to Dec 2019) involving researchers at Migration Mobilities Bristol and five other institutes in the Netherlands, Portugal, Austria, Hungary and Turkey. 'Justice' is a word that is widely used in politics and policies in many different countries and also in the European Union itself. We were interested in uncovering what different people –activists, policymakers, professionals, the person on the street– mean by 'justice' and 'fairness' to better understand the possibilities of justice, and also why for some people it seems so difficult to achieve. The studies informed a wide range of stakeholders (grassroots activists, trade unions, educationalists, policymakers and others) about different understandings and experiences of justice with a view to supporting attempts to reverse inequalities and to promote justice.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

### Memorials to people who have died and to those missing during migration: a global project

Ann Singleton, Senior Research Fellow, School for Policy Studies

Migration across the globe has resulted in the deaths or 'missing' status of hundreds of thousands of people. How the impact of loss on such a scale is recognised and understood is a major social challenge; from a baseline appreciation of what this means within the context of our shared humanity, to cognisance of the human impact of policy decisions and responsibility for the consequences of these decisions. This challenge is amplified when the loss occurs across bodies of water and in desert and remote mountainous areas, where the bodily evidence is removed from sight.

This project directly addresses these complex issues through the creation of an interdisciplinary research platform. Its goal is to 'presence' the missing people and those left behind, in the minds and narratives of policy makers and wider society. We are working with researchers in migration policy, human rights, heritage studies, forensic archaeology and oceanography, along with key UN organisations (IOM GMDAC, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNESCO) non-governmental organisations, family and migrant organisations and charities to establish how best this should be done.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

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### Leadership programme for school leaders supporting young refugees

Dr Robert Sharples, Martin Preston, Jáfia Naftali Câmara and Ava Khalfaoui, School of Education

There is an urgent need for school leaders across the UK to have access to specialist training in refugee education. This project will create a suite of training materials for UK school leaders, with three commercial education providers: Better Bilingual, Hounslow Language Service and the EAL Academy.

The companies will share access to the bespoke academic input, draft the training materials, share them for peer learning and user testing facilitated by the academic team, and then refine the products for commercial use.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

### Kept apart: couples and families separated by the UK immigration system

[Katharine Charsley](#) (Sociology, Politics and International Studies, University of Bristol), Helena Wray (University of Exeter) Emma Agusita (UWE Bristol), Caroline Combs and Paige Ballmi ([Reunite Families UK](#)) and Rissa Mohabir ([Trauma Awareness](#))

The UK immigration rules require sponsoring spouses to have a minimum income that is above fulltime earnings at minimum wage. In addition, the migrant spouse is required to prove a level of language proficiency. Waiting times for immigration decisions have lengthened and both visa refusals and fees have increased, resulting in lengthy periods of separation even for those families who are eventually successful. Those kept apart by the UK immigration system often do not know anyone with similar experiences. These families turn to internet communities for advice on the practical, bureaucratic, emotional and financial stresses involved. This research uses co-produced poetry and illustration to explore the impacts of this separation, and how British partners separated from their loved ones live with the profound uncertainty of their situation.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

## Stuck in the middle: internal migrant workers at the juncture of freedom, rights and personhood in India

Pankhuri Agarwal, PhD Researcher in Sociology, School of Sociology, Politics, and International Studies

The research is a socio-legal multi-sited ethnography of the lived legal experience of internal migrant workers (sex workers, brick kiln workers, construction workers, manual scavenging workers, domestic workers, and others) through various legal sites (courtrooms, police stations, shelter homes, prison, government offices) in Delhi, India. Even as citizens, internal migrants lose access to welfare rights once they cross the physical boundaries of their home states and move to Delhi, as welfare provisions (such as housing, food, and health) are dependent on their proof of residence. Some of these workers by accident, choice or force, come under the purview of the anti-trafficking laws and are 'rescued'. By following their post-rescue legal journey, the research argues that legal release and rescue from 'slavery' does not lead to 'freedom' because anti-trafficking interventions do not account for the lack of socially recognised personhood of internal migrants in India.

More information on the research and ongoing engagement is available [here](#).

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## FGM-safeguarding and migrant-citizenship

Saffron Karlsen and Magda Mogilnicka, School for Sociology, Politics and International Studies; Natasha Carver and Christina Pantazis, School for Policy Studies; and Janet Howard, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is considered by the UN to be a 'global concern' and it has been frequently claimed that 'tens of thousands' of girls are at risk in the UK. The government has responded with stringent legislative and policy measures, but these measures have been implemented without substantial evidence regarding either the level of risk or the potential impact of such approaches on those targeted by the legislation and policy. Based on six focus groups, our first [report](#) finds that safeguarding has been experienced as stigmatising, unjustified, and as an assault on belonging and citizenship. A sense of the exploitation of a disempowered community pervaded focus group discussions. The report highlights valuable opportunities for policymakers and other professionals to improve approaches to FGM-safeguarding in schools, [healthcare settings](#), and by social services and the police. It also highlights the ineffectiveness and negative impact of national policy.

Our second report (coming soon) systemically reviews available data from which prevalence levels might be established. This work finds serious inadequacies in the data available, but also sufficient evidence to indicate that the level of risk among those living in the UK is minimal, with the numbers of girls affected in the tens rather than the tens of thousands. As a result of this work we are now working with local stakeholders to improve safe-guarding approaches; we have given evidence to the Scottish Executive; and we are part of the International Research Council on Genital Cutting Practices.

## 4. Trade, labour, capital

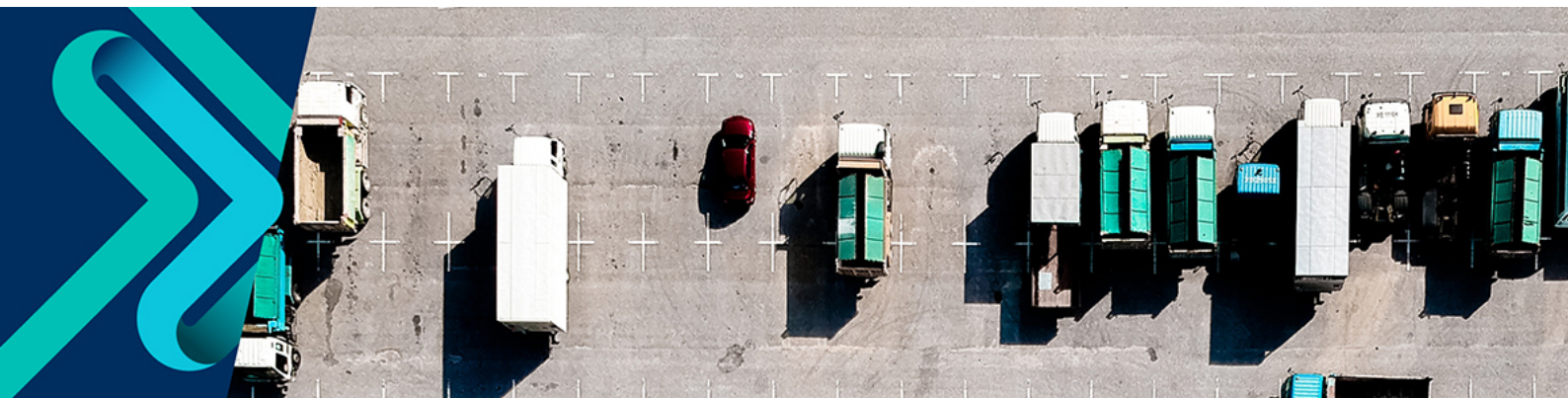
This research challenge seeks to understand the mobility of people and its relation to the movement of goods, services and money. We are also interested in how the relationship between markets and migration is imagined and represented.

The search for markets for goods, land, labour and work has been one of the primary drivers of the movement of people, both historically and in contemporary times. In the past, this quest led to movements of people in a discernible direction, but today the flows of migration and goods are more complex in their directionality. Meanwhile the movement of finance capital is increasingly critical but under-explored by researchers.

Key research questions include:

- How are these movements, and our understandings of them, gendered?
- Do the movements of workers always go hand in hand with movement of capital?
- Does capital always precede, with workers following? Could it be that labour flees when capital arrives?
- What are the implications of different forms of capitalism for these relationships?
- What role do cities, sub-national territorial formations and regional arrangements play in capitalism(s) and what does this mean for understanding flows of people?
- Do crises in regimes of capital accumulation offer new opportunities that allow us to challenge anti-migrant animus?
- Do terms like trade, labour, capital and migration aid or hinder our understanding of their relationships?

Research challenge co-ordinator: [Dr Manoj Dias-Abey, Lecturer in Law](#)



## Selected Research

### Dr Manoj Dias-Abey, Lecturer in Law

I am involved in two relevant research projects at the moment. The first research project considers the UK's Seasonal Workers Pilot programme for the agricultural sector. Although the Home Office has overall responsibility for the pilot programme, it is managed by two private operators. By comparing the pilot programme with other comparable guestworker programmes (such as Canada's Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program), this project examines the critical role played by private labour brokers. The second project looks at the legal strategies of activist trade unions which work with migrant workers (such as the IWGB). Rather than litigation being an end in itself, this project considers whether going to court serves these unions' broader organising goals.

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### Professor Tonia Novitz, Professor of Labour Law

My concerns lie predominantly with temporary migration of workers and their abuse within trade in services. I have been engaged in tracking exploitation of 'posted workers' linked to European Union trade in services, with respect to the various violations of their labour rights, including associational freedoms. I have drawn parallels with movement of natural persons under Mode 4 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and the Annex to that instrument in Movement of Natural Persons, which fails to refer to labour standards. While there are signs of progress such as the 2018 amendment by EU Directive 2018/957 to the EU Posting of Workers Directive in 2018, it is vital that on the international stage (and in the context of transnational supply chains) we begin to acknowledge more fully the connections between trade law and migration and human rights law. I am currently engaged in a European Commission funded Horizon 2020 Project on Sustainable Market Actors for Responsible Trade (SMART) tracing EU and international regulatory issues arising in relation to trade in textiles and mobile phones. From a sustainability perspective, we are seeking to build social and migration concerns into trade relations.

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### Dr Rutvica Andrijasevic, Senior Lecturer in Management

I am currently working on the research monograph entitled 'Just-in-Time Labour for Just-in-Time Production: Transnational Production and Migrant Labour Incorporation in Central and Eastern Europe'. The book draws on the insights I gained as Principal Investigator on the research project 'The Future of Labour in Europe in China-led Globalisation. A Case Study of Foxconn' (2013-2018). The book aims to bring together migration studies and international business and management studies in order to address a knowledge gap on forms of labour recruitment and regimes of control engendered by the expansion of transnational industries to Central and Eastern Europe (CEE).

Once marginal to the study of migration, global supply chains are increasingly recognised as key to labour migration and to the management of migration flows. Using just-in-time production as a primary prism for examining the working and living conditions of migrant workers in the electronics supply chain, my research seeks to determine how transnational production acts as a source of novel forms of control and exploitation of migrant labour, or what I call 'just-in-time labour' (JITL). In focusing on the structural relevance of JITL for globalized organisation of production, the aim of the proposed research is to develop a systematic conceptual and analytical framework for understanding the social and political impact of transnational industries in Europe.

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### Dr Gregory Schwartz, Lecturer in Management

My research looks at labour mobility between EU member and European 'third country' states in the context of uneven and combined Europe, interrogating whether mobility can redress the linked crisis tendencies in production and social reproduction. This work builds on ongoing research looking at the prospects of labour provisions in EU-Ukraine DCFTA (Association Agreement). This concern stems from intensified pressures in the sphere of social reproduction triggered by states and markets attempting to defer crisis tendencies in production by shifting the costs of transformations to the domestic and unpaid spheres, while social reproduction is being reconstituted by markets, the responsibility for it being privatised and individualised, and the capabilities of individuals and households to meet this responsibility receiving inadequate support.

The increased need for and lower capacity to engage in social reproduction lead to EU and national governments using legal, policy and practical responses to the intrinsically linked problems of production and social reproduction, while the transnationalisation of entitlements and rights, of citizenship and residency, in Europe defined by EU's 'freedoms of movement', position labour mobility as an important mechanism through which such problems can be addressed. This raises the question of whether such responses in an economically integrated but unequal Europe are sustainable, or whether they tend to promote regressive redistribution within and between countries, producing benefits in some parts of Europe and for some groups while exacerbating them in other parts and for other groups, thus leading to new forms and degrees of inequalities in Europe.

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### Professor Jonathan Beaverstock, Professor of International Management

My research focuses on highly skilled professional and managerial international labour migration and mobilities between global financial centres, triggered through inter-company transfers (in global banks and financial and professional service firms) and self-initiated movements. This research explores both demand (firm) and supply (labour) side factors which: (1) compel such elite labour, which I have referred to as transnational managerial elites, to circulate between global financial centres as an essential internationalisation strategy of knowledge-intensive firms; and (2) produce elite world city transnational communities through their exclusive social, cultural, economic and 'networked' practices.

I am also interested in the agency of transnational professionals in the production and circulation of knowledge within/between organisations and their role in the competitiveness of global financial centres. Recent work has focused on international business travel in knowledge intensive organisations and the role of global talent pools and 'pipelines' in the competitiveness of London's fintech economy.

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### Migrants and systemic resilience: a global COVID-19 research and policy hub (Mig-Res-Hub)

Professor Bridget Anderson, University of Bristol, and Professor Martin Ruhs, Migration Policy Centre (MPC), European University Institute (EUI)

The primary aim of Mig-Res-Hub is to facilitate global and comparative research on how migrant labour shapes the vulnerability and resilience of essential economic sectors and public services to the current COVID-19 crisis and to similar (and likely) pandemic shocks in the future, and to discuss the implications and options for future immigration and other public policies around the world. There is little doubt that epidemics and pandemics will happen again, but their effects will depend critically on human action including efforts to improve the resilience of the provision of essential goods and services.

The Hub will concentrate on three essential sectors around the world – the food production sector, health services, and social care – and their associated cross-country supply chains. A particular focus will be on exploring how the relationship between reliance on migrant workers and the systemic resilience of the food, health, and care sectors vary across countries with different institutional and policy frameworks for the provision of these essential services. Mig-Res-Hub will take a global approach and include countries and supply chains covering all major regions of the world.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

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### Migration, development and global transformations

Ann Singleton, Senior Research Fellow, School for Policy Studies

The Migration, Development and Global Transformations (MDGT) programme brings together World University Network (WUN) migration researchers and data experts in a research incubation activity supported by ongoing research and policy collaboration between the University of Bristol and the International Organization for Migration's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre.

Some migration policy areas are already relatively well researched, such as remittance costs, trafficking and many dimensions of labour migration. Others remain as 'hidden' forms of migration, and often are indicators of new and emerging dynamics of migration and development. These dimensions include South-South migration, the 'hidden economy', intra-regional migration, internal and urban-urban migration, the production of vulnerability, the importance of a rights agenda and the significance of gender analysis. A further crucial gap lies in policy. Policy failures such as those evident in the Mediterranean humanitarian crisis, highlighted the need for a clear policy focus in migration research in the coming decade, something that will require collaboration between and across the disciplines.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

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## Globalising luxuries

Dr Tamar Hodos, Reader in Mediterranean Archaeology

The Globalising Luxuries project is a collaboration between Bristol University and the British Museum to explore the production and distribution of luxury objects around the wider ancient Mediterranean world. It seeks to integrate the skilled craftsmen and traders into the social narrative of luxury object manufacture and dissemination.

The project emphasises the variety of people involved in production and exchange in the past, and well as shared and divergent social practices of materials in common. The significance of this approach does not lie just in learning more about the ancient world. It is applicable to contemporary society because of our own social relationships with the material world. Today, the same object may concurrently have overlapping and different social or symbolic meanings for diverse populations, while its production and distribution connects people in complex ways across time and place. Understanding the relationships between our social lives and material worlds helps us foster better relationships with one another, especially when overcoming social and cultural differences. Objects 'belong' to many more than just their final consumers. Luxuries – in the past and present – extend across the full spectrum of society in any era.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

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## Re-visiting child sex tourism, re-thinking business responses

Professor Julia O'Connell Davidson, Professor in Social Research

The phenomenon of 'child sex tourism' (often now discussed as a form of 'modern slavery') has been a focus of concern and action for more than two decades. Child rights NGOs have lobbied very successfully for more robust legislation against the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and greater international cooperation amongst law enforcers to target perpetrators. Anti-child-sex-tourism campaigning has spurred industry-driven, corporate social responsibility responses, such as The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism, with a mission to provide awareness, tools and support to the tourism industry in order to prevent CSEC. Yet, a recent global study by ECPAT (2016) concludes that despite these efforts, the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism 'has expanded across the globe and out-paced every attempt to respond at the international and national level'.

This project explores whether patterns of sex tourism have changed over the past 20 years. Have NGO-led efforts to raise-awareness of child sex tourism altered the attitudes and practices of tourists? Have industry led CSEC education and training initiatives actually reached front-line tourism workers in Jamaica? A known barrier to rolling such initiatives out to tourism workers is the fact that many are in transient, temporary and poorly paid jobs. Moreover, in Global South contexts, many local people are unable to secure even precarious employment in the formal tourism sector. Instead, they are left to 'hustle' a living in the informal tourism economy by providing a range of services. For a small number, this includes sexual services.

More information on the MMB project page [here](#).

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## Working for 'five a day': risk and resilience in the food system. A multi-sited ethnography of the labour that feeds one city

Dr Lydia Medland, British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

Food security is a major concern as the UK moves towards exiting the European Union. For many decades, rural sociology and economic geography have been of little interest to the public, yet in the wake of economically reconfiguring agricultural systems, it is of renewed significance. With Bristol as its urban starting point, this project will explore the changing social context that provides the UK with its government-recommended 'five a day'. As the UK is about to undergo radical change in areas of trade and subsidy arrangements, livelihoods are at risk, which also means that 50% of food produced and consumed in the UK is under question. Through a methodology that examines five enclaves of fruit and vegetable production, this project will explore who is bearing the costs of risks to our food system.

The project will also consider how food insecurity intersects with migration and mobility. Many seasonal workers are EU citizens, yet this is likely to change. This project will research how the composition of workers transforms as the UK-EU relationship changes. The current Seasonal Workers Pilot programme may be expanded and this could change working relationships as workers from outside the EU would not have the same rights.

More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

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## The Citizenship Industry

Dr Sarah Kunz, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

This project, funded by a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship, examines Citizenship-by-Investment (CBI) with a focus on the powerful 'Citizenship Industry' – the corporate sector developing, managing and promoting CBI. While international borders are hardening, CBI is expanding and multiple passports are fast becoming a prime status symbol of the global super-rich. This project examines CBI and its reformulation of citizenship, redrafting of state-corporate relationships, commodification of mobility and reworking of global inequality. The project maps the 'new geographies of belonging' of the super-rich and explores how wealth accumulation and migration are becoming increasingly interlinked projects. More information on the MMB project webpage [here](#).

Sarah is also working on book that is an ethnographic account of the category 'expatriate' across three sites and explores what the transformations and shifting alliances of the category reveal about broader reconfigurations of power in a postcolonial world.

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