Public Lecture Series Fall 2015
Dynamics of Inequalities in Migration Regimes

—
Thursday, 8 October 2015
The Transnational Social Question: Inequalities and Exclusions in Cross-Border Migration
Prof. Thomas Faist
Department of Sociology, University of Heidelberg

Discussant: Prof. Giuliano Bonoli, University of Lausanne and nccr – on the move

18:15 – 19:45 h, University of Neuchatel, Rue Abraham Louis Breguet 1, Lecture Hall 301

Abstract
On a world scale, distress and social instability are reminiscent of the living conditions that obtained in a large part of nineteenth-century Europe. At that time the „social question“ was the central subject of extremely volatile political conflicts between the ruling classes and working-class movements. Are we now on the verge of a new social conflict, this time on a transnational scale, characterized by manifold boundaries – such as those between capital and labor, North and South, developed and underdeveloped or developing countries? Looking at cross-border migration, this lecture exemplifies
crucial mechanisms resulting in the reproduction of old inequalities and the emergence of new inequalities. In particular, the “transnational social question” relates to political conflicts around the inequalities surrounding cross-border immigration and emigration.

**Curriculum Vitae**
Thomas Faist is Professor for Sociology and Deputy Dean at the Faculty of Sociology at Bielefeld University and deputy director of the Collaborative Research Centre 882, “From Heterogeneities to Inequalities”. He is one of the leading European scholars concerned with the interplay between transnational relations, citizenship, social policy, development and migration. His current research focuses on the transnational social question. Thomas Faist is a member of the editorial boards of *Ethnic and Racial Studies, Social Problems, South Asian Diaspora, Social Inclusion*, and the *Pakistan Journal of Social Issues*.

**Selected Publications**