Citizenship and Belonging: A BSA-Sponsored Postgraduate Conference

Book of Abstracts

University of Nottingham
School of Sociology and Social Policy

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Email: belonging2013@gmail.com
Main Organisers:

Kristoffer Halvorsrud

Kristoffer is a 3rd-year PhD Student in School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. His PhD thesis is on white South African migrants in the UK and their sense of belonging. His research focuses on the aspect that white South Africans make up only around 10% of the South African population in South Africa itself, but account for as many as 90% of South Africans who reside in the UK (Sveinsson and Gumuschian 2008: 1). Against this backdrop, it will be argued that a study of relatively privileged migrant groups such as white South Africans in the UK could help us to identify where the boundaries of inclusion and exclusion of British citizenship might fall in different circumstances. Of particular interest will be the ways in which white South Africans might respond to immigration/citizenship policies and position themselves in relation to other groups in British society.

Anisa Mustafa

Anisa is a 2nd-year PhD student in the School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. Her doctoral research focuses on the non-electoral political and civic activism of young British Muslims, and it argues that such mobilisations play a vital role in engendering a civic consciousness and developing the capacity for active
citizenship among minorities (Werbner, 2000). Muslim citizenship in the West has been depicted as increasingly ‘precarious’ due to the marginalisation and criminalisation of Muslims following 9/11 (O’Loughlin and Gillespie, 2012). Yet, despite discourses and policies that question their belonging and contribution to Britain, young Muslims do engage in a range of social movements and civic initiatives to claim citizenship on their own terms (O’Toole and Gale, 2010). Additionally, in the case of young Muslims, lack of political and civic engagement is frequently interpreted as a risk factor for extremism and radicalisation. These fears neglect to take into account growing knowledge that the young are not disengaged and disaffected from politics, but are instead being drawn to dissent or issue-based politics (Marsh et al, 2007). This doctoral study aims to explore the different ways in which young Muslims engage politically and civically in Britain and to examine the scope for multicultural citizenship within these mobilisations.

Domenica Urzi

Domenica Urzi is a 3rd year PhD Student in the School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. Her PhD thesis is on North African and new European migrants working on what has been defined as one of the ‘most impressive greenhouse districts’ of Southern Europe, the agricultural province of Ragusa, Sicily (Cole 2007:388). Her research focuses on how the living and working conditions of migrant agricultural workers can be affected by the inclusion and/or exclusion from the European citizenship of Third National Countries (TNC) and new European citizens. Her PhD thesis argues that researching the effects of the European citizenship upon living and working conditions can highlight the benefits and the limitations of European citizenship itself. In addition, it can demonstrate the effects of the interaction between new European citizens and the well-established informal economy of Southern Europe, as well as on their relationship with trade unions.
Organisational Team:

Olumide Adisa

Olumide Adisa is a 2nd year PhD candidate in Sociology, University of Nottingham, under the supervision of Dr Siobhan Laird and Professor Lina Song. Her PhD thesis is empirically investigating the patterns, natures, causes, and consequences of elderly vulnerability and wellbeing in Urban Nigeria. Her current research is interdisciplinary and centres on the areas of Sociology, Economics, Social Gerontology, and Development Studies to understand and analyse the implications of asset ownership, kinship relations, and power structure within households, communal relations, health and labour participation for the levels of socio-economic vulnerability found amongst ageing cohorts in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Emma Craddock (1st year PhD student) School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. PhD Thesis: The public sphere and political activism against the public spending cuts

Elena Genova (1st year PhD student) School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. PhD Thesis: Bulgarian highly skilled migration to the UK through the prism of European citizenship

Gabriela Quevedo Gutierrez (2nd year PhD student) School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. PhD Working Title: The subjective dimension of social movement unionism from below: Stories of activism in contemporary London through migrant lenses
Aray Ilyassova

(1st year PhD student) School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. PhD Working Title: The Autonomous New University and Regulatory Change in Central Asian Higher Education: The Case of Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan.

Ulzhan Kazybekova

(1st year PhD student) School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. PhD Thesis: The extent of gender inequality in the UK pension system.

Ruijing Li

(1st year PhD student) School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. She is a PhD student at sociology school, science and technology studies.

Emily Wykes

(4th year PhD student) School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. PhD Working Title: “We’re still dancing to the same tune, but it just came in a different name”: Exploring the impact of name-changing in relation to ethnic/racial discrimination.”
Keynote Speakers

Prof. Nira Yuval-Davis

Nira Yuval-Davis is the Director of the Research Centre on Migration, Refugees and Belonging (CMRB) at the University of East London. She has been the President of the Research Committee 05 (on Racism, Nationalism and Ethnic Relations) of the International Sociological Association, a founder member of Women Against Fundamentalism and the international research network of Women In Militarized Conflict Zones. She has been a member of the Sociology panel of the UK 2008 RAE (Research Assessment Exercise) and the 2014 REF (Research Excellence Framework). She has been a consultant to various NGOs and Human Rights organizations such as the UNDP, the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Amnesty International, AWID and the international Investigative Women’s Delegation ‘Justice in the Gujarat’. She is an editor of the book series The Politics of Intersectionality of Palgrave MacMilan, New York.


At the moment she is a partner in a major EU research project on ‘Borderscapes’, examining everyday bordering in metropolitan cities and border zones from an intersectional situated gaze perspective.
Prof. John Holmwood

Professor of Sociology in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Nottingham and the President of the British Sociological Association (BSA).

John Holmwood joined the School of Sociology and Social Policy as Professor in Sociology in October 2009 from the University of Birmingham where he was Professor of Sociology and Head of Department.

John was an undergraduate in Social and Political Sciences at the University of Cambridge and was a Teaching Assistant in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles, before returning to study for a PhD at the University of Cambridge. His first post was in the newly-formed Department of Sociology at the University of Tasmania in Australia (1978-80), before joining the Department of Sociology at the University of Edinburgh where he was Director of the Graduate School in Social Sciences and Professor of Sociological Theory. In January 2000 he joined the University of Sussex where he was Professor of Sociology and Dean of the School of Social Sciences and Cultural Studies. John was previously the Chair of the Council of UK Heads and Professors of Sociology. He is currently the President of the British Sociological Association (BSA).

John is a co-founder of the Campaign for the Public University. He is editor of *A Manifesto for the Public University* (Bloomsbury 2011) and blogs regularly on higher education issues for the Campaign for the Public University, Research Blogs, Open Democracy, Sociology and the Cuts, and Universities in Crisis.

Current Research:

John’s main research interests are the relation between sociological theory and explanation, and social stratification and inequality. His current research addresses the challenge of global social inquiry and the role of pragmatism in the construction of public sociology. He has just completed a Leverhulme Research Fellowship on the moral economy of inequality.
Selected publications:

- JOHN HOLMWOOD, 2010. Sociology’s misfortune: disciplinarity, interdisciplinarity and the impact of audit culture British Journal of Sociology. 61(4)

Dr. Davide Però

Dr. Davide Pero joined the School of Sociology and Social Policy in July 2006 as Lecturer in Sociology. He has been co-convenor of the School’s Identity, Citizenship and Migration Centre (ICMiC). Before that he was at the University of Oxford (2003-2006) as Researcher at the ESRC Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS). Previously he was Marie-Curie Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Autonomous University of Barcelona and Lecturer at the University of Bath. Currently he is also a member of the European Network of Excellence on International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion (IMISCOE) and of the Immigrations, Immigrants and Trade Unions in Europe Research Network (IITUE).

Research Summary:

Dr. Davide Pero’s main research interests are in the field of migration, multiculturalism and social movements, especially on issues of mobilization and participation, practices of citizenship, class and identity.
Recent publications:


Dr. Michael Skey

Dr. Michael Skey was awarded his PhD in October 2008 from the Department of Media & Communications at the LSE and since then have taught sociology at University of Leicester and UEL and Media & Cultural Studies at University of Kingston. He is also a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

His research interests are in the areas of national identity and globalisation, discourse theory, media events and everyday life. He has published work on mass rituals, theories of nationalism and cosmopolitan identities, and his monograph entitled National Belonging and Everyday Life: The Significance of Nationhood in an Uncertain World (published in 2011 by Palgrave) was joint winner of the 2012 BSA/Phillip Abrams Memorial Prize.

He is currently involved in projects exploring the material environments of the nation, the experiences of middling migrants in Britain and Australia, with a particular focus on everyday belonging and the media, and the Queen’s Jubilee and London Olympics from a ‘media events’ perspective.
"THE DYNAMISM AND FLUIDITY OF ACQUISITION AND LOSS OF CITIZENSHIP IN NIGERIA: THE WAR TIME EXPERIENCE"

The blatant type of Hobbesian anarchical worldview resulting from the chaotic breakdown of law and order in the Western Region of the post-independent Nigeria, was the foundation of the January 1966 military coup d’état, planned to restore sanity to the tumultuous region. Instead, this metamorphosed into the thirty months Nigerian-Biafran civil war that claimed millions of lives. The traumatic experiences from that war that massacred hundreds of thousands of nursing mothers and their babies, pregnant women, children and the elderly of the Eastern Nigeria origin, saw the few survivors migrating to their ethnic region of origin in the East from Northern and Western Regions of Nigeria. This marked the cessation of Nigerian citizenships for the people of Eastern Nigeria and the commencement of Biafran citizenships for them. The end of the war in 1970 marked yet the beginning of another era as the erstwhile Biafran citizens re-emerged as new Nigerian citizens. These uncharacteristic changing regimes of citizenship and belongingness from Nigeria to Biafra and back reflect the inclement political realities of our time.

Thus, this study interrogates how frustration, exclusion and oppression abridge one's identification with citizenship and belongingness by evoking ethnic nationalism. Using the focus group discussion and personal interview methodologies, this paper argues that the Nigerian-Biafran civil war typifies the dynamism and fluidity with which citizenships are acquired and lost in the uncanny contemporaneous world political system in which some ethnic nationalities are seen as immigrants by other ethnic nationalities in the same state.

KEYWORDS: Citizenship; Belonging; Nigerian; Biafran; Ethnicities.

"Immigrant Transnationalism and Identities beyond Borders: The Case of Alevis in the UK"

Alevi, the second largest belief community in Turkey and a persecuted minority group, immigrated to various countries in Europe both for economic and political motives.
Today it is estimated that 200,000 to 300,000 Alevis live in the United Kingdom, most of whom reside in London. Alevis in Turkey and abroad have been more visible in public in the last 30 years and are involved in identity politics. The legal-political framework has an impact on the kind of activism that can be carried out as well as the formation of identity. Particularly being an immigrant (or having immigration background) influences the ways in which identity is shaped.

For the UK Alevis the awareness about self as opposed to other immigrant communities from Turkey (Sunni Turkish people) and also to British majority is a boundary to their group identity. Based on the ethnographic research I have been carrying out, I will argue that the boundaries created by immigration are decisive in the making of Alevi identity in a foreign context. In addition the transnational practices and their own culture centres, NGOs and media channels help them act upon this identity. Through these transnational practices, they manage to keep in touch with the Alevis in Turkey and help improve their situation. During this process Alevi identity is shaped despite distances and ethnic/class/cultural differences within the Alevi community.

Aminu Audu (Poster) University of Liverpool/sociology, social policy and criminology

“Ethnicity and multi-national state: The impact of ethnicity on the ‘community policing’ policy transfer in Nigeria”

Nigeria, popularly regarded as the ‘giant of Africa’ is the most populous black nation of the world. The country is also the most complex in the continent of Africa in terms of ethnic and other compositions. However, in recent times, the country has come under siege with numerous social problems, in the form of crime and insecurity such as terrorism, kidnapping and armed robbery. The policy transfer process of community policing as a strategy to control crime was officially introduced in 2003 in Nigeria. The prevailing experience suggests that the policy transfer process is facing some socio-cultural frictions, notable among which is ethnicity and ethnic related tensions. The frictions have allowed the long existing cultural gap between the police authorities and the community as co-producers of crime prevention and control to endure. The paper therefore brings a theoretical frame work about how ethnicity and ethnic identity develops and how does it lead to conflict or otherwise? The paper will also examine the consequences of ethnicity on the ‘community policing’ policy transfer process in Nigeria with a view to proffer suggestions to pave way for proper order maintenance in Nigeria. The views of experts and the observation of the author will be brought to bear in this regard.

Key words: Ethnicity and ethnic identity, nation, crime community policing policy transfer, Nigeria.
Eric Carlin (Poster) Department of Geography, Environment & Development Studies, Birkbeck, London

“Social Exclusion and Youth Resilience: Youth transitions in a disadvantaged area of Edinburgh”

Contemporary debates about young people often focus on whether structure or agency is more important in influencing successful transitions to adulthood, marked typically by paid employment and becoming a consumer. ‘Social exclusion’ emerged as a useful way of broadening definitions of poverty but this paper will contend that it has increasingly been used in ways that stigmatise and blame poor young people for their own predicaments. In the context of neoliberal hegemony, while policy makers often neglect how disadvantaged young people subjectively construct their realities, they also emphasise theories such as resilience and social capital to encourage conformity with mainstream norms.

Drawing on my current empirical PhD research with 16 – 20 year old young people in a case study investigation in a socio-economically deprived area of North Edinburgh, I will discuss how young people define, experience and manage their subjective realities and the networks and figurations in which they participate. Many have developed sophisticated strategies to become “invisible” and to survive. However, I will contest any notion that such ‘resilience’ should be championed as a policy objective. In this context, it denotes survival, not thriving.

Framing my analysis within Elias’ concept of ‘figurative sociology’, I will also argue that Elias’s template for connectedness, not stasis or objectification, provides a useful way to contextualise modern day discussions about the ‘problem of youth’.

Third Culture Kids, or TCKs are uniquely challenged by the concepts of home, belonging, and citizenship. Their title refers to the three ‘fields’ of their childhoods; the passport culture of their parents, the host culture of the country in which they live, and the expatriate culture in which they are raised. TCKs may be the children of missionaries, military employees, or businessmen. They may be the children of NGO workers, or foreign journalists. Through in-depth, life story interviews with Third Culture Kids, I seek to explore the ways in which the concept of 'home' becomes constructed and to demonstrate how 'belonging' revels itself as an inherently performed and negotiated process. Using case studies, I propose to demonstrate how Third Culture Kids, unlike more rooted populations, are uniquely placed to reveal the negotiated processes of 'belonging' and 'home'. In this way, through examining how the Third Culture Kid locates him- or herself in the world, relationally, emotionally, and logistically, it is possible to glimpse the subsequent implications this will hold for ‘citizenship’.

Sport is a vehicle that has the potential for creating a sense of belonging to a community. Sport also provides citizens with opportunities to interact and join social networks; it helps immigrants to develop relations with other member of society. In recent years, the importance of sport as a tool for promoting social inclusion and cohesion has garnered a significant amount of attention. The social significance of sport, in particular its role in forging identity and bringing people together is lauded.

Ireland before the 21st century was traditionally an outward migration country, but that has changed as Ireland is now characterised by high inward migration rates. These Immigrants reflect a wide spectrum of nationalities; including African nationals, members of the EU-15 and Asian migrants. The change in inward migration rates to Ireland is fuelled by political and socio-economic situations of these countries prompting asylum seekers, refugees, economic and educational migrants to emigrate; the economic boom in Ireland in the late 1990s ;and subsequent expansion of the European Union in 2004, which brought with it an influx of economic migrants. Social Inclusion and integration of migrants in Ireland has come to the fore. Integration is one of the most important challenges being faced by Irish society over the coming years.

My research empirically examines how sport influences social integration and inclusion of new migrants into society, using the activities of Sport Against Racism Ireland (SARI)
as a case study. It also seeks to investigate migrants' perception on citizenship and belonging.

Renata Seredynska-Abou Eid (Poster) University of Nottingham, CLAS, Dptm of CFM

“Belonging, Identity and Cultural Translation in Migration” (working title)

In migration the themes of Identity and Belonging are perpetually valid issues around which a migrant’s world revolves. Origin, whether with reference to a place or a society, plays a major role for a migrant in identifying themselves when moving to other countries or cultures. Citizenship seems to be a very superficial, though widely accepted, form of identification. Nonetheless, in the reality of free movement of people in the European Union, the concepts of identity and belonging shift and seem to reflect more deeply rooted aspects of descent.

Cultural Translation refers to a range of issues that occur in relation to migration. Translating culture is not necessarily equal to linguistic translation where a particular meaning must be expressed in the target language, though it includes language as its component. Migrants are often referred to as ‘translated people’ as they need to balance between their native culture and the culture(s) of the receiving country.

This presentation/paper builds on to the issue of cultural translation among Polish migrants in the United Kingdom (UK), as a theoretical introduction to a work-in-progress research study. Identity, background, belonging and home are major issues for Poles who have built their lives in the UK, whether temporarily, permanently or with no specific time frame. The focal point of the study is the translation of the Polish lifestyle and culture into the British lives of Polish migrants and the interpretation of the British culture(s) by the ‘newcomers.’

David Ellis (Paper) University of Liverpool, School of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology

“Promoting Financial Citizenship in an Era of Austerity”

Over the course of the last 30 years, UK society has been subjected to a process of financialization, whereby people have seen their lifestyles and livelihoods increasingly integrated into the financial system. As such, the roles and responsibilities of being a citizen in a financialised society are predicated on the ability and willingness of people to engage with financial systems and institutions to the extent that we may now
consider the notion of financial citizenship. In this sense, it is the role of the state to ‘activate’ or ‘enable’ citizen-subjects to realise the conditions for their own participation, rather than as a guarantor of specific rights and responsibilities that citizenship traditionally brings. To highlight the concept of financial citizenship, I will first consider New Labour’s attempts to fulfil this role with their approach of promoting financial inclusion, most notably with a critical analysis of the Child Trust Fund policy. This will then be followed by comparing and contrasting New Labour’s approach to financial citizenship with the Coalition government’s approach, with specific attention given to their use of Nudge policies to justify a reduction in government intervention. Through this examination of government policies both past and present, we may begin to assess the prospects of promoting and enabling financial citizenship at a time when recurrent economic crises and government austerity have only served to aggravate the existing high levels of social and economic inequality in the UK.

Ozlem Erden (Paper) Middle East Technical University/London Centre for Social Studies

“An Assessment of YLSY Scholarship Program and Determining the Factors Affecting the Scholars’ Cultural, Political, Economical and Educational Perception throughout International Student Mobility Process: UK Case”

International student mobility becomes a popular trend in higher education. According to the statistics of UNESCO, the number of international students increased 3.4 million up from 2.1 million between 2002 and 2009. Many developed countries such as USA, UK, Canada and Australia give priority to international student mobility by establishing national and international scholarship. Turkey, as a developing country, currently joined international student mobility process with YLSY scholarship program (Candidates’ Selection and Placement for Overseas Graduate Studies). YLSY aims to recruit academics and experts with international experience to state institutions and organizations based on Law No: 1416 (1929). In comparison to other international scholarships, YLSY mentions not only importance of experienced academics on Turkey’s knowledge economy but also the potential of scholars on nation, institutions, and international relations. Therefore, there is a need to evaluate YLSY and the effectiveness of it on scholars. The aim of the study, first, is to evaluate YLSY program to explore its unstated objectives as part of international student mobility by taking scholars’ opinions; second, determine the factors affecting the scholars’ cultural, political, economical, and educational perception throughout international student mobility process. Participant will be the scholars studying in the UK. An interview will be conducted with 10 YLSY scholars to evaluate the program and then a questionnaire will be administered to all YLSY scholars to find out the factors affecting scholars’ perception. Thematic analysis and coding will be used to analyze interview; whereas, explanatory factor analysis will be used to analyze questionnaire.
Brian J. Frederick (Paper) University of Kent / SSP/SSR and Universität Hamburg / Criminology

“‘Delinquent Boys’: Toward an Understanding of Gay/MSM Deviance and Criminality in Late Modernity”

Throughout history, gay men and men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM) have been stigmatized by the marginalizing policies of numerous systems of social control (criminal and canon law, medicine, public health, behavioural sciences, etc.). In recent years, however, changes have occurred in many jurisdictions worldwide: homosexuality has been de-pathologized and de-medicalized, same-sex acts have been decriminalized, discrimination has been outlawed, and barriers to many institutions (e.g., family, marriage, media, military) have been eliminated.

And yet, it is important to consider whether these changes have forced some to question their ability (or desire) to enter these formerly ‘out-of-bound’ institutions. This is suggested by the recent emergence of a deviant global carnivalesque ‘second life’ among gay men and MSM that seems to run counter to notions of gay equality and solidarity.

There are two premises upon which cultural criminological theory resides that are often useful in explaining gay/MSM deviance. The first holds that deviant behaviour is subcultural; the second, that crime/deviance are related to the simultaneous forces of cultural inclusion and social exclusion. But gay/MSM deviance is no longer simply about transgressing heteronormative ideals related to identity, love and sex; indeed, there are numerous gay/MSM subcultures that have developed in response to homonormative ideals concerning these very same issues. Indeed, what we may be witnessing is a new type of struggle – one that is related to their decision whether to adopt (and comply) with the norms, values and rules of the larger mainstream society, or whether to continue to reject them. This paper thus explores the idea that not all gay/MSM deviance is attributable to social exclusion, and that a new perspective that takes into account their recent social inclusion must be accounted for, as well.

Zhitian Guo (Poster) University of Cambridge, Department of Social Sciences

“Local cadres and regional autonomy—a case study in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture”

China is identified as a united multicultural nation, and regional autonomy is an important character of the nation. There has always been a debated in Chinese regional autonomy; some scholars regard it as the legacy of Soviet Unison and is a threat to a united nations; others think that it indicates a successful model for building a integrated multicultural nation state. Much research has been done in related topics, but their
focuses are on boarder areas and there are usually severe conflicts within these regions. This study hopes to offer some empirical evidence to this debate by looking at the implementation of regional autonomy in an area that has not been very much written from this aspect. This study focuses on local cadres’ performances of Chinese Regional Autonomy policies. The central questions for this study are how local cadres implement regional autonomy policies, what factors contribute to cadres’ performances of regional autonomy, and what can be applied to explain the variations of cadres’ performances. These questions are preliminarily answered according to a five-month fieldwork in three counties in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture. The research adopts an actor-oriented institutional approach mainly. From the current analysis of data, ethnicity, age (or generation), gender, education, local clientelism, family background, local cadres mobility, and audiences’ expectations are the most prominent factors influence cadres’ performances. Moreover, this study hopes to shed some lights on the interaction between two cultures: the ethnic minority culture and the mainstream Han culture.

Gavin Hart (Paper) University of Huddersfield/Politics

“New Pluralism and the Two Traditions: Party Politics in Northern Ireland”

This study uses qualitative analysis to assess the extent to which new forms of pluralism in Northern Irish society have impacted upon party politics in the context of an institutional framework divided along ethno-cultural fault lines.

The piece begins with a review of literature detailing the influences of ethnic division and sectarian conflict in Northern Irish society (for instance, McGarry and O’Leary, 1995: Dixon, 2001). The purpose of this review is to illustrate the extent to which party politics in Northern Ireland has become dominated by a binary discussion of British-unionist and Irish-nationalist politics. In this context Unionism advocated the perpetuation of Northern Ireland’s association with the British state, and nationalism sought a unified Ireland freed from British influence.

With this established, the piece draws on quantitative data to illustrate recent demographic shifts in Northern Irish society (McVeigh, 2006: Gilligan et al 2011). This will consider the unprecedented levels of inward migration experienced in Northern Ireland since the Good Friday Agreement (GFA) established a political settlement based on recognition of the two primary identities in Northern Ireland’s society. (Wilford, 2010: Horowitz: 2001)

The piece will then carry out qualitative analysis on recent party political communication in order to assess the extent to which the major political parties have adapted to this new demographic reality. It will be argued, that despite the fact that
Northern Ireland is now undoubtedly a multicultural society, that political parties have been slow to recognise this fact. Furthermore, that traditional binary narratives still dominate party political discourse in the province, despite the existence of new forms of cultural pluralism.


Khauthar Ismail (Poster) *University of Glasgow, School of Social and Political Sciences*

“A proposed method of research: Ethnic relationship between Malays and Chinese in Malaysian context”

Malaysia is a multiethnic society composed by three main groups namely Malay, Chinese and Indian. Historically, Malaysia was a country colonized by the British. During the period of British colonization, numbers of Chinese and Indian was brought into Malaysia as a worker in tin mining and rubber estate respectively. In the 1948, the Chinese and Indian gain a legal citizenship in exchange with the preservation of Malay special rights. One of the main objectives in this research is to find out the root of ethnic alignment in Malaysia. In order to achieve this, a level of ethnic relationship will be measured. However, the Seditious Act (1970) in the Law of Malaysia prohibited any actions that potentially lead to the promotion of ill feeling or hostility between different races in Malaysia. Based on this condition and prevention for any potential negative outcome, a new set of interview questions based on the Banton’s researches of Malaysian ethnicity will be used. Respondents will be chosen in a stratified sampling on the basis of their ethnicity, educational level, gender and age. The data will be collected in two different locations; Penang (Malaysia) and Glasgow (Scotland). The results were expected to indicate a level of relationship between ethnic groups in these two different
locations. In addition, the results were also expected to unveil whether or not ethnicity plays a role in the social interaction between Malaysian Malay and Chinese in Glasgow.

*Keywords:* ethnicity, migration, methodology, multi-ethnic society.

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**Lucy Jackson** (Paper) *University of Sheffield*

"Alternative sites of citizenship: Emotions, performance and belonging for female migrants"

This PhD investigates the complexities of modern day citizenship for groups on the margins. This thesis is situated within feminist geopolitics and feminist countertopographical literatures and investigates the way in which migrant women understand and in turn practice citizenship. Outlined by TH Marshall in 1950, citizenship in its most basic form is understood as belonging to a community, and having rights and responsibilities within that community. With increased communication and transport technology we have seen a burgeoning of mobility and increased migration around the world. Coupled with the scaling back of the state in the national imagination, we are left with an ever more complicated understanding of citizenship. This thesis is therefore centred on three key elements of citizenship: as belonging to a community, as emotionally laden, and as a practice and performance through the everyday and the mundane. I draw together the literatures on migration, identity and citizenship to investigate what a real, lived citizenship is for female migrants. The thesis focuses on two main case study sites of Cardiff, UK and Singapore. Through these, I examine the different citizenship identities of migrant women, connecting the stories across time and through space. In focusing on two case study sites I examine the context of the individual migrant, seeking to highlight how there may be similarities and differences between different groups of migrant women. This thesis seeks to answer questions of what a modern day citizenship identity looks like: how might citizenship, and a citizenship identity, be seen as something which is at once multiple, complex, situated and dynamic? How can citizenship therefore be relational, tied to specific experiences in, and of, place? Finally, how might this alter future directions in citizenship research?

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**Małgorzata (Gosia) Jakimów** (Paper) *University of Manchester, Politics Department*

“Beyond the hukou system? Chinese labour NGOs and the redefinition of migrant workers’ citizenship”
In this paper I search for alternative expressions of citizenship in non-Western world by examining migrant-orientated NGOs in China. While urban-hukou-holders and internal migrants (popularly labelled nongmingong) are both officially regarded as citizens of the same country, migrants are excluded from social and political rights of citizenship, and they are subjected to various social, spatial and cultural practices of exclusion in the cities. This paper draws on 8-months-long fieldwork consisting of 14 interviews and several months of participant observation with migrant-orientated NGOs across China, in order to examine how migrants’ citizenship is reimagined and recast by NGOs. The instances where internal migrants gain a new sense of being citizens, despite the hukou-system-defined limitations to their citizenship status, cannot be sufficiently accounted for in the traditional framework of citizenship theories, which equates citizenship with possession of social, political or civil rights. In this study, I employ a critical theoretical framework of 'acts of citizenship', because this approach accounts for citizenship as a political expression of belonging (Isin and Nielsen, 2008). By using the 'acts of citizenship' framework, I illustrate how NGOs hold the power to re-established migrants as citizens through the activities they hold, training they provide and the ways in which they represent migrants. The central thesis of this paper is that the meaning of citizenship constructed through NGOs-migrants relationship is alternative to the rigid, state-defined idea of bifurcated (urban/rural) citizenship, but it is also different from the prevailing academic and public discourse, whereby migrants are understood as hukou-limited and rights-deprived second class citizens or as deserving citizenship rights only when contributing to the neoliberal system.

Rachel Lewis (Attendance) University of Warwick, Centre for Applied Linguistics

I am a first-year, ESRC-funded PhD researcher in Applied Linguistics at Warwick University, working on a thesis with the provisional title: 'Citizenship, identification and belonging: examining the interface between government and migrant discourses.' Through this research I am aiming to examine the discursive construction of the 'British citizen' in political discourse, with the particular purpose of interrogating the dialectical interplay between these external articulations, and the self-identifications of a group of migrants. I am currently in the early stages of research, and, as such, the 'Citizenship and Belonging' conference would be particularly helpful in allowing me to explore further the differing theoretical conceptualizations of citizenship: this would not only form a crucial part of my literature review, but, more importantly, would allow me to position myself more firmly within these competing discourses. From a methodology perspective, I would also appreciate the chance to explore differing, perhaps non-discourse-analytical, approaches to policy research. In addition, Professor Yuval-Davis’ work on the politics of belonging formed a fundamental strand of my PhD proposal, and, as such, I would welcome the opportunity to attend her key-note speech and thus engage with her ideas more directly. Finally, it would be particularly beneficial to have
the chance to interact with academics and fellow PhD researchers, both to engage in meaningful discussion with others in my area, and also to further situate my own investigation within the current research context.

Emma Mc Cluskey (Poster) King’s College, London- Dept War Studies

“How Noble’ Narratives in Security Terms: Sweden as ‘Poster-Child’ of European Immigration and Integration Policy”

The tendency for the critical study of citizenship and immigration policy to relegate to lesser importance seemingly ‘noble’ narratives or ‘progressive’ discourses around migration has resulted in the under-theorization of the way in which public narratives of tolerance and inclusivity can themselves be seen as discourses of security. By examining the case of ‘Sweden’ as a category for political analysis, this paper aims to explore the interplay between the identification of Sweden as exemplar of European immigration and integration policy by various European bureaucracies and NGOs, and the banal enactment of ‘the immigrant’ as a threat in day-to-day life. Through employing a political-anthropological approach to theories of securitization and by bringing to the forefront the way in which ordinary people go about their day-to-day life, individualise culture and re-appropriate it in mundane situations, this paper will ask ‘What happens when we see these tiny, seemingly irrelevant actions in terms of security?’ and crucially, ‘How does this relate to an official ‘noble’ line?’ It seeks to move away from ‘bad’ or ‘conservative’ politics and render visible what mainstream constructivist approaches to security have marginalised by exploring how ‘progressive’ politics can be implicated in the securitization of the migrant.

Jian Na (Attendance) School of Education, University of Nottingham

“TRILINGUAL ACQUISITION OF INNER MONGOLIA (CHINA) IN HIGHER EDUCATION”

Trilingual acquisition refers to the teaching native language (Mongolian), Chinese and English (Japanese) at the level of higher education in minority area. And it represents a new phenomenon of minority’s language education system in China. It attracted more attention and investment to put into trilingual education and remarkable achievements have been made in this field. However, the different development in economy and culture in the vast and different parts of China, the trilingual acquisition still exist some problems.
In discussing the present minority area of China trilingual acquisition problems, policies current situation and comparative language promotion policy of the main countries. Using multi-disciplinary theories, methods and results to find Inner Mongolia trilingual acquisition problems, it is based on Education, Literature, Regional Economic and Management Science to find the unique feature of Inner Mongolia trilingual acquisition in discourse, cross culture, cross-language distance and EFL code aspects. It helps minority university student learn their native language (Mongolian) while grasping second language of Chinese and foreign language. This paper focuses on exploring teaching foreign language to Mongolian Chinese student living in the eastern and western part of Inner Mongolia.

According to previous research and literature, I will take questionnaire, interview, quantities, and documentary methods as my research tools. I hope to find the reasons of different trilingual acquisition system in Inner Mongolia and the appropriate measures to deal with the barriers in minority language education in China, and then provide the useful suggestions for development foreign language among minority people.

Peter Ozonyia (Paper) Department of Sociology, University of Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

“Competent Citizenship Agenda in Naturalisation Policy: The Role of National Elites”

Since the 1990s citizenship study has become increasingly an important academic remit within the disciplines of sociology, political science and cultural studies. In an era of increasing transnationalism, multiculturalism and the concern for social cohesion and securitisation, this paper argues that national politics/policies, far from being irrelevant as postnationalists would want us to believe, still play salient roles when it comes to the TCNs’ citizenship incorporation and their subsequent socio-cultural sense of belonging in any of the EU Member States. My current PhD research explores both the legal and practical processes of granting citizenship through naturalisation to ‘Third-Country-Nationals’ by examining through ‘elite interviewing’ the perspectives of ‘key government officials’ who formulate/implement ‘national’ citizenship policies in Ireland. Drawing from this research, I argue in this paper that national/political ‘elites’ influence through policies how immigrants become citizens and exercise their sense of belonging to the national statehood in terms of their subsequent ‘lived citizenship’ and ‘socio-cultural sense of belonging’ to host society/polity. Using Weberian and neo-Weberian theory of ‘closure’, I analyse how national citizenship policies/practices are inherently based on ‘closure strategies’ and the implications/impacts on the perspective and opinion of key government officials who determine citizenship/naturalisation policies in modern political states. My study hopes to contribute knowledge to the
sociological literature on democratic citizenship and social inclusion or inclusive citizenship by paying special analytical attention to notion of ‘competent citizenship’ from the perspectives of active citizenship and civic/cultural competences, highlighting the roles ‘citizenship education’ and ‘cultural citizenship pedagogy/learning’ play in immigrants’ citizen-making.

Elizabeth-Jane Peatfield (Paper) University of Liverpool, School of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology

“To Be British? Considering Muslims Views on Integration”

Since 9/11, Muslims in Britain have been constructed as risky population through negative media stereotyping, political discourse and counter-terrorism policy. Commonly erroneously classified as one homogenous group, British and immigrant Muslims have diverse cultural histories that can lead to very different attitudes, values and beliefs (see Sobolewska, 2010). In a pilot study, I investigated some of those differences concerning the perception of identity in relation to radicalisation, Islamaphobia and the concept of ‘Britishness’. Employing a pragmatic mixed methods approach which involved interviewing British and immigrant Muslims living in the North West of England, I was able to identify key themes within the data that have allowed me to question the construction of policy including the causal factors attributed to radicalisation. I also identified similarities between British and immigrant participants concerning self-identity within Britain and integration into mainstream society. The findings suggest that British and immigrant Muslims perceive themselves to be engaged and informed members of British society and have a firm sense of ‘Britishness’. Policies such as Prevent (2011), aimed at reducing social fragmentation and risk, serve only to enhance the perception of disconnection between Muslims and mainstream society. These policies are counter-productive when trying to achieve social cohesion through diversity and multiculturalism. In conclusion, it is argued that a top down policy re-think is required in order to rectify the government’s misperceptions surrounding the views of Muslims and specifically the terminology of integration that ultimately influences the hegemonic discourses of race, ethnicity and assimilation.

Katherine Robinson (Poster) LSE, Cities Programme, Sociology Department

“Everyday forms of belonging in the public library”

My PhD research is an ethnographic examination of contemporary urban multiculture and ideas of public participation in two European capital cities. Prompted by
disquieting debates on national identity taking place across Europe, I look at public libraries in city neighbourhoods in London and Berlin which are highly socially and ethnically diverse. I argue that examining everyday understandings of public participation in this specific public realm provides a more nuanced picture of urban public life which is not captured by such political debates.

This is far from saying that everyday public life is outside of the political. I argue that the presentation and codification of areas in cities is intensely political, and that the library is a place deeply imbricated in a political project. In looking at the public library as a site of encounter, I work with Ash Amin’s idea of the micro-public (2002), asking what forms of public participation occur in this place, and how these work within wider discourses of belonging and citizenship.

In this presentation I will discuss how the libraries in which I undertook fieldwork curated and managed particular forms of participation, often in conjunction with other institutions, as part of a concern to expand the public of the library. In doing this, the libraries develop a very deliberate, and often, a very different kind of approach to people who are ‘under-represented’. I explore how this presents several dilemmas for understandings of ‘public’ in the public library.

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Iuliia Rushchenko (Paper) University of Kent, University of Hamburg

“Marrying into Citizenship: Mail-Order Bride Industry and Cross-Border Marriages in the European Economic Area”

Over the course of the last century mail-order bride industry has undergone a major shift from connecting people with the same residence status or ethnic background to creating unions wherein spouses have different access to economic capital and political resources, and benefit from different rights as citizens of highly industrialized developed states and economically weaker developing countries. The inequality of power relations in such marriages sparks debates on victimization and agency, integration, domestic violence, morality of Western husbands and deviance of mail-order spouses’ who “marry into host society”.

Naturalization or obtaining an indefinite leave to remain in the UK or any other country of the EEA is one of the goals of many mail-order unions. Although sham marriages are classified as immigration crime by the UK Border Agency, they are not viewed as criminal or deviant actions by the foreign brides and grooms. Instead, marriages of convenience are rather perceived as a rational strategy for survival that would eventually enable non-EU nationals to acquire better life standards: new employment
opportunities; personal comfort; mobility and safety in a more developed country; possibilities to send remittances abroad or sponsor family members for visa.

In the present study the author analyzes rationales and motivations of the actors of the transnational matrimonial field, focusing on cross-border marriages facilitated by Internet (or other matchmaking institutions) and transnational marriages arranged inside the country by the non-European nationals and EEA citizens.

Farhan Samanani (Paper) University of Oxford: Social and Museum Anthropology, and International Development

“Fighting to Belong: Imaginaries of Citizenship within Israel”

Within Israeli political discourse, one can identify a strong commitment to principles of liberal, republican and ethno-nationalist citizenship, leading many commentators to focus on the ‘tensions and contradictions’ enshrined within Israeli citizenship and reproduced within everyday politics. For many, these tensions reveal the fundamentally illiberal, and – some claim– illegitimate nature of the Israeli state.

However, despite this, most Israelis don’t experience their belonging as fragmentary, nor do they necessarily experience their citizenship as fundamentally illiberal. Drawing on short-term ethnographic fieldwork (participant observation and interviews) carried out over the summer of 2011, I argue that different discourses and structures of citizenship are tied to particular periods of nation building within Israeli history, and are brought together in a complex hierarchy, which shifts across different contexts.

In the modern day, liberal, republican, and ethno-nationalist conceptions of citizenship are all deployed and enacted by different ethnic groups to assert their own agency and belonging, and to resist marginalization by re-defining the nation in terms more accessible to them. However, in turn, this destabilizes the sense of a unitary polity. To reassert unity a hierarchy of citizenships is emphasized – thus recognizing the claims to belonging of marginal groups, but only as a part of a hierarchical whole. This leads to a dynamic situation where on one hand Mizrahim, Ethiopians, Eastern-Europeans and Ashkenazim all imagine and enact different conceptions of citizenship, contending over the identity of the nation, while on the other the mutually-felt need for national unity reinforces unequal hierarchical relations between these groups.
Razia Sattar (Poster) Birkbeck College, Department of Geography and development studies

“Why are Black Minority communities under represented in policy and decision making arenas? A comparative study exploring two London Boroughs”

Over the decades we have seen a change in UK government thus having an impact on policy development and local communities. There have been numerous strategies and policies introduced to ensure there is better dialogue between local communities and statutory organizations. In the time of New Labour communities were familiar with language such as community empowerment, citizenship, community engagement, community participation, community leadership. In May 2010 a anew coalition government introduced the Big Society Agenda enabling communities to have more power in their local communities. But the question still needs to be asked that why over the number of years of empowerment and engagement that Black Minority Communities are still under-represented? This study will aim to address this question by comparing two London boroughs. Exploring the role of community leaders in Clack and Ethnic Minority communities, as well as the role of local councilors. The past and present structures of community engagement will be explored in relation to Black Ethnic Minority communities. A phenomenological approach will be adopted for this research and semi structured interviews and observations into community organisations will be conducted. he theoretical concepts underpinning this research will be power and empowerment in relation to community leadership, community cohesion, and community development which underpin the work of engagement and participation.

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Natewinde Sawadogo (Paper) University of Nottingham/School of Sociology & Social Policy

“National Interest, Citizenship and the Regulation of the Labour Market: the Case of Medical Practice in France (1650-1960)”

This paper investigates how citizenship structured the access to employment of medical practice in France between 1650 and 1960. The focus on the individual experience in the study of citizenship has lead to the neglect of citizenship as a technology of government. Drawing from historical sources, this sociological study argues that the ever reconfiguring boundary of citizenship, and its corollary implications on social linkages, such as employment, reflects the stakes inherent in the national interest. The unlikely homogeneity between the national interest and the individual interests constitutes the current challenge in the advanced democratic countries, but it is consistent with non democratic institutional designs (autocratic, formal democracies,
limited government, etc.) such as France between 1650 and 1960. The regulation of the labour market in medical practice during this period provides a unique case for documenting this argument. This case study can shed light on the current ethical dilemma faced by developed countries in the context of international migration.

Silvia Scalabrini (Paper) Swansea University, College of Human and Health Sciences

“Who fits in and who doesn’t? Constructions of social belongingness in citizen-engagement organizations”

This paper presents some findings of my doctoral study on the construction of the meaning of Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) within two Local Involvement Networks (LINks) and two Community Health Councils (CHCs), the two types of citizen-engagement organisations found in the NHS systems of England and Wales. Drawing on ethnographic data, I explore how volunteers negotiated and maintained a sense of belonging to those bodies. Despite differing legal frameworks regulating participation, the symbolic dimension of belongingness was very powerful in both countries. Volunteers’ interactions with LINks/CHCs officers and their negotiated understandings of role created “symbolic communities” (Rock, 2001). Volunteers were able to explain their place in the organisations with reference to positive personal attributes such as the ability to act in the interest of ‘the public’ looking at ‘wider issues’. Paradoxically however, a way of thinking that portrayed volunteers’ involvement as a consequence of their positive attributes and close identification with their organisations also led to a perception that members of the general public lacked the necessary attributes for full participation, and thus created a ‘belongingness divide’ between LINks/CHCs and the ordinary people who constitute ‘the public’ they serve. The idea of ‘elective affinity’ allows us to explain how LINks/CHCs select potential participants who will comply with the organisations’ working practices, and ensure practical collaboration with the NHS. These processes generated various strategies for dealing with non-conforming actors, generally resulting either in integration or tacit symbolic marginalisation.

Lauren Selfe (Paper) University of Nottingham, Department of German Studies

“Incorporating the ‘non-European Other’: the figure of the veiled Muslim woman in contemporary Germany”

Since the 1970s, the presence of the veiled Muslim woman in Germany has challenged normative concepts of nation, belonging and citizenship. Often positioned as the embodiment of the non-European, the ‘Other’, she functions as a foil in the construction
of majoritarian identities, whilst simultaneously contesting the limits of secularism, tolerance, multiculturalism and integration. Furthermore, this positioning subjects the veiled Muslim woman to a specific constellation of discriminatory and exclusionary forces operating along the axes of race, class, religion, sexuality and gender. Thus, leading research questions are: how is this body represented and what function does this representation serve? How is it regulated and to what purpose? And indeed, why is it this body that has attracted and continues to attract so much attention that one may even call it obsession?

Here, I concentrate on the function of this figure in majority narratives aimed at constructing and maintaining the notion of a tolerant, liberal and enlightened German state vis-à-vis an inherently oppressive and violent Islam. I argue that responses in support of or in opposition to headscarf bans in the public sphere can be most productively viewed through the lens of agency or rather, who is (not) granted it and in what amount. Furthermore, I show that the allocation or denial of agency to certain subject positions is often informed by notions of modernity and progress underpinned by Eurocentrism and an assumption of German i.e. European cultural supremacy. Ultimately, such narratives foster anti-immigration and anti-integration sentiments.

Mark Simpson (Poster) University of Ulster, School of Law

“Devolution and social citizenship: a future for a unified welfare state?”

Interpretations of citizenship typically consider a link between state and citizen, membership of a community and a social status entailing rights to avail of services. Legislative devolution calls into question whether the citizen’s bond is closest with the state or the region, the level at which services should be organised and the boundaries of the community to which the citizen belongs.

While some services falling within the rights associated with social citizenship are devolved matters in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, control of social security is devolved only in Northern Ireland; even here, the convention of parity, financially

1 P Dwyer, Understanding social citizenship: themes and perspectives for policy and practice (The Policy Press, 2003) 1; see also J Leca, ‘Questions on citizenship’ in C Mouffe (ed), Dimensions of radical democracy: pluralism, citizenship, community (Verso, 1992) 21
underwritten by the UK exchequer, means that in practice almost every aspect of the system for Great Britain is replicated.  

This paper will examine the future prospects of a single UK social citizenship in a context of emerging political citizenships at regional level, considering:

- Presence or growth of sub-state national identities that challenge the notion of a shared UK citizenship
- The role of opposition to reforms enacted at Westminster and/or regional variation in perceptions of social citizenship in driving demand for enhanced devolved powers
- Divergence in devolved areas of social policy and the possibility of future divergence in social security
- Fiscal consequences for the devolved regions of devolution of social security

James Tangen (Paper) University of Nottingham/School of Sociology & Social Policy

“Human trafficking, Article 26 and the possibility of world citizenship”

In 2011, the cases of R v N and R v LE cases were brought before the UK Court of Appeal. In both cases the basis for appeal was a claim, under Article 26 of the European Convention on Action Against Human Trafficking (Council of Europe, 2008), to a right not to be punished for offences committed whilst they were victims of human trafficking. However, the current legal precedent is that Article 26 does not place an obligation on member-states to avoid prosecuting or punishing victims of trafficking if they are identified as criminals. So if there is little hope of a civil right protected through the institutions of law (Marshall, 1950), where might we find grounds for claiming a right under Article 26?
In this paper I outline the claims made in the cases of R v N and R v LE as well as the provisions and context of Article 26. The substantive discussion focuses on critically engaging with the classical model of citizenship put forth by Marshall (1950) in the mid-twentieth century. Marshall’s focus on formal state and juridical institutions draws on the authority of nation-states to guarantee the rights of citizens, which does not offer a basis for claims to transnational rights, such as Article 26. In order to recover citizenship from Marshall’s limited view, I suggest the discourse of human rights may offer a basis for victims of trafficking to claim rights as world citizens.

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**Sam Thewlis** (Attendance) *University of Birmingham, Dept of Accounting and Finance/Centre for Households, Assets and Savings Management (CHASM)*

My PhD thesis is titled “Attitudes to personal income taxation in times of austerity”. As part of my thesis, I want to look at how paying tax (or not paying it, or paying very little) affects people’s sense of belonging to UK society, at both high and low levels of income. I want to investigate whether paying tax has a relationship with citizenship now, and whether this has changed over time. I also want to look at whether there is a better sense of belonging in countries with a high tax level (e.g. Scandinavia), and if so, why, and whether increased information about how tax money is spent within society increases or decreases engagement with society, and resulting tax compliance behaviour.

At the moment I am trying to frame citizenship as it relates to taxation within the overall citizenship debate. I have already been talking to colleagues in Human Geography at my home university, and my PhD is jointly supervised in tax and social policy, but this conference would give a great opportunity to see the debate from a range of new and exciting angles, allowing my work to be more rounded in its approach.
Mengwei Tu (Attendance) Kent University, School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research

My research cohort is the new wave of Chinese immigrants in the UK. They are the mainland Chinese who migrated to the UK in a sharply increased volume after China’s open-door policy in the 1980s. This group has changed the demographic feature and the social impact of the UK Chinese diaspora significantly.

I am interested in the life experience of the new Chinese immigrants: What was the motivation for them to leave China? How do those who have remained identify themselves among other Chinese and the mainstream British society? And how do they view their connections with China?

The new Chinese immigrants have two significant features: One feature is that when faced with whether to abandon Chinese citizenship in order to obtain British citizenship, a significant number of people chose to maintain their Chinese citizenship and remain in the UK as permanent residents. The other feature is that most Chinese who are in their 20s and early 30s, are the only child. This is a result of China’s “one-child” policy from 1979. Whether such a policy has any impact on the new Chinese migrants’ decision-making, is yet to be revealed.

Given the theme of this Conference, I hope to gain an understanding about the role of nation-state, host/sending country’s policy (especially related to border control and citizenship), and sense of identity. What do these elements play in the life of a migrant from China and how do they impact on their decision-making process.

Ayşe Deniz Ünan (Poster) University of Essex Dept. of Sociology

“Exploring an Anti-Hate Crime Movement in a Nation State: The Case of Turkey”

Hate crime emerged as a contemporary criminological category to explain violent acts towards vulnerable groups within a population. As Iganski* argues, “hate crimes hurt more” (2001) as they harm not only targeted victims per se but also social groups that the victims belong to, debates on hate crime also address themes such as identity politics, racism, group rights, discrimination, and universal human rights. My research is about hate crimes in Turkey; it aims to explain how hate crime, which previously did not exist as a legal category, made its place in Turkey with non-governmental organizations’ active role. I intend to demonstrate how hate crime debate is structured and carried via opinions and experiences of people whom take part in The Campaign for Hate Crime Law in Turkey and published NGO material; reports, brochures and proceedings. Accordingly, we may state that hate crime functions as an umbrella term
and diverts numerous organizations towards cooperation. Even though the purpose of the campaign is to establish a hate crime law, civil society organizations’ struggle go beyond as they introduce a new discourse based on universal human rights and identity politics. The orthodox terminology of the state that belonged to the nation making process is challenged through the campaign. The importation of the term hate crime has opened a new window to challenge dominant state discourse, which emphasized homogeneity, framed an ideal citizenship and set limitations to the group identities.


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Emel Uzun (Paper) School of Social and Political Science/ Department of Sociology/ The University of Edinburgh

“Belonging to Turkey: Encounters of Ordinary Turks and Kurds in Everyday Life”

The ongoing war between Turkish State Army and the PKK (Kurdistan Workers’ Party-Partiya Karkerên Kurdistan) for 30 years is a determining political agenda which has changed the interaction forms of Kurds and Turks living together for years. While it was initially a political issue which did not affect the daily lives of ordinary people directly, the uprising violence and compulsory migrations of Kurds from eastern to western part of the country used as a strategy by the Turkish army during the 1990s, led to a traumatic encounter for both Kurds and Turks that changed the perceptions about each other. Basic motives of belonging to the nation-state and notion of citizenship by form of defined by the constitution has been challenged by Kurdish and Turkish individuals. As a result of nationalist and racist inferences about concrete daily encounters between ordinary Kurds and Turks, there emerged a new nationalist narrative. While Kurds are telling personal stories to show how strong is to feel belonged to the country as Kurdish citizens, Turks are drawing an exclusionary definition of citizenship by various kinds of nationalist references. Utilizing interviews conducted with 40 Kurdish and Turkish people during my eight month fieldwork in Ankara (Turkey), I will be questioning; How are the identities of the ‘self’ and the ‘others’ shaped among Kurdish and Turkish people? How is the notion of belonging defined and what is the meaning of being a true nationalist citizen?

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Samantha Walker (Paper) Keele University, School of Sociology and Criminology

“(DE)ETHNICISING THE CONCEPT OF HONOUR: HOW DO WESTERN INTERPRETATIONS OF ‘HONOUR’ IMPACT OUR UNDERSTANDING OF SO-CALLED HONOUR-BASED VIOLENCE?”
As a concept which means many different things in a multitude of contexts, the process of defining ‘honour’ is highly problematic. This problem is exacerbated when the concept is examined across cultural, spatial and temporal boundaries, and even more when the word ‘honour’ is used as an all-encompassing translation for understanding concepts such as ird, izzat, namus, zina, sharam, or sharaf. Nevertheless within the UK the concept of honour has become a powerful expression through which to differentiate certain ‘cultural’ forms of violence from mainstream domestic abuse. Accordingly, despite the fact that violence in the name of ‘honour’ is neither a new phenomenon, nor one associated exclusively with any particular culture or religion (Vitoshka; 2010), such framing has arguably created a West/non-West divide in which honour largely remains a positive concept in the former, whilst taking on negative connotations when applied in the context of the latter (Sen; 2005).

Drawing upon a range of practical examples, this paper challenges representations of honour as being a non-Western cultural phenomenon and demonstrates the manner in which, because all communities operate around some form of regulated notions of right and wrong, the ‘honour-shame’ nexus can be applied within any society. Ultimately, in doing so, this paper aims to question the extent to which assumptions and generalisations made from research on honour in one time or place – in this case, Western culture – can result in stereotypical interpretations of the meaning and impact of honour in other (non-Western) cultures?

Nurul Azizah Zayzda (Poster) University of Nottingham/School of Sociology & Social Policy

“Human Rights Protection in Cosmopolitan Ideas and the Obstacles Imposed by the Practice of International Relations: Case Study on Australian Policy on Managing Asylum Seekers”

Refugee protection, as regulated in the 1951 Convention Relating to Status of Refugee and its complementary Protocol on 1964 is encountering serious crises in many parts of the world. The idea of global solidarity to protect the vulnerable people regardless of their identity and state borders has been held back by the policy of the asylum states which, in varying cases, inhibit the protection of refugees and asylum seekers. In Australia, the issue of refugees have been addressed through several distinct policies over times. The last three prime ministers of Australia illustrated the policy changes; John Howard established “Pacific Solution” which in which the ‘arrested’ asylum seekers coming by boats are being processed and detained in detention centers in Naruru and Papua Guinea; Kevin Rudd eliminated Pacific Solution and opened the Christmas Island for processing the asylum seekers; and Julia Gillard has gradually returned to the idea of
Pacific Solution. Australian experience in managing the asylum seekers and refugees reflects how issues surrounding refugees have been perceived as matter of international relations, as opposite of global relations. Beck (2006) contends that the theorisation of global relations as international relations has led the discourse limited to “internal national” and “external international”. The perception matters because when states view refugees as part of the ‘international’ or the external parties, the principles of legality, democracy, and other principles of the states will not be applied to the refugees as external comers (Beck, 2006). This research is going to scrutinise the issues surrounding asylum seekers in Australia by arguing that the prevailing policy is resulted by the elimination the idea of cosmopolitan relations which laid the foundation for the international refugee law itself. Here, this cosmopolitan ideas is hindered by the notion of ‘otherness’, or the constructed identity of ‘us’ and ‘them’, which also may indicate the presence of racism in Australia discourse of asylum seekers.
Other Attendees

Amal Treacher Kabesh Associate Professor and PhD Co-Ordinator, School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham.

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Christina Godfrey School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham.

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Muslih Irwani School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham.

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Zahra Hosseini Milani School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham.

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Matthews Kaunga Nyirenda School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham.

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Stella Oluwaseun (3rd year PhD student) School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham.

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Helen Woods School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham.