

BORDERING MIGRATION

Theoretical Debates and Recent
Developments in Border Policies
and Practice

March 20-21, 2023
Toronto Metropolitan University

Bordering Migration Workshop: Theoretical Debates and Recent Developments in Border Policies and Practice

Date and Time: March 20th, 2023 8:30AM - 3:30PM EDT and March 21st, 2023 8:30AM - 3:15PM EDT

Location: In person at the CERC Migration Office, Eaton Centre, 220 Yonge Street Suite 204, and Online

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Border control policies are implemented to facilitate and restrict mobility in the name of governmental mandates for orderly and secure migration channels. Over the past decades, States have adopted "smarter" approaches to border control to limit access to and stay in their territory of unwanted migrants and border crossers. Bordering processes encompass a plurality of ways in which borders are actively expanded and constricted to regulate mobility beyond and within geographical and colonial boundaries of nation-states. From border walls to algorithms, detention centres to classrooms, bordering poses significant challenges for the human rights of people on the move. Border control and cooperation within and among States can prevent people from accessing refugee protection, restrict movement across Indigenous lands, perpetuate insecure immigration status, and subject people to technological and physical modes of border policing and violence. They increase safety risk, as people desperate for alternatives tend to embark on dangerous journeys often subject to smuggling enterprises. People are treated differently at border sites based on grounds of race, gender, and other identities, showing the deeply embedded discriminatory and oppressive nature of bordering.

This workshop aims to advance transformative border studies, human rights scholarship, and policy from diverse critical and interdisciplinary perspectives in Canada and internationally. The first day of the workshop presents three panels which address migration control policies and practices with a focus on their securitizing nature and their implications for migrants' rights. The second day of the workshop consists of two panels and a roundtable discussion which elaborate on border regimes in the North American context and probe issues surrounding the Canada-US border crossings, the emerging border technologies, and access to protection. The collective aim of these discussions is to explore the implications of bordering processes for the fundamental rights and freedoms of migrants, and the ways in which borders have been rescaled and reconfigured to regulate mobility. The workshop also seeks to surface innovative theoretical and methodological approaches in migration and border studies.

PROGRAM

MARCH 20, 2023

8:30AM - 9:00AM EDT

Welcome Reception

9:00AM - 9:30AM EDT

Welcome: **Donna Young**, Dean of Law, Lincoln Alexander School of Law, Toronto Metropolitan University

Introductory Remarks: **Idil Atak**, Lincoln Alexander School of Law, Toronto Metropolitan University and **Claire Ellis**, Toronto Metropolitan University

9:30AM - 11:00AM EDT

Panel I: 'Irregular' Migrants, (Im)Mobilities and Human Rights

Chair: Claire Linley, York University

Countering Human Rights from Within? Reverse Strategic Litigation by States to Legitimize Migration Control Policies | **Janna Wessels**, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Stories from the Hidden World of Immigration Detention in Canada | **Julie Kim**, Toronto Metropolitan University

Messy Governance of Return Migration: Formal Policies, Informal Practices and Migrants' Navigation | **Anna Triandafyllidou**, CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University and **Zeynep Sahin-Mencütek**, Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies / CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University (online)

11:00AM - 11:30AM EDT

Health Break

11:30AM - 1:00PM EDT

Panel II: Border Controls, Securitization and the Way Forward

Chair: Idil Atak, Toronto Metropolitan University

Controlling the Borders or Granting Protection. Institutional Change and Strategic Decision-Making | **Hakan Gurcan Sicakkan**, University of Bergen and **Pierre-Georges VanWolleghe**m, University of Bergen

Irregular or Illegal in Europe? The Struggle over the Securitization of Migrants | **Elsbeth Guild**, Queen Mary University of London

Securing Borders and Facilitating Mobility are not Incompatible | **François Crépeau**, McGill University

1:00PM - 2:00PM EDT

Lunch Break

2:00PM - 3:30PM EDT

Panel III: Historical, Legal, and Social Dimensions and Realities of the Border Regimes in North America

Chair: Sara Asalya, Newcomer Women's Services

Ceci n'est pas une frontière: Loopholes, Irregularity, and the Governance of the Canada-US Border (online) | **Julie Young**, University of Lethbridge

Bordering Through Orders-in-Council During Covid-19 | **Efrat Arbel**, University of British Columbia

Fixed or Fluid? Shifting Federal Policy Controls and Indigenous Responses at the Canada-US Border | **Paul McKenzie-Jones**, University of Lethbridge

Historicizing North America's Border Regimes (online) | **Sheila McManus**, University of Lethbridge

MARCH 21, 2023

8:30AM - 9:00AM EDT

Welcome Reception

9:00AM - 10:30AM EDT

Panel IV: Border Technologies and Institutional Dynamics

Chair: Henry Parada, Toronto Metropolitan University

Hardening the Border: Generations, Gender and Technologies in Canadian Bordering Practices | **Karine Côté-Boucher**, Université de Montréal

Technological Violence Through High-Risk Experiments at The Border | **Petra Molnar**, Refugee Law Lab, York University

The Digitization of Border Controls and Their Corporate Actors | **Didier Bigo**, Sciences-Po Paris and King's College London

The shifting vocation of maritime Search and Rescue in Europe: from protecting human life to protecting the border | **Luna Vives**, Université de Montréal

10:30AM - 11:00AM EDT

Health break

11:00AM - 12:30PM EDT

Roundtable Discussion: Crossing the Canada-US Border and Access to Protection

Chair: John Shields, Toronto Metropolitan University

Matt Tice, Jericho Road Community Health Centre, Buffalo

Loly Rico, FCJ Refugee Centre, Toronto

Alastair Clarke, Clarke Immigration Law, Winnipeg

Jenny Jeanes, Action Réfugiés Montréal

12:30PM - 1:30PM EDT

Lunch Break

1:30PM - 3:00PM EDT

Panel V: Advancing the Protection of Migrants: Progress and Challenges
Chair: Graham Hudson, Toronto Metropolitan University

Conditional Welcome: The Role of Security and Stability in Refugee Management in South(ern) Africa | **Nick Maple**, University of London

Bordering Regularization: Assessment of Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria in Early Canadian Regularization Programs | **David Moffette**, University of Ottawa

Undocumented 101: Bordering and Countering in the Immigrant Classroom | **Paloma E. Villegas**, California State University and **Tanya Aberman**, York University

Civil Society Organisations as Challengers to the State-Based Order in Managing Borders | **Simon Usherwood**, Open University

3:00PM - 3:15PM EDT

Concluding remarks

Bordering Migration Workshop: Theoretical Debates and Recent Developments in Border Policies and Practice

ABSTRACTS

Panel I: 'Irregular' Migrants and their (Im)Mobilities

Countering human rights from within? Reverse strategic litigation by States to legitimise migration control policies | Janna Wessels, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

The European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) is a central forum for 'jurisgenerative deliberations' on the human rights of migrants in Europe. In recent years, scholars have diagnosed a tendency of the Court to rule against the human rights of migrants and in favour of the State accused of human rights violations ('Strasbourg reversal'). The Grand Chamber judgments in *Ilias and Ahmed v Hungary* (2019) on immigration detention at the border, and *ND and NT v Spain* (2020) on the practice of 'hot returns' in the Spanish enclaves Ceuta and Melilla, are two paradigmatic examples of this development. After, in each case, the Chamber had ruled in favour of the migrant, the cases were referred to the Grand Chamber, which reversed the judgment and ruled in favour of the State. This raises the question of why States appear to be more successful than migrant advocates in litigation. While research has examined the impact and shortcomings of strategic litigation by migrant advocacy groups, and has also investigated the biases of judges, there is hardly any understanding of the (tacit) mechanisms that States use to influence the Court's decision. This paper analyses these two judgments from the perspective of "reverse strategic litigation" by States before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. It thus aims to trace the ways in which the responding States attempted – and succeeded –, through their legal arguments submitted in the cases, to "counter human rights from within" and achieve a legitimization of their border control policies.

Stories from the Hidden World of Immigration Detention in Canada | Julie Kim, Toronto Metropolitan University

The inhumane treatment within immigration detention remains largely hidden in Canadian media and discourse as it is overshadowed by Canada's global reputation as a benevolent immigrant nation-state. Semi-structured interviews have been conducted with two former detainees in Toronto, Ontario to extract stories of the lived experiences of detainees on their own accounts. The interviews covered the lived experiences of detainees before, during, and after immigration detention. By applying a phenomenological-narrative design and centring crimmigration and structuration as guiding theoretical frameworks, the research evidences that participants' autonomy was curtailed due the inhumane and criminalizing treatment they were subjected to. However, they were able to continue exercising their agency through a unique set of avenues including their efforts to organize their release, their everyday interactions with other detainees, and how they choose to make sense of their realities.

Messy Governance of Return Migration: Formal Policies, Informal Practices and Migrants' Navigation | Anna Triandafyllidou, CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University and Zeynep Sahin-Mencütek, Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies / CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University

This paper focuses specifically on these return procedures which have been generally labelled as voluntary or assisted voluntary returns but which we label as 'coerced returns' – notably expulsions, deportations and removals investigating the complex ways through which these returns take place and unpacking the policy and practice dynamics within them. This paper develops five related arguments. First, it challenges the 'voluntary'-forced return dichotomy arguing that the returns of irregular migrants or refused asylum seekers or temporary refugees (e.g. Syrian 'guests' in Turkey) are coerced - 'force'

is embedded in all returns. Second, though, it argues that the level of coercion involved in different situations varies and includes both formal and informal mechanisms and practices. Third, we develop a typology of coerced return mechanisms, notably pushing, imposing, and incentivising returns. Fourth, we highlight how within each of these mechanisms, formal and informal practices are brought together by the actors involved, in strategic ways with a view of achieving the outcome. Our fifth argument is that migrants 'navigate' these return mechanisms in aspirational ways and negotiate with multiple intermediaries, including smugglers, border guards, officers, lawyers, NGOs, migrant community (or co-ethnic, co-religious communities), and nuclear or extended family members. Beyond desk research on relevant policy and legal documents and scholarly literature, the paper is based on observations and documentation of practices derived from field research and 86 interviews conducted with returnees in the period 2019-2022. The interviewees are Syrians, Afghans, Iraqis, Albanians and Kosovars who had entered Turkey, Greece, Germany, Sweden and other European countries between 2014-17 and who were coerced to return to their origin country not later than summer 2022.

Panel II: Border Controls and Securitization

***Controlling the Borders or Granting Protection. Institutional Change and Strategic Decision-Making* | Hakan Gurcan Sicakkan, University of Bergen and Pierre-Georges VanWollegem, University of Bergen**

International terrorism and heightened security concerns have contributed to increasingly restrictive border policies. These contextual elements have plunged European states in a kind of schizophrenia in which great importance is attached to the principle of asylum but enormous efforts are made to deter or prevent asylum seekers from reaching (or settling in) countries that could offer them protection. The conflation of asylum policy with migration control instruments has characterised a move from an individual right-based model of international protection to a statist model in which "the right of asylum is the right of the states to grant asylum, not the right of individuals to be granted asylum" (Joppke, 1997: 262). Our research investigates the tension between border control and duty to protect in two ways. Firstly, we examine the progressive tightening of borders through changes in asylum decision-making institutions. We also consider the transnationalization of border control through deepened European Union integration in the context of the New Pact on Migration and Asylum. Secondly, we analyse states' strategic implementation of their duty to protect and how they strike a balance between controlled migration and respect for human rights.

***Irregular or Illegal in Europe? The Struggle over the Securitization of Migrants* | Elspeth Guild, Queen Mary University of London**

In Europe the categorization of migrants as irregular or illegally present or working has become the subject of common legislation to diminish their numbers through expulsion (EU legislation) and to protect their human rights notwithstanding their immigration status (Council of Europe). The tension between these two positions is no where more obvious than in the terminology used by the different institutions: the EU insists on the term illegal migrants while the Council of Europe rejects it as implying a negative relationship with criminal law and prefers irregularly present migrants. In this presentation I will examine the tensions between a securitization approach and a human rights approach as evidenced by the two European supranational institutions.

***Securing borders and facilitating mobility are not incompatible* | François Crépeau, McGill University**

In the *Global Compact on Migration*, States committed to "facilitating mobility" through a number of measures including, *inter alia*, enhancing availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration, facilitating family reunification, facilitating fair and ethical recruitment and ensuring decent work, facilitating regularization of status, providing access to basic services for migrants regardless of migration status. Banking on migrants' agency and progressively allowing them to come and go according to their own priorities in search of a place where they can thrive would contribute to reducing underground labour

markets and the criminality they create, allowing for better controls at borders, and focusing security resources on effective criminal intelligence efforts.

Panel III: Border Technologies and Institutional Dynamics

***Hardening the Border: Generations, Gender and Technologies in Canadian Bordering Practices* | Karine Côté-Boucher, Université de Montréal**

Karine Côté-Boucher's presentation will be based on her latest book *Border Frictions* published with Routledge. She will examine the factors that led to the hardening of border control in Canada, including the transformation of the organizational culture in Canadian border services. Particularly, she will unpack how the fraught circulation of data, the distinct generational socialization of border officers and gendered dynamics and representations involved in shaping the meanings of border control have contributed to making a customs organization into a border-policing agency. In a time when surveillance technologies track and filter the mobilities of goods and people, as well as push their control beyond and inside geopolitical borderlines, the presentation will unpack how we have come to accept the idea that it is vital to deploy coercive bordering tactics at the land border.

***Technological Violence Through High-Risk Experiments at The Border* | Petra Molnar, Refugee Law Lab, York University**

Practices of border violence increasingly rely on high-risk technological experiments. Predictive analytics used for interdictions, AI-powered lie detectors and powerful sound cannons are just some of the more recent tools that states, private entities, and even international organizations use to manage migration. Certain places like borders serve as testing grounds for new technologies, because regulation and oversight is limited and an 'anything goes' frontier attitude informs the development and deployment of surveillance and automation. A growing multi-billion dollar border industrial complex also underpins the development and deployment of high-risk new technologies. Based on work in Europe, East Africa, and the US-Mexico border since 2018, this presentation attempts to foreground the lived experiences of people on the move as they are interacting with the sharpest edges of experimental border technologies. The issues around emerging technologies in the management of migration are not just about the inherent use of technology but rather about how it is used and by whom, with states and private actors setting the stage for what is possible and which priorities matter. Who gets to ask questions about proposed innovations and why are perspectives from the ground up relegated to the margins?

***The Digitization of Border Controls and Their Corporate Actors* | Didier Bigo, Sciences-Po Paris and King's College London**

The dematerialisation of physical borders via the digitisation of the process of control has changed the ways we understand international frontiers. Surveillance of the borders are now exercised at a distance, before individuals arrive. Even if most border guards insist that they have the ultimate (sovereign) right to decide who enters, the development of pre-check-in databases have de facto displaced the modalities of authentication and identification of travelers. This article depicts these changes, and shows how control is 'distributed' along the journeys of the passengers, and between many different actors, who are not all, by any means, public agents. The role of corporate actors is crucial.

***The Shifting Vocation of Maritime Search and Rescue in Europe: From Protecting Human Life to Protecting the Border* | Luna Vives, Université de Montréal**

According to UNHCR data, almost 400,000 people have migrated to Europe by sea since 2000; 7,136 others have died or disappeared, making the Mediterranean one of the deadliest borders in the world. This paper focuses on the role of Search and Rescue (SAR) systems along the external maritime border of the EU and examines their evolving mission in a context of heightened tensions over irregular migration. These systems first appeared in the 1980s and 1990s, following the

adoption and ratification of the SAR Convention by European states. National SAR systems emerged gradually as a constellation of interconnected but distinct institutional and logistical arrangements with a common mission: to protect human life at sea. As spontaneous migration (and, in particular, sea migration) gained political salience, SAR systems have become instrumental elements of European border and migration policy. This shift in mission has forced other changes: differences across European SAR systems have gradually disappeared to give way to more homogeneous institutional arrangements geared towards militarized border management. In this paper, I test this convergence argument using four national SAR systems as case studies (Italian, Greek, Spanish, and French). I conclude that the cooptation of maritime SAR for migration control purposes is a major shift in the interpretation of international obligations at sea. However, this shift is neither complete nor inevitable.

Panel IV: Historical, Legal and Social Dimensions and Realities of the Border Regimes in North America

Ceci n'est pas une frontière: Loopholes, irregularity, and the governance of the Canada-US border (online) | Julie Young, University of Lethbridge

The paper focuses on heightened attention to unsanctioned crossings of the Canada-US border to examine those sectors that have come to be governed as distinct border formations. Concerns regarding enforcement of this line have seized the Canadian policy and advocacy communities since the Roxham Road refugee crisis of 2016-2019, which brought intense scrutiny to both “irregular border crossings” and the role of the “loophole” in the Canada-US Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA) that promotes such crossings. In response to dramatic increases in people walking across the Quebec-New York border to claim asylum, Canadian officials established an infrastructure for processing irregular border crossers that resembles -- but is not treated as -- an official port of entry. Drawing on scholarship on legal loopholes, the state of exception, and border refusals, the paper examines the loophole as a tool of border governance and considers when a border is and is not a border. The paper addresses how this exceptional border space was treated in the Roxham Road crisis, during the pandemic, and in relation to ongoing negotiations of the STCA, all of which disrupted the space of the Canada-US border.

Fixed or Fluid? Shifting federal policy controls and Indigenous responses at the Canada-US Border | Paul McKenzie-Jones, University of Lethbridge

Twenty first century restrictions at the Canada-US seek to reassert control over Indigenous movements in line with wider immigration policies. In many ways the forms of direct and indirect control which are asserted over Indigenous Peoples at the border are a reflection of 19th century policies of direct and indirect control asserted before border control became formally implemented in the 1920s. Some forms of control stem from stricter enforcement post 9-11, while others reflect cultural ignorance and disregard for ceremonial items being transported with people. More recently, the COVID 19 land border closure disrupted access to ceremonial sites on both sides of the border because spiritual journeys were considered non-essential travel. Concurrently, as with earlier border protest movements, contemporary movements such as Idle No More and the Tar Sands Treaty Alliance are continuing to both weaponize and ignore the border to protect Indigenous rights, raising the question – is the border fixed, as Canada and the US assert, or fluid, as Indigenous protestors assert?

Historicizing North America's Border Regimes (online) | Sheila McManus, University of Lethbridge

Discussions about migration policies often focus exclusively on the present, stemming from an understandable desire to do better for human beings who are being harmed by them right now. But such policies are not new, and their roots are in fact very old. Since their inception as nation-states Canada, the United States, and Mexico have tried to restrict or end the migration of people they considered undesirable, often working together to try and coordinate their efforts, but with mixed success. In this paper I will briefly sketch some of those efforts and outcomes to argue that understanding the roots

of contemporary practices, and in particular the ways that similar practices have failed repeatedly in the past, have the potential to bring more nuance and suggest different directions than a present-minded lens can see.

***Bordering through Orders-in-Council during Covid-19* | Efrat Arbel, University of British Columbia**

Panel V: Advancing the Protection of Migrants: Progress and Challenges

***Bordering Regularization: Assessment of Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria in Early Canadian Regularization Programs* | David Moffette, University of Ottawa**

Research on the rescaling of borderwork has mostly focused on the externalization of control to countries of origin or transit (e.g., El Qadim 2015; Tazzioli and Garelli 2018), the regional standardization of immigration and refugee law (e.g., Guild 2006; Majcher and Strik 2021), and the filtering work performed upstream by officials assessing visa applications (e.g., Haince 2014; Satzewich 2015). There is also extensive scholarship on dispersed sites of control, such as immigration detention centres (e.g., Bosworth 2014; Silverman and Molnar 2016), or gatekeeping practices by frontline service providers (e.g., Goldring and Landolt 2013). That is, research tends to focus on repressive practices of control. A priori, regularization programs occupy the opposite end of policies regarding irregular migration: they mitigate the violence of illegalization, and provide access to social, labour and human rights. While they are important policy tools that provide increased access to rights (Kraler 2021), regularization programs also partake in forms of post-hoc borderwork organized around conditionality and respectability (Chauvin and Garcés-Mascreñas 2014; Moffette 2014). My presentation looks at Canadian and European regularization programs and analyzes the modalities of borderwork performed through this inclusive policy, and the subtle ways that it excludes certain categories of people.

***Undocumented 101: Bordering and Countering in the Immigrant Classroom* | Paloma E. Villegas, California State University and Tanya Aberman, York University / FCJ Refugee Centre**

Migrant students' demands for equitable access to higher education (HE) have increased across the world in the last few decades. In Canada, migrant students have made those demands for years, yet their struggle has remained largely invisibilized, despite Canada's depiction as a liberal, multicultural and "welcoming" society. HE institutions therefore become practically and effectively bordered – exclusionary spaces that mark migrant students as undeserving of access. This presentation focuses on an access program developed in 2017 at York University in Toronto that allows undocumented, refugee claimant and other precariously documented students access to HE. Our broader project draws on interviews with, and course assignments by, access program participants undertaken in 2017. We bring together critical migration studies and critical race theory to examine the access program through the lens of two key concepts: bordering and countering. Bordering refers to the ways borders extend beyond and within the geographic delineations of nation-states. Our focus is on internal bordering practices related to schooling. Countering involves how migrants resist borders and disrupt negative framings more broadly. For this presentation, we examine the bordering practices migrant students encounter in their attempts to access HE: navigating uncomfortable questions and negotiating immigration and policing officials. We also outline how migrant students produce "cover stories" about their immigration experiences and status. We propose that cover stories are examples of strategic countering as they are learned and shared among migrants. Our research contributes to existing debates about internal borders, migrant struggles, and HE access.

***Conditional Welcome: The Role of Security and Stability in Refugee Management in South(ern) Africa* | Nick Maple, University of London**

Securitisation theory has been a valuable tool in understanding state behaviour towards refugee movement at borders and within territories. In South Africa, the securitisation of refugee issues permeates all levels of governance, including state (national and local) and ground-level perspectives. The result has been a slow shift in national refugee policy away from a

liberal free-settlement policy to increased restrictions on rights and renewed calls to move all asylum-seekers to border processing centres. Despite the utility of the “securitisation” concept, this paper questions some of the broader assumptions that underpin it. Firstly, discussions on securitisation often originate at the international level, with commentary concerning states lacking subtlety or specificity. For example, research regularly highlights how refugees and migrants are continuously framed as a security threat to a state or society, yet the reasons why individual states adopt this approach are less defined, with research often applying broader global or regional trends to state behaviour. Secondly, using the work of Vigneswaran and Quirk (2015), the paper interrogates a growing assumption in the literature that states see all cross-border movement of low-skilled migrants and refugees as entirely negative. The situation on the ground in South Africa and the wider region is more complex with several contradictions existing at the heart of responses to refugee movement. Instead, this paper proposes using the concept of “stability” to develop a better understanding of the relationship between refugee movement, state structures and reception policies in the region. In this regard, it shows how stability emerges as a dominant motivation behind how refugees are welcomed and treated in southern Africa. Specifically, the perceived risk of instability and the overriding desire to maintain the status quo (i.e. stability) drives much national and local policy in relation to refugee reception. Ultimately, a stability lens helps us to unpack observed contradictions and paradoxes at the heart of states’ responses to refugee movement in the region. Certainly, stopping all refugee movement rarely appears to be the overarching aim of a reception policy. Rather, reception policies are focused on managing movement, to maintain a sense of stability.

***Civil Society Organisations as Challengers to the State-Based Order in Managing Borders* | Simon Usherwood, Open University**

The primacy of states in the legal construction and political operation of borders is well discussed, but it does not capture the extent to which other actors play a role in making this function in practice. In particular, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) provide a significant in-field presence and services to migrants, especially refugees and others in emergency situations: this ranges from humanitarian relief and emergency health care to host country integration and family reuniting. This presence reflects on the particular strengths of CSOs in rapidly adapting to changing needs, their high level of specialisation, in part made possible precisely because they operate outside of the public sector, and the relative ease of operating across borders. Even in more regular migration flows, CSOs typically operate in countries of transmission and reception in supporting individual needs in an organic, bottom-up manner that is not easily within states’ capacities, even assuming that those states are interested in such provision at all. Consequently, if we are to have a fuller understanding of migration and borders in the contemporary international system, then it is essential to draw in civil society in general and CSOs in particular, given their role in operationalisation and their limited but not insignificant efforts to update the international order.

BIOGRAPHIES

Tanya Aberman holds a PhD in Gender Feminist and Women’s Studies from York University. Her research has focused on migration issues from intersectional feminist, critical migration and border studies perspectives. She also specializes in the area of access to education, having developed, coordinated and taught community and university-based education programs for newcomer and migrant students. Tanya is the coordinator of the Sanctuary Scholars programs at York and TMU, programs that provide access to the universities for students who have precarious immigration status. She is also one of the founders of the Sanctuary Students Solidarity and Support (S4) Collective, a member-led organization that strives to support migrant students with accessing and succeeding in secondary and post-secondary education and works with institutions to increase equitable access for these students.

Efrat Arbel is an Associate Professor in UBC’s Allard School of Law. She publishes and teaches in refugee law, prison law, constitutional law, and tort law. Her research examines how legal rights are negotiated and defined in liminal legal spaces like the border, the detention center, and the prison. Prior to joining the Allard School of Law, Dr. Arbel completed her masters and doctoral studies at Harvard Law School, where she received numerous fellowships and awards, was

Canada Research Fellow with the Weatherhead Centre for International Affairs, and worked as a researcher with the Harvard Immigration and Refugee Law Clinic. She held a postdoctoral appointment at the University of British Columbia between 2012-2014, with visiting appointments at the Oxford Center for Criminology (2013) and the European University Institute (2014). Currently, Dr. Arbel is principal investigator on a SSHRC funded project that brings the insights of trauma-informed practice to immigration detention. She is also analyzing the application of the law of torts to immigration detention, evaluating the impact of Canadian border restrictions on refugees, and mapping the treatment of gender, gender-identity, and gender expression in refugee decision making. Together with PhD candidate Molly Joeck, Dr. Arbel is recipient of a Covid-19 Wall Solutions Award for research examining how the onset of Covid-19 has impacted immigration detention. Combining her academic work with legal practice, Dr. Arbel is regularly engaged in advocacy and litigation involving refugee and prisoner rights.

Idil Atak is an associate professor at the Lincoln Alexander School of Law. Before joining Toronto Met, Idil earned her PhD at Université de Montréal's Faculty of Law and was a SSHRC postdoctoral fellow at McGill University's Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism. She currently serves as a director-at-large for the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS). Idil was a member of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration's (IASFM) executive committee and a past president of the CARFMS. She served as Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Migration and Border Studies (IJMBS) from 2017 to 2020.

Didier Bigo is research professor of International Political Sociology at Sciences-Po Paris-CERI, France. He is also part time professor at King's College London, department of War studies. He earned his PhD in political science on 'Le pouvoir personnel en Centrafrique', from Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. He is also Director of the Centre for Study of Conflicts, Liberty and Security (CCLS) and editor of the quarterly journal 'Cultures & Conflits' published by l'Harmattan. He is one of the co-editor of PARISS (Political Anthropological Research on International Social Sciences) journal (Brill, 2019), as well as founder and previous co-editor with Rob Walker of the ISA journal International Political Sociology. His research interests include Sociology of Border controls, Biometrics identifiers and Databases interoperability, International Political Sociology, Human Rights and Antiterrorist policies and Travellers, Migrants and Refugees to name a few.

Alastair Clarke was Called to the Bar in Ontario in 2008 and in Manitoba in 2013. He has focused his legal practice on immigration & refugee law and regularly appears before the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) and at Federal Court. During his time in Toronto, he served on the Executive of the Toronto Refugee Affairs Council (TRAC), on the Executive of the Ontario Bar Association (OBA) and was involved with many other groups. Outside of practice, he was a part-time Instructor at Seneca College. In Manitoba, Alastair founded Clarke Immigration Law and works closely with a team of professionals. The firm is based on a legal aid clinic model, focused on public service. Alastair regularly presents at the University of Manitoba, Robson Hall, at the University of Winnipeg, Global College and at Community Legal Education Association events in the public libraries. He has also presented at the Canadian Bar Association, National Immigration Conference on the Safe Third Country Agreement, at the House of Commons, Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration as an expert witness, and at many other conferences, both nationally and internationally. His kids are mildly impressed with his TEDx talk, "Imagine No Countries: Challenging Borders Through Personal Connections" which may be his only presentation on YouTube. Prior to law, Alastair taught English in a Japanese Junior High School for 3 years and he does his best to guide and teach clients through each step of their journey. Having lived in South America, Asia, Europe and having moved more than 20 times, Alastair loves to learn about every corner of the world. Recently, Alastair has worked with a team at Kinbrace Refugee Housing & Support to launch MyRefugeeClaim.ca and he has been retained by Legal Aid BC to edit their immigration materials with a "plain language" approach.

Karine Côté-Boucher is an Associate Professor at l'École de criminologie at Université de Montréal. Karine received her PhD in Sociology from York University. Currently, Karine is an executive committee member of the Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society (TSAS), and a researcher at Centre interdisciplinaire sur la diversité et la démocratie (CRIDAQ). Karine's research focuses on border control, immigration and refugees as well as the role of customs controls in the monitoring of supply chains. She has published articles in journals such as Security Dialogue,

Social Politics, the British Journal of Criminology and Theoretical Criminology. Her most recent book *Border Frictions: Gender, Generation and Technology on the Frontline* is published by Routledge.

François Crépeau is Full Professor and the Hans & Tamar Oppenheimer Chair in Public International Law, at the Faculty of Law of McGill University, as well as the Director of the McGill Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism. He is a member of the Scientific Committee of the Agency for Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the Chair of the Thematic Working Group: Migrant Rights and Integrations in Host Communities, KNOMAD – Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, World Bank Group, Washington, DC, and a member of the Advisory Committee of the International Migration Initiative of the Open Society Foundations (NY).

Claire Ellis is a PhD candidate in Policy Studies at Toronto Metropolitan University. Her research critically analyses data-driven and surveillance-based border policy instruments and their impact on refugee claimant mobility and access to protection. She has contributed to edited volumes in areas of refugee protection, border control, labour migration, and refugee education and has published articles in journals such as the *Journal of Refugee Studies* and *Forced Migration Review*. Claire holds an MA in Immigration and Settlement Studies (Toronto Metropolitan University) and a BA in Sociology from the University of British Columbia. She currently works in research operations at the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration Program and with a research team at Toronto Metropolitan University examining Canadian border controls, refugee protection, and immigration detention.

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Henry Parada is full professor at Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) in Social Work and Director of the Immigration and Settlement Studies Graduate Program. From 2012 to 2015 he served as the Graduate Program Director at TMU's School of Social Work. He currently teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses at TMU, and is also a regular guest lecturer at universities in the Dominican Republic. Henry Parada's program of research – focused on child protection, family violence, and children's rights – has been directly shaped by his theoretical training in sociology, his on-the-ground social

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Matt Tice is a licensed clinical social worker. Matt specializes in working with individuals with homelessness, substance use, trauma and immigrants working through the asylum process. Following his bachelor's degree he served as a HIV/AIDS Peace Corps Volunteer in Zambia. He completed his graduate degree at University at Buffalo in Social Work. He worked

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Simon Usherwood is a Professor in the Department of Politics and International Studies at Open University. Prior to this role, Simon also taught at the University of Surrey's Department of Politics for 18 years. He received his PhD in European Politics from the London School of Economics in 2003. Simon has worked on various aspects of European Union politics for many years with most recent focus on UK-EU relations and the Brexit process. Previously, Simon was the Deputy Director for 'UK in a Changing Europe', a ESRC funded initiative. He is a current co-investigator in 'PROTECT', a project funded by the European Commission's Horizon2020 programme, which studies the operation of refugee policy across Europe and beyond.

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