CALL FOR PANELS AND PAPERS

The 16th conference of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM) will be hosted by the Centre for Migration Studies, the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, and the Faculty of Law and Public Administration at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland from July 12-15, 2016.

Abstracts are due by February 1, 2016.

IASFM 16:
Rethinking Forced Migration and Displacement: Theory, Policy, and Praxis

Introduction

The 16th conference of IASFM will take place on July 12-15, 2016 at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland. It will be hosted by the Centre for Migration Studies, the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, and the Faculty of Law and Public Administration.

This is the first time that IASFM members will gather in Central Europe. The setting for the 16th IASFM conference is especially important as we watch the most recent refugee crisis unfold in Europe, including in countries that historically were refugee-producing spaces and now have to provide durable solutions for forced migrants fleeing armed conflicts and asking for refuge in Europe. These developments constitute a significant opportunity to rethink and redefine forced migration. Existing concepts and definitions are rooted in historical transformations—political, legal and social—that led to refugee movements post-World War II and during the Cold War, but are they appropriate for the diversity and complexity of the 21st century forced migration?
International responses to recent conflicts in Syria and Ukraine have resulted in a heated public debate about who belongs in Europe and who does not. However, similar debates about whether refugees should be accepted or not are also taking place elsewhere in the world. Therefore, it is time to engage in discussion involving researchers and practitioners on when, how and why forced migrants have “the right to have rights”, to quote Hannah Arendt. The answers to these extremely sensitive political problems should be the subject of deep analysis involving social scientists, legal scholars, historians, and representatives of humanitarian organizations, policy makers, and when possible refugees. Such interdisciplinary perspectives will give the participants of the IASFM 16 the opportunity to develop a deeper reflection on forced migration concepts, definitions, and issues from historical and contemporary as well as regional and global perspectives.

**Themes**

The Program Committee is pleased to invite colleagues in forced migration studies and practitioners working with forced migrants to submit proposals for Organized Paper Panels, Roundtables, and Individual Papers for sessions to be created by the Committee. We will give preference to organized panels and roundtables over individual papers. However, we will circulate panel proposals through the IASFM Listserv and Facebook in order to connect panel organizers with authors of individual papers to facilitate fruitful collaboration. Below is a list of themes around which paper panels and roundtables should be organized. We might consider panel proposals on additional sub-themes, but they must correspond with the overall theme of the conference *Rethinking Forced Migration and Displacement: Theory, Policy, and Praxis*.

1. Who is a refugee? Old concepts, new realities
2. Citizenship, nationhood, and forced migration: Ideologies and policies of inclusion and exclusion
3. From refugee to refuge: The history and evolution of forced migration in East and Central Europe
4. Forced movements in the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean: Humanitarianism, human rights or human security?*
5. Regional responses to forced migration: The importance of local context—economic, social, and cultural—in crafting policy responses
6. UNHCR and IOM: Collaboration potential and pitfalls
7. Towards durable solutions for refugees, internally displaced, trafficked victims, and other forced migrants: Beyond immediate assistance and protection
8. State fragility and displacement: Concepts, realities, and the rule of law
9. Researching forced migration: Engagements, methodologies, and ethics

10. The power of imaginaries: Demonization and celebration of forced migration in words and images

11. Gender and sexualities: Protection challenges and possibilities

12. The long journey home: Return and reintegration

13. The struggle of belonging: Forming and reforming social identities of young refugees and asylum seekers

14. Climate change and displacement

Rules of participation

Conference participants may only make one paper presentation. In addition to a paper presentation, they may also play a second role: organize/chair a panel and/or roundtable or be a discussant on a panel or roundtable.

Paper Panels

The Program Committee will give preference to panel proposals over individual papers. Panels organized on the basis of any of the proposed themes will ensure cohesive discussions throughout the conference. The Committee will look favorably on imaginative panels that incorporate comparative perspectives, cross-disciplinary boundaries, and engage debates between scholars and practitioners and when possible forced migrants. We will limit panels to a maximum of two consecutive ninety-minute sessions, each of which can hold a maximum of four papers. Paper presentations should last between 15-20 minutes allowing for discussion and questions from the audience.

Roundtable Discussions

The Program Committee encourages organization of roundtable discussions involving forced migration scholars, policy-makers, practitioners, and if possible refugees and forced migrants. Roundtables might also be a good venue for doctoral students and young migration scholars to exchange ideas about research ethics, methodological issues, peer review, etc. Roundtables organized by doctoral students might also involve editors or experts from whom the emerging scholars would like to learn. Roundtable discussions are limited to 90 minutes. There is no possibility of having a double roundtable session. The number of participants in a roundtable should not exceed six persons to allow for a robust discussion and questions from the audience.

Individual papers
As indicated above, we will give preference to panel and roundtable proposals, but will consider individual papers provided that they correspond with one of the themes proposed above.

**Submission of panel, roundtable, and paper proposal**

All panel, roundtable, and paper proposals must be submitted online by **February 1, 2016** through the following link: [http://tinyurl.com/ns99dzd](http://tinyurl.com/ns99dzd). Late submissions will not be accepted. If you experience any technical difficulties in submitting your abstract, please contact Michele Millard at [mmillard@yorku.ca](mailto:mmillard@yorku.ca).

**Language**

The official language of the IASFM is English. All papers and roundtable discussions must be presented in English.

Requests for further information can be made to the following email address: [iasfm16@gmail.com](mailto:iasfm16@gmail.com).