

Kingston Seminar Series



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„Migrationsforscher? Ist das überhaupt ein Beruf?“

Migration researcher – is that even a profession?

Asylum and refugees – a European view

Presentation University of Kingston

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- Transmigration as a dynamic phenomenon
- Migration and Refugees
- Current developments
- Social integration
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- Labour market
- Germany & UK in comparison

Transmigration as a dynamic phenomenon

- Pionier migrants in former times and today?
- Lower East Side, New York Slum or Springboard?
- Mobility: Life in different locations + varied networks
- Commuting: all age groups
- Transmigration as an economic factor
- Desirable: Highly qualified, educational & professional mobility
- Undesirable: mobile „Illegal Migration“?
- Economic and Social space: Migratory area of the Mediterranean?

Migration and Refugees

- Increasing Inequality in a national and global context
- Labour Migration/Refugees/Education & Training migration/Family Reunion/Elders migration
- Migration of Experts/highly qualified
- Migratory Pressure in Mediterranean + Areas of Crisis
- Defensive Policy of EU: Roll of Frontex. „Bullwark“ Türkei?
- Massive forced migration movements, „failed states“
- Drastic increase in numbers of refugees = + 200.000 (2014),2015 1 Million +
- Mediterranean: „Fortress Europe“, „controlled immigration“, Mass grave?

Current developments in Germany

- Chancellor Merkel Summer, 2015 „We‘ll manage it!“ Why?
- Resistance CSU (Bavaria), Pegida, AfD
- Huge civil society mobilisation (1:10)
- E. European lack of solidarity, Agreement with Turkey
- Right Wing populism: Front National, Ukip
- Migration shift from Balkan route back to Mediterranean
- Merkel on defensive, v. few asylum seekers reaching Germany now
- Focus on Integration: social & educational + labour market

Social integration

- Asylum applications: BAMF
- Reception centres + hostels
- Local authorities mobilised, e.g. Regensburg
- Language courses, integration programme, voluntary
- Voluntary sector support networks
- Restrictive definitions of „safe countries of origin“ (Balkans, W. Africa) = removal
- Large numbers of social workers, language teachers, therapists

Education sector integration

- Demographic factor + skills shortages
- Kindergarten, primary school, intercultural skills
- Transitional classes in schools
- Ca. 70,000 unaccompanied minors, specialist support
- Vocational training programmes, 16 + (Bavaria), Dual System.
2016-17: 22,000 pupils
- Apprenticeships, targeted skills training with Labour Offices et al
- Psychotherapy for the traumatised? „Refugio“, child and youth psychiatrists, role of interpreters

Labour market

- Role of Employer Associations, Mittelstand
- Rapid access to labour market, „resource orientation“
- Companies, SME s: expectations of asylum seekers?
- Regional discrepancies: depopulation & boom areas
- E. & W. Germany, differing migration traditions
- Asylum seekers & „life-long learning“
- Long term integration as societal task

Germany & UK in comparison

- Role of „Brexit“ – mainland Europe view
- UK Demographic factor + skills shortage?
- „Little England“ policy? Who’s the „bogey man“?
- Rigorous control of migration
- Local level integration of asylum seekers and Migrants?
- Social & residential situation?
- Educational and job market integration?

- Many thanks for listening!