

Call for Papers

Migration at Work: Opportunities, Imaginaries & Structures of Mobility

EDITED BY FIONA-KATHARINA SEIGER, CHRISTIANE TIMMERMAN, JOHAN WETS AND NOEL B. SALAZAR

We are seeking **essay proposals** by established scholars for an edited volume focused on labour migration, structures and 'regimes of mobility', as well as imaginaries that shape labour migration.

Contemporary migration research often revolves around one particular aspect of migratory processes, such as the movement of a particular group of people, the core motives to migrate, expectations involved in the process of migration, or issues surrounding the integration of migrants in receiving societies. This volume aims to lay out a more encompassing perspective to labour migration by bringing together discussions of the phenomenon emanating from different disciplines and focusing on both international and internal labour mobility.

While labour mobility involves migration, the willingness to migrate in search of employment is in itself insufficient to compel anyone to move. Other processes related to the existence (or lack) of opportunities in both sending and receiving countries and regions, the imaginaries one has of life as a migrant, and the many different rules and regulations that hinder, facilitate or even stimulate (cross-border) movement are all of great importance in the decision-making process of migrants and those who aspire to become such. With this volume we aim to draw cross-contextual parallels by addressing the questions of the role played by opportunities in mobilizing people, how structures enable, sustain, and change different forms of mobility, how imaginaries fuel labour migration and vice-versa.

We are seeking empirical contributions that focus on:

- the structures and 'regimes of mobility' that underpin how people set in motion and how the former enable and delineate particular forms of cross-border and internal mobility.
- the imaginaries driving desires and decisions to migrate. Aspirations to migrate -and where to go - are often developed with reference to common narratives surrounding labour mobility as a way to improve one's life, to stories told by migrant kin, or through imageries purported by media. Employers and authorities also act based on their own imaginaries of what migrants may bring to the job: for instance, migrants from certain (ethnic, religious, regional, etc.) backgrounds are expected to be hard working whereas others are perceived as fortune-seekers in some places.

The collection will be submitted to the CeMIS series with Leuven University Press and edited by Fiona-Katharina Seiger, Christiane Timmerman, Johan Wets and Noel B. Salazar, with planned publication for mid-2019.

Chapter proposals should be 250-300 words, accompanied by a brief biography, for essays of approximately 5000 words in length.

Please email proposals and biographies to Ms An Daems (an.daems@uantwerpen.be) before 15th August 2018. Accepted authors will be notified by September 2018, and complete essays will be due by 15th December 2018.