Restricting Immigration: Practices, Experiences and Resistance

International Workshop
University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland
18 May 2018

Program
Enforcing migration control implies making choices about who is allowed to enter and/or stay in the national territory and who is not, thus producing categories and processes of inclusion and exclusion. Exclusion is defined as a status and process, by which a person or categories of persons are deprived of access to and participation in opportunities, resources and rights.

This international workshop gathers researchers studying different countries and investigating how the exclusion of migrants trying to enter or requested to leave a country is practiced, experienced, and contested by several actors involved. The papers focus on two fields of practices: border control and immigration detention. The starting point of this workshop is that any legal provision is translated into practices by field actors who have a certain room for maneuver in the way they implement it. Thus, it is important to study their role, agency and power in order to understand the functioning of the state and of the exclusion of “unwanted foreigners”.

The six contributions to this workshop adopt a perspective interested not only in law, regimes and apparatus, but also in concrete actors who experience and implement rules and policies. Thus, this workshop is the occasion to compare the exclusion policies through bordering practices and immigration detention in Switzerland with three other European cases: France, Italy, and the United Kingdom.

Registration
Participation in the workshop is free, but please register until 16 May 2018 by sending an e-mail to: jonathan.miaz@unine.ch.
Friday, 18 May 2018
Avenue du 1er Mars 26 (Main Building), Room C56

08:45–09:00
Welcome and Introduction
Christin Achermann, Jonathan Miaz and Laura Rezzonico, nccr – on the move, University of Neuchâtel

09:00–10:00
Alex Hall, Department of Politics, University of York
Detect, Decide, Deter, Detain: The Visual Regimes of Border Control
Discussant: Simon Noori, Department of Geography, University of Zurich

10:00–11:00
Laura Rezzonico, nccr – on the move, University of Neuchâtel
Enforcing Crimmigration Control: Role Perception and Experiences of Prison Officers in the Exclusion of Unwanted Migrants
Discussant: Alex Hall, Department of Politics, University of York

11:00–11:30 Coffee Break

11:30–12:30
Jonathan Miaz, nccr – on the move, University of Neuchâtel
Deciding to Detain. How Immigration Bureaucrats Rule Administrative Detention in Swiss Cantons
Discussant: Tobias Eule, Institute of Public Law, University of Bern

12:30–14:00 Lunch Break

14:00–15:00
Nicolas Fischer, Centre de recherche sociologique sur le droit et les institutions pénales (CESDIP), Guyancourt
Negotiating Border Enforcement: Independent Lawyers inside French Immigration Detention Centers and Their Impact on Deportations
Discussant: Giada de Coulon, Vivre Ensemble, Genève

15:00–16:00
Giuseppe Campesi, Department of Political Science, University of Bari Aldo Moro
Detaining the Dangerous Mobility: Immigration Detention and Urban Security in Italy
Discussant: İlker Ataç, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

16:00–16:30 Coffee Break

16:30–17:30
Christin Achermann, nccr – on the move, University of Neuchâtel
Border Guards’ Use of Discretion: Performing the ‘Border Spectacle’ through Mundane Work
Discussant: Anna Wyss, Institute of Sociology, University of Bern, and Laboratory for the Study of Social Processes, University of Neuchâtel

17:30–18:00
Wrap-up and General Discussion

Starting 19:00 Dinner
Les Bains des Dames, Quai Louis Perrier 1, 2000 Neuchâtel
(Registration for the dinner: jonathan.miaz@unine.ch)