



Public Lecture Series Spring 2016

Transnational Perspectives and Future Prospects of Migration and Mobility

—
Thursday, 28 April 2016

The Prospects of International Migration Governance

Prof. Andrew Geddes

Department of Politics, University of Sheffield

Discussant: Dr. Tobias Eule, Law Faculty, University of Bern

18:15–19:45 h, **University of Bern**, Hochschulstrasse 4, Main Building, Kuppelsaal

Abstract

This lecture explores the understandings and judgments of actors in migration governance systems about the scale and impact of international migration on current and future institutional responses.

How do the relevant actors in migration governance systems understand the causes and effects of migration? Are the drivers seen as likely to remain constant or might new drivers emerge?

How does cognitive reasoning about causes and effects of migration connect with normative assessments of what should be done? How do the judgments of the relevant actors affect current and future multilayered migration governance?

Drawing from original interview material with around 180 elite level actors (such as political leaders, officials, business groups, NGOs and think tanks) in the EU, US and Canada, the lecture will explore

how migration crises in Europe and North America must also be understood as political crises, precisely because of the essentially political character of the cognitive and normative processes in the core of the administration and of policy making. Particularly, these understandings and judgement do account for risks and uncertainties that are inherent in any decision-making procedure and that abound in the area of migration governance. Thus, they will play an important role in shaping institutional responses to international migration in all its forms.

These issues matter for three reasons. First, theoretically, focusing on the context of choice and decision facilitates analysis of issue ‘framing’ and its relation to broader systemic dynamics. Second, methodologically, there is a justifiable tendency for research into migration governance to focus on the outputs of migration governance systems (such as laws and policies), instead of inquiring the views and motivations of actors co-producing these outcomes. And third, empirically, there is scope for significant variation in the shape and form of multilayered migration governance within and between regions in terms of policies and approaches. The presented perspective helps to understand the significant uncertainty about the future development of these governance systems and the inscribed ideas about normality and crisis therein.

Curriculum Vitae

Andrew Geddes is Professor of Politics and Co-Director of the Faculty of Social Sciences Migration Research Group at the University of Sheffield, UK. For the period 2014–2019 he has been awarded an Advanced Investigator Grant by the European Research Council for a project that analyses the drivers of migration governance through comparative analysis of Asia-Pacific, Europe, North America and South America. His new book, co-authored with Peter Scholten, *The Politics of Migration and Immigration in Europe*, will be published by Sage in summer 2016.

Selected Publications

- A. Geddes and P. Scholten (2016, in press). *The Politics of Migration and Immigration in Europe*. 2nd edition, London: Sage.
- A. Geddes and A. Taylor (2015). ‘Those who knock on Europe’s door must repent? Bilateral border disputes, domestic mobilisation and EU enlargement’, *Political Studies*, ahead of print.
- A. Geddes and A. Taylor (2015). ‘In the shadow of fortress Europe? Impacts of European migration governance on Slovenia, Croatia and Macedonia’, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*: 1–19.
- A. Geddes (2014). ‘The EU, UKIP and the Politics of Immigration in Britain’, *The Political Quarterly*, 85(3): 289–295.
- D. Acosta and A. Geddes (2014). ‘Transnational Diffusion or Different Models? Regional Approaches to Migration Governance in the European Union and MERCOSUR’, *European Journal of Migration and Law*, 16(1): 19–44.
- A. Taylor, A. Geddes and C. Lees (2012). *The European Union and South East Europe: The Dynamics of Multi-Level Governance and Europeanisation*. London: Routledge.
- A. Geddes (ed.) (2011). *International Migration*. Sage Library of International Relations, London: Sage, 4 volume set.
- C. Boswell and A. Geddes (2011). *Migration and Mobility in the European Union*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- R. Black, N. Adger, N. Arnell, S. Dercon, A. Geddes and D. Thomas (2011). ‘The effects of environmental change on human migration’, *Global Environmental Change*, 21 S1: S3–S11.
- A. Geddes (2007). *Immigration and European Integration: Beyond Fortress Europe?*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.