Neuchâtel Graduate Conference 2023

In which role did you participate in the conference? (multiple answers)

- I gave a presentation: 32
- I attended but did no active role: 7
- I was speaker in one plenary event: 3
- I chaired parallel session(s): 2
- I acted as mentor on session(s): 2
- I acted as member of the staff: 1

How did you hear about the Conference? (multiple answers)

- via members of the NCCR: 16
- social media (Twitter): 8
- Other (please specify): 7
- past participations: 7
- E-News of the NCCR: 6
- mailing to research institutions: 6
- at another conference: 1

What did you most appreciate about the conference?

- the good amount of time allocated to the presentations
- the diversity of the conferences
- the diversity of presentation
- its informal atmosphere (the party was very nice, and the quiz a great idea to get to know new people!) and excellent organisation
- comprehensive feedback on my presentation, wonderful atmosphere
- buzz
- The wide range of studies presented on different perspectives. It was an insightfull moment to think about the most relevant aspects of migration.
- The supportive and informal environment
- The round table discussion
- The organization and the panel themes, it had a wide-range of topics and everything was planned well.
- The organization and the diversity of participant in their field, subjec and origin
- The location, the people, the organisers!
- The keynotes and roundtable. The entire program was amazingly well organized and sessions informative
- The hosts were really helpful throughout the application and funding process.
- The hospitality
- The format of the panels: there was enough time to discuss and receive quality feedback fromm mentors and other participants
- The diversity of topics/participants and the amazing sense of hospitality by the local team!
- The discussions that had place after the presentations, between panelists and the audience
The discussions at the conference, at most of the panels I attended was very informed, and in line with the latest research in migration and mobility studies. I found that to be very engaging and stimulating for me. The panels discussing academic inequalities and questions of justice within migration studies were much-appreciated and unique when compared to most other conferences on migration. The overall organisation of the conference was fantastic, the facilitation of participation to the conference was very well executed.

The conference was educative, the themes covered many subjects which enabled transdisciplinary engagement. There was a fair representation of delegates.

The conference always manages to gather really interesting research and has a great atmosphere among participants and organisers.

The close knit community of researchers, the diversity of researchers’ geographical backgrounds.

Stimulating, friendly environment and enough time for feedback per paper. Amazing side events, diverse crowd. Well organized.

Robin and the organizing committee.

Research and Knowledge shared from different scholars in different geographical context is important for knowledge production and shaping existing narratives.

Really appreciated the atmosphere and overall organization of the whole conference. Everything went smoothly.

Networking opportunities and feedback from the mentor on the paper.

Its friendly and informal atmosphere.

It was well organized, very warm people and good feedback.

Intimate sphere of the event with people from various walks of life - support for researchers to come to the event.

I really liked the great organisation, and the friendly atmosphere during the conference. The time allocated for each presentation and the breaks was really well balanced. I really liked also the evening event which also had a very fun atmosphere.

I really enjoyed the lively discussions in both the panel I presented my work, as well as in other events.

I loved the peer to peer learning by grouping sessions.

Great quality of presentations, excellent organisation and meeting brilliant fellow researchers.

Great feedback, excellent organisation, nice community.

Atmosphere and quality of exchanges among young academic scholars.

1) Diversity - the researchers’ global diversity enabled us to contrast our studies among different contexts and expand our networking.

2) Time for socializing - the time and options for socializing and exchanging between panels and after formal sections were a good strategy for expanding knowledge and projects.

3) The organization's team - all people involved in the organization had a great willingness to make this global and diverse conference happen despite the challenges.
What did you least appreciate about the conference?

the short length and the heat in the rooms
the heat
the first plenary lecture, but this has more to do with the content of the lecture than with the organisational part
that I couldn’t attend more
some of the people presenting had not really prepared their presentation
We didn’t have much time to present, maybe 3 persons per panel is better than 4.
Unfortunately the heat (out of our control!)
Too short, I think that on extra day would enable to enjoy more the many interesting panels and to benefit of more time for exchanging with the great colleagues, especially those coming from far away
Too short!
There were too many sessions making it difficult to attend the ones I was interested in because most of them were overlapping with one another.
The parallel session does not allow attending several interesting talks
The organizers did a good job, everything was on point
The key note by Mathias Czaika did not fit well with the otherwise very diverse, rich and critical conference.
The hybrid participation in some panels was a challenge, and some participants online could not fully collaborate in the debate.
The heat in the rooms made the some sessions uncomfortable.
Temperature Heat in the venues
Nothing! Just minor thing: I think it is best to not recommend the Neuchatel City Hotel, it was rather noisy and old, and I wasn’t able to rest well there. Heard that from more people who attended. But this is a minor thing, I loved the conference!
NA
It was too hot inside.
It was a bit too hot in the rooms, but don’t know if it actually could be fixed somehow...
I think this was unavoidable but the time as usually was really short
I regretted not being able to go to some sessions because this year there were more parallel sessions. It would have been good if the organizers were able to make the presentations from all the panels available through a common dropbox or google drive.
I felt that some of the panels did not resonate adequately with the theme and the papers presented. The conference needs more inclusion and representation from outside Europe. Also, food can be better.
Food, lol. May be outsourcing food from restaurants would be good.
Everything was great about the conference (though we probably needed more bottles of water because of the heat and lack of air conditioning in facilities).
Due to parallel panels it was impossible to listen to all presentations
Besides the heat there is nothing I did not appreciate
Because of overlapping panels I didn’t manage to attend some papers I would have liked to
A packed schedule, unbearably hot rooms, and limited food options.
Satisfaction with the overall organization of the Conference

| Approachability of the organizers | 6 | 35 |
| Information during the conference | 1 | 4 | 3 | 33 |
| Responsiveness to your queries | 3 | 4 | 34 |
| Clear information before | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 27 |
| Timely information before | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 25 |

0 (not satisfied at all)  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10 (very satisfied)

How we can improve for next year?

increase the number of days to 3

Very well done!

Though there was an attempt to include presenters from different parts of the world, the mentors were mainly from the Global North and not all of them had enough idea about other geographical areas making it difficult to receive unbiased feedback and engage in effective conversations.

Tell presenters to send their papers more in advance (I thought only those competing for the award had to send their paper, but then was asked to send the paper within one week which was short notice - but maybe I was confused myself and didn’t read the information right)

See my comment on not recommending the Neuchatel City Hotel :) Other than that, AMAZING, thanks so much.

One extra day included

More smaller dialogue sessions that highlight comparative aspects in the global south. What will also assist is a session on research and publication collaboration

More representation, diverse voices and better food.

Maybe it would be good to have the room numbers better presented in the schedule. It was a bit confusing before the conference to understand where does it take place, e.g the opening part.

Make the conference 3-day long

It would be useful to get more information about Neuchatel and accommodation options at the time of the selection

If you accept contibutions other than papers, make it clear.

I was not bothered too much by receiving information relatively late, but maybe that is something that could be improved. Also, considering the first lecture of this year, next year an interesting topic would be data and migration (with an emphasis on ethics and the production and consumption of data - I am thinking of a recent episode of the Oxford migration podcast on data and migration as an inspiration)

Great conference

Distribute information on the conference with main mailing lists (e.g. EPSA)

Availability of internet connection for all participants

A three day conference, with another day reserved for Doctoral students to engage with each other.

1) Expand the conference for three days to avoid overlapping essential debates on the panels. 2) Providing more fans in the spaces because the building is not well structured for hot days.

How did you participate in the conference?

in presence  35
online  0
Comment on the hybrid format

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The panel sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General structure</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relevance of topics for your research</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal coherence of the papers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity of disciplines, concepts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity of participants</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your experience as a presenter

| Your overall experience as presenter | 1 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 18 |
| Instructions by the organizers | 1 | 3 | 8 | 19 |
| The comments by the mentor(s) | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 20 |
| The quality of the discussion | 1 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 19 |

Comment about the parallel panels

Time for presentations should be increased to 15 mins
The time to present was too short I felt. Also, there did seem to be a bias and preference for qualitative methods.

Maybe least diverse in terms of academic disciplines: where are the historians and economist?
I would suggest more time for debate after the mentor's comments.
They were very informative and PhD candidates were exceptional
I think there were too many parallel sessions. This meant that there were several panels I was interested in that I could not follow and that the number of people following each panel could be rather small.

N/A
Research of interest to me were presented simultaneously making it difficult to attend
I wonder about the diversity question. I appreciated the diversity in terms of papers presented in the panels, although it was sometimes stretches a little thin and outside the mentors expertise.
The mentor in some sessions were not familiar with the histories and geographical locations of some research projects making it impossible to have a detailed discussion. More representativeness and doing away with Eurocentrism while selecting the mentors (as done with the presenters) would make the sessions more interactive and unbiased.
Excellent presentations and panel formats.
I don't know about all panels, but most I attended to focused mainly on quantitative methods and I wished to see somehow more mixed methods involved.
10 minutes per presenter are a bit too little (and perhaps 4 papers for one discussant compromise the quality of feedback). I believe each presenter should have a total of 45 minutes (15 presentation, 5-10 discussant, 20-25 Q&A). This does not necessarily mean that fewer people can present (we could, e.g., do fewer lectures/plenaries and/or start a bit earlier and end a bit later).
Maybe be more strict about the time and announce the available time as soon as the participants are accepted in the conference. Also precise to presenters that it is not mandatory to answer each comments/questions if they want more feedback.
The format allowing me as a presenter to receive feedback by a mentor was incredibly helpful and fruitful.
The plenary and side events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>0 (not satisfied at all)</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10 (very satisfied)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Lecture by Mathias Czaika</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Migration Research Institutions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governance South Africa / Brazil</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guided Tour on the Traces of Slavery</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pub Quiz at the reception dinner</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Movie Screening, Hit the Road</td>
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<td>30</td>
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Your experience as a speaker at a plenary session

- Your overall experience as speaker
- Instructions by the organizers
- The quality of the discussion

Any additional comment on the plenary events?

The lecture by Czaika seemed a bit out of place, strongly positivist approach and not so reflexive, which only spoke to a small number of participants, I think. Maybe something to think about for next editions!

None

The plenary were certainly interesting but did not seem to fit fully with the theme of the conference.

N/A

I gave 3 to the first lecture because it was quite one-sided and not acknowledging any of the ethical implications of what the lecturer was saying (esp. his claims to scientific objectivity). Again, I would love to see a lecture or roundtable next year on the ethical implications of data science in migration.

Thanks a lot for organising

Overall they were good, but maybe there were to many activities.

Lorenzo’s session allowed a very rich self reflection, it should be part of all migration conference

The venue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Extremely satisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat satisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat dissatisfied</th>
<th>Extremely dissatisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunches on Tuesday and ...</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner at the Interlope</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In one sentence, describe our conference

To learn about the best and latest in Migration Studies you have to be at NGC!

It was highly enlightening, educative and presented us with career developing research network.

Excellent, very diverse body of work with Global representation.

interesting, worthwhile looking forward to 2024 conferences.

Great conference on migration with interesting emerging research and an opportunity to meet like-minded migration researchers in a collegial and pleasant environment.

A great way to connect with likeminded researchers in an academically enriching environment.

Small, intimate conference but very international and diverse.

An event for young scholars to connect and advance their work in a supportive atmosphere.

Wonderful conference, perfect for early career scholars. It combine passionate migration scholars and beautiful location.

A conference that really allows you to reflect upon your research and exchange with peers with quality and time.

One of the best a PhD researcher could attend!

Amazing committed group of thought leaders.

The experience was both insightful and unique.

enriching.

Many opportunities to learn new things and widen your circle of acquaintances.

The best conference I have ever had with colleagues and researches from all around the world, great panels and plenaries and amazing side events! Thank you so much!

Amazing!

The conference was wonderful and the organizing team was very welcoming.

"It was an engaging conference that delved into the complexities of migration and mobility, offering valuable insights and fostering meaningful connections among attendees."

A great conference to be a part of.

A very good experience and learning environment!!!!!!!!!

Extremely helpful hosts, mostly inclusive and diverse.

Excellent conference and I would highly recommend.

Amazing experience!

A stimulating and benevolent environment for getting in touch with other scholars working on the same field.

Friendly conference in a nice place, great to find people working on some aspect of your research.

A great conference for early career scholars.

It was just amazing.

A great opportunity for early-career migration scholars to connect and learn about each other’s work.

Great opportunity to meet interesting scholars.

A great networking opportunity.

Best conference in terms of feedback (mentors - great idea).

The best migration conference I went to.

*the* migration conference for grads.

Inspiring.

The best conference of the year!

Great.