



## Public Lecture

—

**Monday, 26 October 2020**

**Does Immigration Increase Crime? Migration Policy and the  
Creation of the Criminal Immigrant**

—

**Prof. Francesco Fasani, Queen Mary University of London**

**Moderation: Michaela Slotwinski, University of Basel**

18:15 – 19:45 h

Location: University of Lausanne, Building Amphimax, Room 414

The Public Lecture will be followed by an aperitif

Please note: the Public Lecture might be canceled or (partially) held online depending on the situation with COVID-19.

### **Abstract**

Francesco Fasani presents and discusses his work "Do migrants lead to an increase of crime rates in their host societies?" that he co-authored with Giovanni Mastrobuoni (University of Essex), Emily G. Owens (University of California), and Paolo Pinotti (Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi). This highly contentious issue has become a mainstay in the political debate and a lightning rod for the galvanization of populist movements, despite often lacking any empirical support. In this game-changing book, the authors examine what the existing data actually says, and provide their own novel evidence on the immigration-crime connection. Taking the unusual approach of analyzing the subject from an economic perspective, the authors build on the pioneering work of Nobel Prize winner Gary Becker to construct their innovative arguments. By considering evidence from different countries, with a focus on establishing causal relationships, the authors are able to analyze not only if migrants do cause crime but also whether migration policies can play a role in shaping incentives for migrants to engage in crime.

### **Curriculum Vitae**

Francesco Fasani is an Associate Professor at the School of Economics and Finance, Queen Mary University of London. He is a Research Affiliate at CEPR (Centre for Economic Policy Research) and a Research Fellow at CReAM (Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration) and IZA (Institute for the Study of Labor, Bonn).

### **Selected Publication**

- Francesco Fasani, Giovanni Mastrobuoni, Emily G. Owens, Paolo Pinotti (2019). *Does Immigration Increase Crime? Migration Policy and the Creation of the Criminal Immigrant*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.