



The University of Victoria (UVic) is home to the project “**Canada-Europe Dialogues on Migration (CEDoM):** Cross-Border Mobility and the European Union Refugee Crisis”. This project is co-funded by Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, housed at the Centre for Global Studies, and carried out under the framework of the EU-Canada Network (www.eucanet.org) at the University of Victoria.

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

Governing Migration and Refugees: A Transatlantic Perspective

by Dr. Oliver Schmidtke

Migration is one of the most urgent issues of our world today: The years 2015 and 2016 were the most turbulent in recent history of refugee movements in Europe and Canada. Amongst other factors, the Syrian conflict generated massive flows of people seeking refuge in Europe and elsewhere. From 2011 to 2015, the number of forcibly displaced people rose from 42.5 to 65.3 million globally. This course will tackle some fundamental questions about the root causes and the governance of migration from a comparative perspective (mainly North America and Europe). How are the lives of migrants/refugees who move across national borders influenced by international laws, national policies, and practices of social exclusion or inclusion? How do liberal democracies react to the challenge of a massive inflow of refugees and manage their borders? How are issues related to migration politicized in different national contexts with a view to debates surrounding irregular migration, refugee policy, security, multiculturalism and the integration of newcomers? How does this issue play out in electoral and party politics and how does it relate to the rise of the populist right? In addition, the course will offer

students the opportunity to get involved in writing policy recommendations, engage in a blogging exercise, and visit a refugee association in Victoria.

INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS

WEEK 1: Introduction

Week 2: Migration as a global phenomenon

- A global perspective on migration
- Disciplinary and theoretical approaches to studying migration

Week 3: Governing migration in the European system of multi-level governance

- Management of international migration at different levels of governance
- Coordination of domestic and international approaches

Week 4: Securitizing Migration – *Borders and border control in Europe*

- Social and political effects of border regimes
- Securitization as a driving force in governing international migration

Week 5: The Politics of Migration in the European Union

- Migration and refugees as issues in competitive party politics
- Rise of the populist, anti-immigrant Right

Week 6: Refugees as a policy and moral challenge: *The ‘Refugee Crisis’ in the EU*

- Assessing the ‘refugee crisis’ in Europe

Week 7: Settling and accommodating refugees on the ground – *Canada in comparative perspective*

- Addressing the settlement of refugees on the ground in comparative perspective
- Policy options and socio-political effects of refugee settlement

Week 8: Migration, Citizenship and Belonging

Week 9: Presentation of national case studies

Week 10: Presentation of national case studies and conclusion of the course