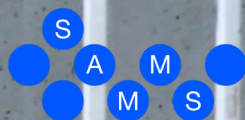


**nccr →
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National Center of Competence in Research –
The Migration-Mobility Nexus
nccr-onthemove.ch



Swiss Association of
Migration and Mobility Studies

unine
Université de Neuchâtel

Horizons of Hope: Imagining Emancipatory Futures in Migration and Mobility

1st Swiss Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies (SCMMS)

University of Neuchâtel, 7 – 8 July 2026

Program

1st Swiss Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies (SCMMS)

7 – 8 July 2026

University of Neuchâtel

Conference Location:

University of Neuchâtel
Avenue du 1er-Mars 26
2000 Neuchâtel
Switzerland

The conference is restricted to registered participants and is subject to conference fees.

See conference website: <https://nccr-onthemove.ch/events/swiss-conference-of-migration-and-mobility-studies-2026>

Registration link: https://portal.unine.ch/event_scmms2026_en?sap-client=030&sap-language=FR or QR code



Scientific and organizational committee

The Swiss Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies (SCMMS) is an international conference bringing together researchers and stakeholders in the field of migration and mobility studies. The conference offers a stimulating environment for master holders, doctoral, postdoctoral and senior researchers from across the globe. Researchers from different universities and research institutions, as well as non-academic stakeholders, have the opportunity to present original research, exchange ideas, establish networks, and initiate collaborative research.

The SCMMS is organized by the newly created [Swiss Association of Migration and Mobility Studies \(SAMMS\)](#) and the [CUSO Doctoral Program in Migration Studies](#). Building on the [Neuchâtel Graduate Conference \(NGC\)](#)'s legacy of the nccr – on the move (which is still co-organizing this first edition of the conference), the SCMMS is open to researchers at all career stages, with some panels intended specifically for early career researchers.

The 1st edition will take place from 7 to 8 July 2026 in Neuchâtel, providing opportunities to meet other researchers in formal and informal gatherings. The topic of this edition is "Horizons of Hope: Imagining Emancipatory Futures in Migration and Mobility".

Lucas Oesch (Scientific Officer of the nccr – on the move), **Julia Litzkow** (Knowledge Transfer Officer of the nccr – on the move), **Robin Stünzi** (Education, Careers and Equal Opportunities Officer of the nccr – on the move), **Nora Bardelli** (Administrative Director of the nccr – on the move), **Maja Lysienia** (University of Lausanne/HEVS), **Anna Marino**, **Sélim Clerc** and **Carol Pierre** (University of Neuchâtel), **Maeva Perrin** (University of Geneva).

Program Overview

Poster exhibitions:

nccr – on the move Phase III Research Projects (throughout the two days)

Visualizing Otherwise: Multimodal Explorations of Digital Borders and Migration Regimes ([PDF](#)) (8 July)

Tuesday 7 July 2026

08:30 – 09:00	Badge pick-up at Welcome Desk
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome Address
09:15 – 11:15	Parallel Panels Session I
11:15 – 11:45	Coffee Break
	Parallel Workshops (max. 25 participants each):
11:45 – 13:15	Migration Stories: Imagination and the Power of Representation (PDF)
11:45 – 13:45	Co-Creation of Knowledge at the Crossroads of Academia, Activism and the Arts (PDF)
13:30 – 14:45	Lunch Break - Group Photo (at 14:30)
14:45 – 16:45	Parallel Panels Session II
16:45 – 17:15	Coffee Break
17:15 – 18:45	Keynote Lecture: Reclaiming Cosmopolitanism for a Mobile World (PDF) OPEN TO ALL
19:30	Conference Reception (Interlope)

Wednesday 8 July 2026

09:00 – 11:00	Parallel Panels Session III
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 13:00	Roundtable: Decolonizing Migration Studies within Fortress Europe (PDF)
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break - Presentation of Posters exhibition Multimodal Explorations of Digital Borders and Migration Regimes (PDF to follow) (at 13.30)
14:00 – 16:00	Parallel Panels Session IV
16:00 – 17:30	Final Apéro

Event Highlights

(Hallway, Ground Floor)

Poster exhibitions:

nccr – on the move Phase III Research Projects (throughout the two days)

Visualizing Otherwise: Multimodal Explorations of Digital Borders and Migration Regimes (8 July 2026)

Tuesday 7 July 2026

11:45 – 13:15 **Migration Stories: Imagination and the Power of Representation**
Room C56 (max. 25 participants who registered)

Workshop with:
Lorenzo Piccoli (European University Institute)

11:45 – 13:45 **Co-Creation of Knowledge at the Crossroads of Academia, Activism and the Arts**
Room C49 (max. 25 participants who registered)

Workshop with:
Alexandra Greene and Fabian Holle (VU Amsterdam)

17:15 – 18:45 **Reclaiming Cosmopolitanism for a Mobile World**
Room C46 Keynote Lecture by **Alex Sager**, Portland State University, University of Washington
(Aula) Discussant: **Matteo Gianni**, University of Geneva

Wednesday 8 July 2026

11:30 – 13:00 **Decolonizing Migration Studies within Fortress Europe**
Room C46 Roundtable with:
(Aula) **Gunjan Sondhi**, Open University, Newcastle
Faten Khazaei, Northumbria University Newcastle
Shpresa Jashari, Pädagogische Hochschule Zug
Moderator: **Claudia Wilopo**, University of Bern

13:30 – 13:45 Presentation of the poster exhibition **Visualising Otherwise: Multimodal Explorations of**
Hallway **Digital Borders and Migration Regimes** by **Nina Khamsy**, University of Neuchâtel
Ground Floor

Tuesday, 7 July 2026 | Program Details

09:15 – 11:15

Panel #1 (Graduate)

Climate I

Room B32

WEBEX [link](#)

Mentor: Etienne Piguet,
University of Neuchâtel

Chair: Robin Stünzi,
University of Neuchâtel

Navigating "Mobility Regimes" Through Land-Sea Patron-Client Networks: The Case of Fante's Shark Fishery in West Africa

Iddrisu Amadu, Ingrid Boas, Simon R. Bush (Wageningen University), Aliou Sall (CREDETIP)

Gendered and Racialized Horizons: Environmental Racism, Displacement, and Emancipatory Futures in Climate Induced Mobility in Brazil

Marília Gagliardi (University of São Paulo)

Digital Horizons for Climate-Displaced Children in the Sundarbans: AI-Mediated Pedagogies as Emancipatory Future-Making

Subhangi Sanyal (Indian Statistical Institute)

Navigating Futures: Youth Migration Aspirations amid Climate and Ocean Governance

Filipa Saraiva (University of Coimbra)

09:15 – 11:15

Panel #2 (Graduate)

Policy

Room B29

WEBEX [link](#)

Mentor: Paula Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik,
Sciences Po Paris

Chair: Maja Lysienia,
University of Lausanne/HEVS

Lost in translation? Framing Responsibility-Sharing in Europe

Maud Bachelet (University of Geneva)

Who Makes a "Ghetto"? Migration, Urban Governance, and the Production of Muslim Marginality in Delhi

Istikhar Ali (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Illegible by Design? Institutional Mapping and the Limits of Welfare Access for Migrants with Disabilities

Charif Alia Jeanne, Elisa Begnis (HES-SO Valais-Wallis)

Tuesday, 7 July 2026 | Program Details

09:15 – 11:15

Panel #3 (General)

Digitalization and Emancipation

Room C49

WEBEX [link](#)

Chair: Sélim Clerc,
University of Neuchâtel

The Right to Have a Digital Future: Migration, Technology, and the Politics of Hope

Murtaza Mohiqi (University of Agder)

Rights-Based Digital Solutions for Migration: Findings from a Meta Study

Siruno Lalaine, Katrin Marchand (Maastricht University and UNU-MERIT), Stephanie Deubler (German Agency for International Cooperation)

Grooving to Grow: Community Music for the Wellbeing of Young People and Social Workers in Migration Context

Paolo Paolantonio (SUPSI), Silvia Galletti (HES-SO Fribourg)

Biographical Resources and Personal Development Among Ukrainian Refugee Women in Germany

Alla Koval (Protestant University of applied sciences Berlin)

09:15 – 11:15

Panel #4 (General)

Humanitarianism

Room C56

WEBEX [link](#)

Chair: Nora Bardelli,
University of Neuchâtel

Hope at Home? Private Hospitality and the Ambivalent Politics of Refugee Reception in Switzerland and France

Camilla Alberti, Louise Hombert, Marion Fresia (University of Neuchâtel)

The Need for Participation and Protection: Ethics and Research Methodology with Unaccompanied Children

Laura Bertini, Angelica Lepori and Rossella Poroli (SUPSI)

Legal Regimes as Gatekeepers of Hope in U.S. Federal Courts (2015-2025)

Canan Çetin (Eskisehir Osmangazi University)

Tuesday, 7 July 2026 | Program Details

14:45 – 16:45

Panel #5 (Graduate)

Emancipation

Room B32

WEBEX [link](#)

Mentor: Yvonne Riaño,
University of Bern

Chair: Carol Pierre,
University of Neuchâtel

Remittance, Return, and the Geography of Hope: Malabar Muslim Migration as Emancipatory Future-Making

Usman Shafeek Chamaka Parambil (University of Hyderabad)

“Quiet Whispers, Loud Encounters”: Unearthing the Subtle Narratives of African Refugees in Zimbabwe’s Migratory Landscape

Norman Pinduka (Africa University)

Migrant Women Across Time: Paradoxes, Exhaustion, and Emancipatory Potentials in Swiss Migration Politics

Christina Mittmasser (HES-SO Geneva), Victor Santos Rodriguez (CERI), Emma Gauttier (HES-SO Fribourg)

Communities-Based Methodologies for Freedom of Movement: Exhibiting Exile and Autonomous Knowledge at L’Amar

Irène Blanc (L’Amar et HETSL), Laura Flórez Castellar, (University of Kassel), Dominique Malatesta (HETSL)

14:45 – 16:45

Panel #6 (Graduate)

Integration

Room B29

WEBEX [link](#)

Mentors: Christin Achermann
and Janine Dahinden,
University of Neuchâtel

Chair: Maeva Perrin,
University of Geneva

“If You Change a Person, How the Question is Asked or Phrased, I Think it Changes the Whole Interview”: Participant Reflexivity and the Decentering of Academic Authority

Valérie Baggi (University of Geneva)

Professional Bifurcations Among Skilled Women Migrating Through Family Reunification to Switzerland: Tactical Agency and Identity Work

Mélinda Dinh (University of Geneva)

Practicing Hope with Asylum Seekers: Muslim Chaplaincy in Swiss Federal Asylum Centers

Jeannine Röthlin (University of Fribourg)

Relational Autonomy and Geographical Knowledges Roles in Navigating the Multiplied Displacement of Wandering Production: the Case of Exiles in Paris and Rome Makeshift Camps

Annaelle Piva (UMR Géographie-Cités)

Tuesday, 7 July 2026 | Program Details

14:45 – 16:45
Panel #7 (General)

Climate II
Room C49
WEBEX [link](#)

Chair: Lucas Oesch,
University of Neuchâtel

Climate Mobilities in Mountain Areas of the Global North: A Framework and Research Perspectives

Suzy Blondin, Etienne Piguet (University of Neuchâtel)

Environment - Migration Nexus in the News from North African and East and Horn of Africa Countries: Between the Disaster and Hope Narratives

Anna Maria Rosinska, Eleonora Milazzo, Edoardo Toppetti, Ioannis Sofos, Maurizio Teobaldelli, Jan Loeschner (Joint Research Centre, European Commission)

14:45 – 16:45
Panel #8 (General)

Belonging
Room C56
WEBEX [link](#)

Chair: Anna Marino,
University of Neuchâtel

The Right to Remain and Return: Youth Practices in Southern Italy as a Mediterranean Space

Alessandra Polidori (University of Neuchâtel)

Seven Decades and Counting... Intergeneration Mobility of a Dalit Refugee Family

Minee Pratiksha (University of Zürich)

Polish Migration to Türkiye: Belonging, Mobility, and Social Transformation

Gizem Karaköse (Nicolaus Copernicus University)

Listening to the Queer Diaspora: Decolonial, Epistemological, and Symbolic Reconfigurations of Psychosocial Care

Gustavo Machado (University of Essex)

Wednesday, 8 July 2026 | Program Details

09:00 – 11:00

Panel #9 (Graduate)

Family and Gender

Room B29

WEBEX [link](#)

Mentor: Faten Khazaei,
Northumbria University Newcastle

Chair: Mélinda Dinh,
University of Geneva

Transnational Family Life, Gender Roles, and Agency: Ukrainian Women Refugees in Switzerland

Tatjana Fenicia, Miryam Eser Davolio (ZHAW)

Parental Perspectives on Afghan Refugees' Experiences Influencing Their Children's Well-being: A Thematic Analysis in Delhi

Zakerhussain Abdaly, Arun N. Pandya, Parvez Abbasi (Veer Narmad South Gujarat University)

Reclaiming a Future through Legal Means: The Karta Polaka and Emancipatory Horizons among Ukrainian Exiles (2014–2026)

Grégoire Le Gall (Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)

Beyond “Fleeing to the City”: Leisure Mobilities, Sexual Subjectivities, and Return Effects from French Left-Behind Places

Axel Ravier (University of Lausanne)

09:00 – 11:00

Panel #10 (Graduate)

Waiting

Room B32

WEBEX [link](#)

Mentor: Oliver Pedersen,
University of Neuchâtel

Chair: Sélim Clerc,
University of Neuchâtel

Navigating the Static Panic: The Majlis as a Site of Emancipatory Hope in Istanbul

Neveen Aboueldahab (Ibnhaldun University)

“Working While Waiting”: Legal Temporariness, Labor Insecurity, and Everyday Future-Making Among Ukrainian Refugees in Germany

Tatiana Sitchinava (Ilia State University)

Beyond the Passage: Technopolitics of Waiting and Migrants Place-Making Practices in Algerian Cities

Fella Djilaili (Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt Üniversitesi)

How Involuntary Immobility Harms Cognitive and Emotional Well-Being

Nicolás Caso, Ilse Ruyssen, Sorana Toma, Charlotte Scheerens (Ghent University)

Wednesday, 8 July 2026 | Program Details

09:00 – 11:00

Panel #11 (Graduate)

Aspirations

Room C49

WEBEX [link](#)

Chair: Robin Stünzi,
University of Neuchâtel

Imagining Mobility: Migrant Aspirations and the Unequal Futures of Global Migration

Maarja Vollmer (University of Neuchâtel), James Dennisson
(European University Institute)

Waiting, Hope, and Suspended Futures: Emancipatory Practices Among Aspiring Migrants

Sayed Attaullah Shah (Government College Peshawar), Rahat Shah
(University of Augsburg)

Hopes and the Everyday Navigation of Inequality in Lavapiés

Hend Aly (University College London)

Belonging beyond citizenship: institutional inclusion and return orientations of Ukrainian refugees in Switzerland

Valeriia Hett, Didier Ruedin (University of Neuchâtel)

09:00 – 11:00

Panel #12 (General)

Education and Labor Mobility

Room C56

WEBEX [link](#)

Chair: Lucas Oesch,
University of Neuchâtel

Academic Mobilities, Hope, and the Uneven Futures of Knowledge Production

Tugay Durak (University College London), Lucas Oesch, Didier
Ruedin (University of Neuchâtel)

Education as a Site of Racialisation: Experiences and Emancipatory Narratives of Unprivileged Migrant Descendants in Switzerland

Dilyara Müller-Suleymanova (Zurich University of Applied Sciences),
Valérie Baggi, Philippe Wanner (University of Geneva), Andrés
Gomensoro (University of Bern), Miliena Chimienti (HES-SO
Geneva)

The Gender Dimension of Refugees' Integration in the Labor Market

Tobias Müller, Pia Pannatier (University of Geneva) Martina Viarengo
(Geneva Graduate Institute)

Wednesday, 8 July 2026 | Program Details

14:00 – 16:00

Panel #13 (Graduate)

Youth

Room B32

WEBEX [link](#)

Mentor: Alessandra Polidori,
University of Neuchâtel

Chair: Carol Pierre,
University of Neuchâtel

Refugee-Led Youth Platforms as Laboratories of Emancipatory Future-Making in SWANA Displacement Crisess

Nabila Arab (Independent Researcher, Lebanese American University and Protection and MHPSS Officer)

Football, Everyday Mobility and the Making of Migrant Futures in Saudi Arabia

Anvar Nattukallingal (Indian Institute of Technology)

Becoming Through Relationships: An Arts-Based Exploration of Young Refugees' Identity, Agency over time

Fathe Mubeen (Tampere University, Finland)

Anticipating Migration: Emigration Intentions and Life Strategies among Youth in the Republic of Moldova

Irina Pahomii, Maxim Slav, Ecaterina Grigoraş, Artiom Samohvalov (Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova), Tatiana Tabac (National Bank of Moldova/AESM)

14:00 – 16:00

Panel #14 (Graduate)

Borders

Room B29

WEBEX [link](#)

Mentor: Lorenzo Piccoli,
European University Institute

Chair: Anna Marino,
University of Neuchâtel

Peripheral Infrastructures of Care and Capital: Mobility, and Emancipatory Futures in West African Borderlands

Oluwasegun Ajetunmobi (University of Ibadan)

Rage, Hope, and the Making of Dalit Refugee Futures: Affective Survival in the India-Bangladesh Borderland

Baidehi Das (University of Hyderabad)

Adaptive Liminality and Resilient Futures: Sub-Saharan Migrants Navigating Tunisia's EU-Externalized Borders

Ahmed Trabelsi (University of Tunis/University of Toronto), Zakaria Bencherif (UM6P)

Resisting to Exploitative Carelessness. Working Realities in the Swiss Alps

Yara Küng (University of Bern)

Wednesday, 8 July 2026 | Program Details

14:00 – 16:00

Panel #15 (General)

International Organizations

Room C49

WEBEX [link](#)

Chair: Maja Lysienia,
University of Lausanne/HEVS

Regionalism as Emancipatory Mobility: ECOWAS, Globalization, and the Politics of Free Movement

Sophie Nanyonga (Duzce University)

Substitutes or Complements? Bilateral Labor Agreements Versus Domestic Migration Policies

Philipp Lutz (University of Geneva/Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam),
Paula Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik (Sciences Po Paris), Sandra Lavenex
(University of Geneva)

Dis)engagement and Contestation in the International Refugee Regime: Insights from the UNHCR Executive Committee Corpus (1974-2024)

Karin Vaagland, Sandra Lavenex, Frowin Rausis (University of Geneva)

Trading Migrant Rights? An Analysis of Migrant Rights Provisions in Preferential Trade Agreements

Paula Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik (Sciences Po Paris), Mariana Alvarado,
Sandra Lavenex (University of Geneva), Philipp Lutz (University of Geneva/Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

14:00 – 16:00

Panel #16 (General)

Temporalities

Room C56

WEBEX [link](#)

Chair: Maeva Perrin,
University of Geneva

Social Networks and Agency in Forced Migration from Ukraine to Switzerland

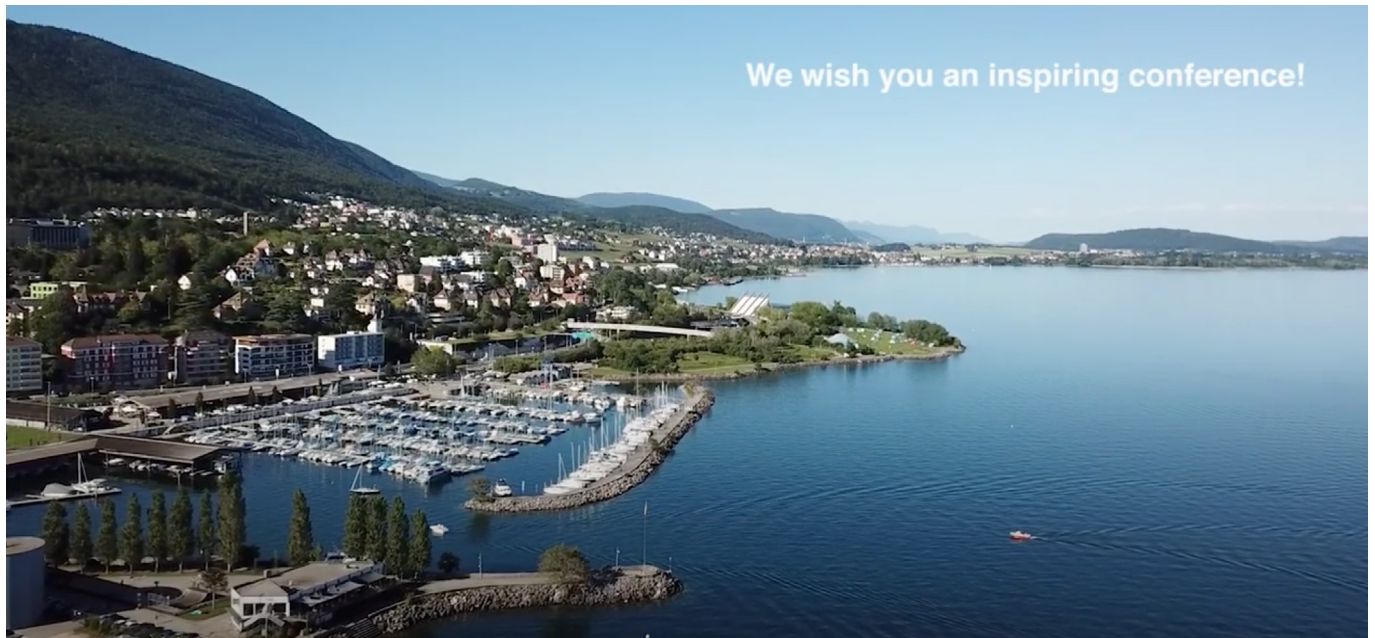
Oleksandra Tarkhanova (University of St Gallen)

Provisional Futures: Migrants as Wanted Workers, Yet Temporary Residents

Helena Hof, Melanie Jäger (University of Zurich)

Cross-Border Healthcare Mobility Challenges Health Policy Making in Borderlands

Sabrina Roduit (University of Fribourg), Nicolas Charpentier
(University of Geneva)



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