Public Lecture
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Thursday, 20 January 2022
Migration Studies and Colonialism
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Lucy Mayblin, University of Sheffield

Discussant: Pap Ndiaye, Sciences Po Paris | Palais de la Porte Dorée

16:00 – 17:30 h
The Public Lecture will be held online on Webex and streamed on YouTube:

Webex link: https://unine.webex.com/unine-fr/j.php?MTID=m86e6a932f6d72e3fb07c779bfb39757
(Password: NCCR)

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdRZdgZCOKo
Abstract
The history of migration is deeply entangled with colonialism. To this day, colonial logics continue to shape the dynamics of migration as well as the responses of states to those arriving at their borders. And yet migration studies have been surprisingly slow to engage with colonial histories in making sense of migratory phenomena today. Discussing the themes developed in the book ‘Migration Studies and Colonialism’ (Polity Press, 2021), this lecture starts from the premise that colonial histories should be central to migration studies and explores what it would mean to really take that seriously. To engage with this task, it argues that scholars need not forge new theories but must learn from and be inspired by the wealth of literature that already exists across the world for doing just this. Providing a range of inspiring and challenging perspectives on migration, the aim of the book is to demonstrate what paying attention to colonialism, through using the tools offered by postcolonial, decolonial and related scholarship, can offer those studying international migration today.

Curriculum Vitae
Lucy Mayblin is Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Sheffield. Her research focuses on asylum, human rights, policy-making, and the legacies of colonialism. She is author of three books: Asylum After Empire (2017), Impoverishment and Asylum (2019) and Migration Studies and Colonialism (2021). She was recently awarded the UK Philip Leverhulme Prize for her research achievements in the area of asylum and migration.

Selected Publications