

# **Navigating Turbulences: Interdisciplinary Inquiries into the Transformations of Migration and Mobility in the 21st Century**

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**7<sup>th</sup> Neuchâtel Graduate Conference of Migration  
and Mobility Studies**

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**University of Neuchâtel, 11–12 July 2024**

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**Call for Papers**

**Deadline for Submission is 15 March 2024**

# 7<sup>th</sup> Neuchâtel Graduate Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies

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## Aim and Scope

The Neuchâtel Graduate Conference is an international conference addressing early career researchers in the field of migration and mobility studies. It is organized by the **nccr – on the move**, the Swiss National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) for migration and mobility studies. The conference aims to provide a stimulating environment where doctoral and postdoctoral researchers from different universities and research institutions can present original research, exchange ideas, establish networks, attend targeted training, and initiate collaborative research.

The 7th edition of the conference will take place from 11 to 12 July 2024 at the University of Neuchâtel. We will be selecting approximately 60 researchers working in the field of migration and mobility studies to participate in the event based on the contributions submitted.

## Call for Contributions: Navigating Turbulences: Interdisciplinary Inquiries into the Transformations of Migration and Mobility in the 21st Century

Deeply embedded in the broader global context of economic, social, political, and technological changes, patterns of migration and mobility have undergone significant transformations in the early decades of the 21st century. Pivotal events such as the 2008 Financial Crisis, the 2015-2016 so-called refugee crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic, the full Russian invasion in Ukraine, or the escalating impacts of global warming have collectively posed challenges to established models and governance structures related to migration and im/mobility. Concurrently, the interdisciplinary fields of migration and mobility studies, while experiencing growth, have not gone unchallenged. Emerging generations of scholars are

actively reimagining these fields by incorporating novel epistemologies, such as reflexive or post-colonial thought, or feminist and queer theory.

Against this background, scholars are encouraged to delve into the development of migration and mobility trends and studies arising from the crises of the 21st century. Presentations should examine how the construction and repercussions of past, current, or impending crises shape public perceptions, governance structures, and practices associated with migration and im/mobility. This exploration is intended to traverse diverse geographical and political contexts, and consider different scales of social organization. The conference welcomes interdisciplinary contributions from fields such as anthropology, demography, economics, geography, history, law, political science, psychology, sociology, and other relevant disciplines within migration and mobility studies.

Potential topics include but are not limited to:

- The impact of global crises on mobility/migration patterns and policies
- Re-conceptualising migration and mobility through post-colonial and decolonial lenses
- Feminist and queer perspectives on mobility/migration narratives
- Changing governance structures and practices in response to mobility/migration challenges arising from the crises of the 21st century
- Social, economic, and cultural implications of the 21st century crises on migration and im/mobility
- Human rights and ethical considerations in mobility/migration studies
- The temporalities of (im)mobility/migration narratives and public debates



- The spatial impacts of/on governance of (im)mobility and migration
- Shifting practices and rationalities of migration and (im)mobility regimes
- Comparative approaches to mobility and migration studies, including historical comparisons
- Reflections of the inherent interdisciplinary of mobility/migration field of research
- Methodological reflections, challenges and experimentations in studying mobility and migration
- Migrant experiences and decision-making during uncertain times

## Submission Procedure

**The deadline for submission is 15 March 2024.**

Contribution proposals should include a title, an abstract (max. 250 words), a list of up to five keywords, and the name and affiliation of the presenter. Co-authored contributions and papers at different stages of advancement are welcome.

Contribution proposals must be submitted via [this form](#) by Friday, 15 March 2024 at midnight, central European time. Applicants will be informed by 28 March 2024. For any questions, please send an email to [ngc@nccr-onthemove.ch](mailto:ngc@nccr-onthemove.ch).

## There is no participation fee.

To encourage international participation, the nccr – on the move will provide funding opportunities that are specifically designed for international graduate students traveling from far or without mobility funding. Priority will be given to accepted participants based in or coming from countries listed under categories B (Upper middle income) and C (Low and lower middle income) identified by the [International Sociological Association \(ISA\)](#). Eligible participants can apply for funding in a second step after having received the notification that their paper proposal was accepted for the conference.

## Conference Format

The conference will take place as an in-person event at the University of Neuchâtel. However, the possibility to attend remotely via Webex is envisaged for passive participation and in exceptional circumstances. Panels shall consist of three to four papers, with two-hour slots allowing for substantial presentation and discussion time. Participants of the panels and senior researchers of the nccr – on the move will act as discussants of the panels.

## Best Paper and Best Poster Awards

The Neuchâtel Graduate Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies offers a prize of CHF 500 for the best paper to be submitted and presented at the conference. The prize is awarded by a committee of experts composed of the Education Officer and the Scientific Officer of the nccr – on the move, and two professors of the network. Only non-NCCR members are eligible for the prize. Papers have to be sent to [ngc@nccr-onthemove.ch](mailto:ngc@nccr-onthemove.ch) by 20 June at midnight, central European time.