

**Registration:**

If you would like to participate, please register with the Conference Team by 8 September, 2008 at the latest

**Registration Fee:**

80 Euros for 2 Days / reduced fee 50 Euros  
60 Euros 1 Day

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**Conference Venue:**

Gästehaus Teerhof, Teerhof 58, 28199 Bremen

**Further Information:**

[www.geographie.uni-bremen.de](http://www.geographie.uni-bremen.de)  
[www.forstar.uni-bremen.de](http://www.forstar.uni-bremen.de)

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## Towards new Geographies of Migration?

Transnational Spaces,  
Immigrant Entrepreneurship  
and Development as Builders of  
Social and Spatial Organization in Europe

### International Conference in Bremen, 26/27 September 2008

The conference concentrates on new forms of migratory strategies that transcend more traditional ideas of social and spatial organization. It gives weight to an interpretation that sees migration as an outcome of international relations of power on the one hand and as a migrant agency on the other, generating new spatial arrangements (on the local, the national, the global level). Embedded in processes of globalization and restructuring, migrants are often able to introduce social and economic change in certain, often weak sectors and spaces of society. We interpret migrants as one pushing force in the process of rescaling and we argue that migration functions as a definitory power of social and spatial organization in Europe. New geographies of migration emerge and contribute to broader social change in Europe. These new geographies are discussed along four lines of thought during the conference.

## Friday 26.09.2008

### I. The Production of Representations and Myths

Ideas and images of foreign and unknown places may act as a stimulus to consider migration and for the individual decision to migrate.

- 10:00 – 10:20 **Introduction** by **Prof. Dr. Felicitas Hillmann** and **BIGSSS**
- 10:20 – 11:10 **Keynote:** Immigrant Work Strategies and Social Rights: the Construction and Circulation of Myths  
**Dr. Vasta, Ellie & Erdemir, Aykan**  
*The Centre on Migration Policy and Society (COMPAS), Oxford*
- 11:10 – 11:50 Labour Deficit Equalizers and Development Agents: the Making of “National Pride” and “Transnational Shame” in Migrant Domestic and ICT Workers  
**Dr. Shinozaki, Kyoko**  
*University of Frankfurt, Department for Social Sciences*

#### 10 Minutes Coffee & Tea

- 12:00 – 12:40 Shisha Cafes in Paris: Marketing an Eastern Dream  
**Dr. Pagès-El Karoui, Delphine**  
*Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO), Paris, Département Etudes Arabes; University of Poitiers, Migrations Internationales, Espaces et Sociétés (MIGRINTER)*
- 13:10 – 14:00 Lunch**
- 12:40 – 13:10 “Smiling, Dancing, Being happy” – The Effects of National Images in the Context of Transnational Migration  
**Stelzig, Sabina**  
*University of Hamburg, Department of Social Sciences*

### II. The Shaping of Transnational Hierarchies, Diasporas and Development

Transnational hierarchies as produced by the diaspora and by (migrant) organizations become relevant for spatial and social development in migration processes.

- 14:00 – 14:50 **Keynote:** Perceptions and Practices of Co-Development among Moroccans and Ecuadorians in Catalunya  
**Dr. Østergaard-Nielsen, Eva**  
*Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona, Department for Social Sciences*
- 14:50 – 15:30 Transnational Entrepreneurship, Local/International Linkages and Impact on Regional Growth – Empirical Insights from ‘New Argonauts’ in China and Lessons for Europe  
**Prof. Dr. Sternberg, Rolf & Müller, Claudia**  
*University of Hanover, Department of Economic and Cultural Geography / Worldbank, Washington*

#### 10 Minutes Coffee & Tea

- 15:40 – 16:20 The Role of Transnational Networks and Legal Status in Securing a Living: Ghanaian Migrants in the Netherlands  
**Dr. Mazzucato, Valentina**  
*University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences*
- 16:20 – 17:00 Ghanaian Migrants in Germany and the Social Construction of Diaspora  
**Dr. Nieswand, Boris**  
*Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen*
- 17:30 **Reception at the Town Hall**
- 20:00 **Conference Dinner**

## Saturday 27.09.2008

### III. Transitions in Immigrant Work Strategies and New Work Arrangements

Especially new immigrant work strategies and networks, including informal employment and work arrangements and their interdependence with new forms of migration constitute new geographies.

- 9:30 – 10:20 **Keynote:** Between Informality & Integration: Chinese Migrant Entrepreneurs in the EU  
**Dr. Panayiotopoulos, Prodromos**  
*University of Wales, UK, Centre for Development Studies*
- 10:20 – 11:00 Transnationalism and American Exports in an English-Speaking World  
**Prof. Dr. Light, Ivan**  
*University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Department of Sociology*

#### 10 Minutes Coffee & Tea

- 11:10 – 11:50 Transnational Communities and Regional Cluster Dynamics. The Impact of Jain Traders on the Change of the Antwerp Diamond District  
**Dr. Henn, Sebastian**  
*Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Institute of Geosciences, Department of Economic Geography*
- 11:50 – 12:20 Transnational Ties as the last Resource on the Labour Market? A Comparison between Moroccan and Vietnamese Immigrants in Germany.  
**Goethe, Katharina & Schmiz, Antonie**  
*University of Bremen, Department of Geography*

#### 12:20 – 13:30 Lunch

### IV. The Fixing of Visible and Invisible Borders

The new geographies are confined by various hallmarks. Some of them are institutionalized and easily to be identified. Others are less ostentatious and part of shifting frontiers of inclusion and exclusion.

- 13:30 – 14:20 **Keynote:** From Social to Criminal Networks: Central American Migration and Transnationalism in the Age of Rightslessness  
**Dr. Nyberg Sørensen, Ninna**  
*Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS), Copenhagen; Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Guatemala City*
- 14:20 – 15:00 Conceptualising Circular Migration: The EU-MENA Case  
**Dr. des. Fakhoury-Mühlbacher, Tamirace**  
*European University Institute, Florence, Robert Schumann Centre for Advanced Studies*

#### 10 Minutes Coffee & Tea

- 15:10 – 15:40 The Greenhouses of Southern Spain: An Entrance to the European Labour Markets  
**Lindner, Katja**  
*Graduate Centre Humanities and Social Sciences, Research Academy Leipzig*
- 15:40 – 16:10 Institutional Responses to Managing Migration Flows – The Role of the ILO in Managing Migration Flows and Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings and Forced Labour Exploitation  
**Thomann, Lars**  
*Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS); University of Mannheim, Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung (MZES)*

#### 16:10 – 16:30 Concluding Remarks and Farewell