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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

WORKSHOP

INSTITUTE OF SOCIOLOGY

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF BERN

22nd and 23rd November 2013

Contested Control at the Margins of the State



photography: Fylakio detention centre (detail)
Georg Gatsas 2012

Contested Control at the Margins of the State

Control practices and migrants' mobility in the Schengen/Dublin area

THE TWO-DAY WORKSHOP "CONTESTED CONTROL AT THE MARGINS OF THE STATE" TAKES UP CONTEMPORARY DEBATES ON THE INTERDEPENDENCIES BETWEEN MIGRANTS' TRAJECTORIES, CONTROL PRACTICES, AND THE PRODUCTION OF STATE. IT DOES SO BY CRITICALLY EXAMINING PRACTICES OF VARIOUS ACTORS ENGAGED IN THE FIELD OF MIGRATION AS WELL AS INTERACTIONS BETWEEN THEM. THE CONTRIBUTORS WILL PRESENT EMPIRICAL FINDINGS FROM ON-GOING RESEARCH PROJECTS AND CONCEPTUAL DISCUSSIONS.

The field of asylum and migration policies offers an excellent starting point for raising empirical and conceptual questions around state and governance. Furthermore, it discloses a struggle over the freedom of movement, the right of residence, and state sovereignty. It is in these fields of contestation that margins of the state are produced.

The overall aim of this two-day workshop is to discuss how state is constructed through governance practices concerning migration. We are interested in how different actors engage in the field of migration and, thus, how their practices contribute to the formation of the migration regime.

The workshop brings together researchers from various disciplines working from different perspectives with an empirical focus on aspects of the European border regime.

The presentations and discussions will evolve around the following fields and concepts: control practices and technologies, networks, credibility, deportability, and migration regimes. This will enable empirical research and conceptual discussions to be combined.

The workshop is organised by the Institute of Sociology and the Institute of Social Anthropology of the University of Bern. It is financially supported by the Mittelbauvereinigung Universität Bern MVUB.

Programme

Friday 22nd November

Unitobler, Room -F121

10:30h 11:00h	Registration and Coffee Introduction
11:15h – 13:00h	Session I: Control Practices Dr. Franck Düvell (University of Oxford) The political and legal construction of irregular migration. External and internal control practices and their effects Prof Dr. Godfried Engbersen (Erasmus University of Rotterdam) Europe's Arizona. On the Local Limits to Migration Control
Lunch Break	
14:30h – 16:00h	Session II: Control Technologies Simon Sontowski, M.A. (University of Zurich) Assembling biometric sorting machines. On socio-material ordering and the technological work of automated border control tba
Coffee Break	
16:15h – 18:15h	Session III: Networks Dr. Michael Collyer (University of Sussex) Tactical migration: visibility, invisibility, legibility and suspension Simon Affolter, M.A. (University of Bern) The informal form: recruiting networks for cheap and flexible work force in the agricultural labour market Anna Wyss, M.A. (University of Bern) Lost in transit? Fragmented journeys and social networks of migrants with little chance of admission in Europe
Dinner	

Saturday 23rd November

Unitobler, Room -F122

09:30h – 11:00h

Session IV: Credibility

Laura Affolter, M.A. (University of Bern) "Doing credibility". Credibility assessment in Swiss asylum bureaucracies

Dr. Tobias Eule (University of Bern) Defying identification? Evaluations of migrants' "duty to cooperate" in German immigration offices

Coffee Break

11:15h – 12:45h

Session V: Deportability

Dr. Nicholas de Genova (Kings College London) tba

David Loher, M.A. (University of Bern) The governance of voluntariness. Switzerland's programme for assisted voluntary return migration to Tunisia

Lunch

14:00h – 16:00h

Session VI: Border Regime/ Migration Regime

Prof. Dr. Giuseppe Sciortino (University of Trento) The regulation of irregular population

Giada de Coulon, M.A. (University of Lausanne) From deportability to regularizability. Switzerland's illegalized aliens in front of the law

lic. rer. soc. Simone Marti (University of Bern) Deregulation strategies and their regulating effects: The termination of Social Assistance for rejected asylum seekers in Switzerland

Venue

Unitobler, University of Bern, Länggassstrasse 49, Berne, Switzerland

The workshop takes place in the seminar building: entrance Lerchenweg 36

Bus no. 12 direction Länggasse, bus stop Mittelstrasse or Universität

Registration

The workshop is open to students and researchers. For registration, please send an email to anna.wyss@soz.unibe.ch by 8th November 2013.

Organising committee: Tobias Eule, Anna Wyss (Institute of Sociology, University of Bern), Laura Affolter, Simon Affolter, David Loher, Simone Marti (Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern)
with financial support from MVUB Bern, Institute of Sociology and Institute of Social Anthropology University of Bern.