

**nccr**   
**on the move**

National Center of Competence in Research—  
The Migration-Mobility Nexus  
[nccr-onthemove.ch](http://nccr-onthemove.ch)

**unine**<sup>®</sup>  
Université de Neuchâtel

**International Workshop**

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**Rethinking Forced Migration Relationally:  
Agency, Liminality, and Migration  
Regimes**

**12-13 September 2024**  
**University of Neuchâtel**

To attend  
register [here](#)  
by 25 August



This workshop is organized by the team of the nccr – on the move research project “[Dealing with Crises and Liminal Situations: The Agency of Ukrainian and Syrian Forced Migrants in Three National Contexts](#)”:

Prof. Dr. Mihaela Nedelcu, University of Neuchâtel  
Dr. Ibrahim Soysüren, University of Neuchâtel  
Dr. Simon Noori, University of Neuchâtel  
Dr. Oleksandra Tarkhanova, University of Neuchâtel and University of St. Gallen

### Workshop Description

This two-day workshop, organized within the framework of the Swiss National Center of Competence in Research – The Migration-Mobility Nexus at the University of Neuchâtel, brings together researchers working on forced migration from a relational perspective and seeks to advance understandings of agency and liminality based on empirical research. The workshop aims to rethink forced migration through a relational lens and to broaden our understanding of how forced migrants cope with uncertainty, precariousness, and liminality by situating them in broader social relations, networks, and contexts. It also encourages debates on methodological and ethical issues and problems that arise in empirical research with relational, transnational, and bottom-up perspectives. War-induced forced migration due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the war in Syria are two empirical cases that we will be focusing on, but research on other displaced populations will also be presented.

### Location

Université de Neuchâtel, Institut de langue et civilisation françaises  
[Faubourg de l'Hôpital 61, 2000 Neuchâtel.](#)

### Registration

The workshop is open to the public. If you would like to attend, please register by 25 August 2024 by using this link: <https://forms.gle/zkkiet2KAtpsXh2e6>.



### Contact

If you have any questions, please contact Simon Noori ([simon.noori@unine.ch](mailto:simon.noori@unine.ch)) or Mihaela Nedelcu ([mihaela.nedelcu@unine.ch](mailto:mihaela.nedelcu@unine.ch))

## Thursday, 12 September 2024

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9:00 - 9:15

**Welcome and Introduction**  
Project Team

**Keynote**  
9:15 – 10:30

**‘Starting from Zero’: Overcoming ‘Torn Ties’ and Network Rupture: How Refugees Rebuild Resources to Access the Labour Market**  
Louise Ryan (London Metropolitan University)

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10:30 – 10:45

Coffee break

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### **Session 1**

10:45 – 12:15

Discussant: Alessio D'Angelo  
(University of Derby)

### **Agency and Social Networks**

**Family Well-Being in the Case of Ukrainian Forced Migrants**  
Áron Telegdi-Csetri, Viorela Ducu, Mihaela Haragus (Babeş-Bolyai University)

**Liminality, Filial Obligation and Agency in the Context of Protracted Humanitarian Crises: How Do Forced Migrants Care for Their Parents? The Case of Syrian Migrants in Switzerland**

Myrian Carbajal (HES-SO / HETS Fribourg), Nadia Baghdadi (OST), Ihssane Otmani (HES-SO / HETS Fribourg), Robin Cavagnoud (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú), Carolina Ramírez (Universidad Católica Silva Henríquez, Chile), Carolina Stefoni (Universidad de Tarapacá, Chile)

**Relational Agency within Forced Migration Contexts: The Case of Ukrainian Migrants**

Mihaela Nedelcu, Malika Wyss (University of Neuchâtel)

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12:15 – 14:00

Lunch break at the Restaurant Trait d'Union (CitéU), Avenue de Clos-Brochet 10, 2000 Neuchâtel (on reservation)

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### **Session 2**

14:00 – 15:45

Discussant: Myrian Carbajal (HES-SO / HETS Fribourg)

### **Solidarity Networks**

**‘It’s the Information, Stupid.’ Understanding Refugees’ Onward Mobility in Romania’s Changing Migration Framework**

Alexandra Porumbescu (University of Craiova), Anatolie Cosciug (Romanian Centre for Comparative Migration Research, FSPAC, UBB)

**Solidarity Practices, Direct Social Engagement, and Refugee Support Activism: The Case of the Ukrainian Community in Cluj-Napoca, Romania**

Mara Birou, Alina Barbuta (Babeş-Bolyai University)

**Ukrainians in Switzerland: The Role of Local Communities and Host Families in the Integration of Forced Migrants**

Oksana Ovsiiuk (University of Neuchâtel)

**The Making of a Transnational Civic Ecosystem? The Case of the Mobilization of Support for Ukraine by Ukrainians and Poles in Poland**

Karolina Czerska-Shaw (Jagiellonian University in Kraków),  
Aneta Krzyworzeka-Jelinowska (University of Warsaw)

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15:45 – 16:15

Coffee break

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**Session 3**

**16:15 – 17:45**

Discussant: Louise Ryan (London Metropolitan University)

**Methodological Reflections**

**Leaping into the Unknown, Trusting in What Comes: Trials and Solidarity in the Migratory Journey of a Young Haitian Woman**

Marco Motta (University of Neuchâtel)

**How to Share the Power of Representation with Forced Migrants? Giving Colombian Women a Voice through Documentaries**

Yvonne Riaño (University of Neuchâtel)

**Moving Networks, Thinking Networks. Methodological Reflections on Migrants' Journeys, Agency and Narratives**

Alessio D'Angelo (University of Derby)

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19:00

Dinner at the Restaurant Le Cardinal, Rue du Seyon 9, 2000 Neuchâtel (on reservation)

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## Friday, 13 September 2024

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### Session 4

**8:30 – 10:15**

Discussant: Mihaela Nedelcu  
(University of Neuchâtel)

### Technologies

#### **Sociotechnical Navigation on the 'Balkan Circuit': Perspectives from Afghans on the Move**

Nina Khamsy (Graduate Institute Geneva)

#### **Navigating Displacement: The Role of Telegram Channels in the Lives of Ukrainian Migrants in Germany**

Taisiia Ratushna (Forum for Transregional Studies Berlin)

#### **In Search of Autonomy: Young Dislocated People in Europe Challenging Migration Regimes and Attitudes through Online Activism**

Mary Drosopoulos (Invisible University for Ukraine, CEU)

#### **The Role of Telegram in War Displacement Decision- Making: Case of Ukrainian Citizens Escaping from the Territories under the Russian Occupation, 2022-2023**

Lidia Kuzemska (Forum for Transregional Studies, Berlin)

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10:15 – 10:30

Coffee break

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### Session 5

**10:15 – 12:15**

Discussant: Yvonne Riaño  
(University of Neuchâtel)

### Beyond Liminality and Migration Regimes 1

#### **Suspended Lives? The Resilience of Forced Migrant Women in Uncertain Times**

Kseniya Homel (University of Warsaw), Iuliia Lashchuk  
(European University Institute RSCAS), Marta Kindler (University  
of Warsaw)

#### **Portraits of Liminality in Syrian Refugee Families' Experiences within Lebanon**

Fatmanur Delioglu (Balsillie School of International Affairs), Bree  
Akersson, Karen Frensch, Kim Rygiel (Wilfrid Laurier University)

#### **Varieties of Liminality of Refugees from Ukraine**

Diana Bogishvili, Sabine von Löwis (Centre for East European  
and International Studies ZOiS)

#### **Experiences of Liminality under Different Temporary Protection Schemes: Forced Migrants from Ukraine and Syria in Switzerland**

Oleksandra Tarkhanova (University of St. Gallen), Simon Noori  
(University of Neuchâtel)

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12:15 – 14:00

Lunch Break at VIO Restaurant, Quai Robert-Comtesse 10,  
2000 Neuchâtel (on reservation)

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**Session 6**

**14:00 – 15:45**

Discussant: Áron Telegdi-Csetri  
(Babeş-Bolyai University)

**Beyond Liminality and Migration Regimes 2**

**Forced Migration in a Historical Liminal Space between  
Syria and Turkey**

Meral Gezici Yalçın (Bielefeld University), Serhat Yalçın  
(University of Applied Sciences Kiel)

**“We Do Not Have a Future Here”: Agency of Syrian Forced  
Migrants in Izmir Dealing with Liminality**

Ibrahim Soysüren, Cansu Akbaş Demirel (University of  
Neuchâtel)

**Conflicts, Coping Strategies and the Search for Peace in  
Refugee Shelters**

Fabricio Borges Carrijo (Polish Academy of Sciences)

**Shifting Sands: Navigating the UK’s Asylum Regime Amidst  
Legal Uncertainty**

Maud Martens (Ghent University)

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15:45 – 16:00

Coffee break

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**16:00 – 17:00**

**Final Discussion**

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17:00

Farewell apéro

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