

International Conference on Labor Migration and Industrial Citizenship

Albanians on the move - Citizenship, identity and development

University of New York Tirana

Tirana, 13th and 14th November, 2015

Call for papers

There exist a growing body of literature, academic and policy interest on migrant status, conditions and involvement in the labor markets of the host societies. The labor market and its institutions provide one of the most visible political arenas, in which the position of the migrant is being negotiated, defined and governed. It has long been noted that recent and temporary immigrants 'self-exploit' or allow themselves to be employed under conditions which native workers would not accept (Piori 1979), and migrants from Albania and Kosovo have been no exception to this. Nonetheless, as time goes on and integration proceeds immigrants begin to demand the same security and protection as natives. There is little research on the status, attitudes and strategies Albanian migrants from Albania and Kosovo employ to integrate and succeed in the labour market in diverse EU countries. During the past few years, labor mobility from Albania and Kosovo toward EU countries has intensified while new trends of return and circular migration have emerged. Notions of identity, belonging, integration and (several forms of) citizenship are challenged by the new forms of mobility. How do these impact the development of industrial citizenship among migrants from Albania and Kosovo?

This conference aims to contribute to this ongoing debate and proposes to draw together studies that engage with the current transformation of the politics of labor migration, the meaning of 'migrant(s)' and their changing positionality into the labor market in the host society. It intends to explore the formation of industrial citizenship for Albanian labor migrants (both from Albania and from Kosovo) in the time of austerity. It gives more nuances to the woes of (often) unprotected migrants and focuses on the strategies and attitudes Albanian labour migrants in several EU countries, such as Italy, Greece, Switzerland and Germany, employ in the search for economic security. The conference further discusses:

- Labor migration flows (permanent, temporary, circular and return) at different levels; for example how migrant workers negotiate and express their industrial citizenship, (e.g., in implicit and explicit, actions, attitudes or behaviours).
- How the global economic crisis has affected migrants in EU labour markets?
- What are the migrant strategies of adaption?
- What the union strategies to organize and represent migrants are?
- How migrants respond to competitive labor market norms.
- How the normative dimension affects the incorporation of migrants in the host country society and labor market?
- What the measures and policies governments take to foster migrant issues, etc. are?

This conference is organized as joint collaboration between University of New York Tirana, University of Prishtina and the University of Jyväskylä, in the framework of the project "Industrial Citizenship and Migration from Western Balkans: Case studies from Albania and Kosovo migration towards Greece,

Germany and Switzerland”. This project is supported by [Regional Research Promotion Programme¹](#).

The Conference will hold specialized paper presentation panels. The conference will attract scholars of migration with different disciplinary backgrounds. The aims of the call is to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers, policy-makers, students, and practitioners and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of migration. We plan to combine empirical and theoretical work to answer these questions but slightly favour papers with an empirical approach in disciplines where such research is done.

Topics of interest include:

1. Labor migration and industrial citizenship
2. Labor market segmentation - Precarious and flexible work
3. Negotiate the boundaries of legitimacy/illegitimacy
4. Union strategies to organize and represent migrants
5. Agency of migrant workers - Between integration and stigmatization
6. Return Migration and reintegration strategies
7. Citizenship, identity and migration
8. Diasporas, social and financial remittances
9. Feminization of labor migration
10. Gender, family and migration

Keynote speakers²:

Nathan Lillie, Professor of Social Policy, Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Dr. Lillie directed the European Research Consortium funded project “Transnational Work and Evolution of Sovereignty” on the regulation of posted work in the European Union, and is currently directing the Academy of Finland funded project “Industrial Citizenship and Labour Mobility in the EU: a Migrant Centered Study of Estonia-Finland and Albania-Italy Labour Mobility.” His main area of research is labour migration and industrial relations.

Dr.A.(Ajay)Bailey, Assistant Professor in Population Studies, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen, Netherlands. Dr. Bailey works as Researcher and Training Co-coordinator at the Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen. His research interests include migration, demography, anthropology and health policy & services. He has been Principal Investigator in several Research Projects such as: “The Migrant Suitcase: examining the flow of norms, practices, identities and social capital between India and the Netherlands”; “Ageing and Well-being in a Globalising World”; “Care from India: exploring Indian nurse migration and reception in Northern Netherlands”.

¹The RRPP is coordinated and operated by the Interfaculty Institute for Central and Eastern Europe (IICEE) at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). The Local Coordination Unit in Albania is the Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM). The programme is fully funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

² Keynote speakers to be confirmed [Anna Triandafyllidou](#) and [Russell King](#)

Paper Submission guidelines

The official language of the conference is English. If you wish to present a paper at the Conference please submit an abstract in English language (no more than 300 words) and a short bio to ICMwesternbalkan@unyt.edu.al. Please subject the heading “ICM_Name_Surname” and attach abstracts. Use APA style; please see [abstract and full paper guidelines](#). All abstracts will be evaluated by members of scientific committee. No participation fee will be charged for participants as the conference is supported financially both by RRPP and University of New York Tirana.

Important Dates

- 05.10.2015** Submission deadline for all abstracts
- 05.11.2015** Full paper deliverance
- 25.10.2015** Notification of selection for abstracts
- 01.11.2015** Deadline for registration
- 13.11.2015** Opening of the Conference

Proceeding and Publication in Journal

All accepted and registered abstracts will be published in the conference proceedings with ISBN. A selection of best papers from the conference will be considered for publication in a special issue or edited volume in an international journal of migration studies.

Transport Venue, Travel & accommodation information

The conference takes place at the campus of [University of New York Tirana](#). The campus is located at Kodra e Diellit, Tirana, Albania. Tel + 355 4 4512345. Information on how to reach the UNYT can be found [here](#). A mini bus that goes from Wisdom University at Komuna e Parisit (UNYT old campus) to UNYT campus will be provided free of charge for conference participants.

Coming in Tirana:

By plane: Tirana International Airport Nene Tereza

By public transport: Rinas Express operates 12 hours (6 am to 6 pm) as an hourly bus service between the Airport and the National Museum in the centre of Tirana. The single fare is 250 Albanian Leke.

By Taxi: Contact: Phone: +355 4 2222 122. Mobile: +355 66 20 80191, +355 66 20 08873. Tirana Airport taxi service is provided by ATEshpk.www.atex.al. The journey from Tirana to the airport takes 20–25 minutes, depending on traffic, and costs about 2,500 Leke (18 EUR) one way.

City Map: You can use the city map of Tirana for more detailed route information within the city.

Explore Tirana—Search for restaurants, shops, monuments, museums, views. etc. See [Tirana in Your Pocket](#)

Accommodation in Tirana

For other accommodation opportunities in Tirana and/or booking, please click to see the extended list of [Hotels in Tirana](#).

Contact us

You may contact conference coordinators at ICMwesternbalkan@unyt.edu.al or armelaxhaho@unyt.edu.al for any questions about the conference or paper submissions. Mobile :+355 67 4147534



Information on the ICM Project

For more information on the project “Industrial Citizenship and Migration from Western Balkans. Case studies from Albania and Kosovo migration towards Greece, Germany and Switzerland” please visit our website www.icm-westernbalkans.com and RRPP website <http://www.rrpp-westernbalkans.net/en/research/Current-Projects/Migration/Industrial-Citizenship-and-Migration.html>

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