Tuesday, 19 November 2019, 14:15-16:00

FRANCK DÜVELL
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“Quo vadis, migration studies?
Towards a migratory epistemology”

A critical reflection of the conventional concepts used in migration studies

In my presentation I will first set the scene by sketching the link between changing migration and mobility patterns, processes of social transformation, corresponding migration control practices and according cycles of migration research. Second, I will demonstrate that from the 1980s, in the US, and the 1990s, in Europe, migration studies have been booming and that over time a plethora of typologies, concepts and theories have emerged. Third, I will analyse that, nevertheless, to date even the definition of migration remains inconsistent whereas the conceptualisation of migration is haunted by numerous biases which leads to various and often conflicting understandings of the impact of migration. Fourth, I will suggest that migration research must acknowledge key intersectionalities whilst being rooted in thorough ethical reflections. To overcome the manifold distortions and systemic biases I promote a new migratory epistemology.

FRANCK DÜVELL, PhD, is head of the migration department at the new German Centre for Integration and Migration Research (DeZIM), Berlin (since 2018). Previously, he was associate professor and senior researcher at the Centre for Migration, Policy and Society at the University of Oxford. Franck is an expert on refugee, irregular and transit migration and migration governance, specifically in the EU and its neighbourhood. He has also worked for the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, SEO Amsterdam Economics, the Nicolaas Witsen Foundation, the University of Exeter and University of Bremen and did consultancies for the IOM, OSCE, and World Bank and provided evidence to the EU Council, the Council of Europe, the British parliament, the Turkish Directorate General for Migration Management and many others. He has published 10 books and over 50 peer-reviewed articles.