



Public Lecture

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Thursday, 28 October 2021

**News Representations of Migration: Humanitarian Responsibility
in ‘Crisis’?**

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Kerry Moore, Cardiff University

**Discussants: Myria Georgiou (London School of Economics and
Political Science) and Gianni D’Amato (University of Neuchâtel)**

18:15 – 19:45 h

The Public Lecture will be held online on Webex and streamed on the nccr – on the move YouTube channel

Webex link: <https://unine.webex.com/unine-fr/j.php?MTID=m6817a9f46c2dcdd3fb9a1f98205b1e42>
(Password: NCCR)

Abstract

The 2014-16 refugee crisis in the Mediterranean brought into sharp focus the hugely difficult and dangerous journeys of asylum seekers and undocumented migrants seeking safety in Europe. Although ‘the crisis’ may have receded from regular news agendas, life-threatening migrant journeys to and within Europe continue, and cross-border mobility restrictions attendant to the global COVID-19 pandemic have added a further dynamic to public concerns about migration. In the UK, the recent escalations of attempted ‘boat crossings’ to the south coast of England have revived long-standing ‘crisis’ narratives surrounding refugees. In this lecture, I will be drawing on evidence from my research into the news coverage of forced migration from the early 2000s to the present, demonstrating how news media representations ‘in times of crisis’ have often been characterized by shifting anxieties between a humanitarian concern to save lives and securitizing logics more focused on better policing European and national borders. The concept of ‘crisis’ I will argue, has been central to these slippery public discourses on migration - both contributing to the spectacularization of migration in news and playing a central role in discursive strategies that diminish or deny the salience of humanitarian priorities. The lecture will conclude with a reflection on the role and status of humanitarianism in migration news, including whether humanitarian responsibility can indeed be said to be, in ‘crisis’.

Curriculum Vitae

Kerry Moore is Senior Lecturer in the School of Journalism, Media and Culture at the Cardiff University. Her research explores media and political discourses surrounding migration, racism, and social injustice. She has published extensively in these areas, including the co-edited book “Migrations and the Media” with Bernhard Gross and Terry Threadgold (2012) and a Special Issue for Jomec Journal on the Meaning of Migration (2015). Her most recent published work focuses on European press coverage of the migration crisis in the Mediterranean; immigration politics, populism and Brexit, human rights in refugee news, and constructions of racism in UK crime news. She is a founding Co-Editor of the JOMEC Journal and serves on the editorial board of the journal Journalism and Discourse Studies. She is also Chair of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion for the School of Journalism, Media, and Culture.

Selected Publications

- Moore, K. and Lloyd, S. M. (2020). *Reporting on Poverty: News Media Narratives and Third Sector Communications in Wales*. Cardiff: Cardiff University Press.
- Moore, K., Berry, M. and Garcia-Blanco, I. (2018). Saving Refugees or Policing the Seas? How the National Press of Five EU Member States Framed News Coverage of the Migration Crisis, *Justice, Power and Resistance* 2(1), 66–95.
- Moore, K. and Greenland, K. (2018). Racism as a Crime in Britain’s Right-Wing Press. In: *Bhatia, M., Poynting, S. and Tufail, W. eds. Media, Crime and Racism*. Palgrave Macmillan, 213–233.
- Moore, K. (2017). Media, Human Rights and Refugees. In: Tumber, H. and Waisbord, S. (eds.). *The Routledge Companion to Media and Human Rights, Vol. 1*. Abingdon, Oxon, UK & New York: Routledge, 446–455.
- Moore, K. (2015). Editorial: The Meaning of Migration. *JOMEC Journal* (7), 1–6.
- Moore, K., Gross, B. and Threadgold, T. R. eds. (2012). *Migrations and the Media. Global Crises and the Media Vol. 6*. New York: Peter Lang.