

MYTHBUSTING MIGRATION

19 November 2025 | 18:00-19:30 CET

An in-person event in the WU Matters: WU Talks Series*

Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU)
Library & Learning Center Ceremonial Hall 1

This event is organized by WU's [Competence Center for Sustainability Transformation and Responsibility](#) in collaboration with [Migration, Business & Society](#) global research and policy initiative.

No sustainable development without migration?

Few topics have received so much public attention and yet have been so widely misunderstood as international migration. Migration is embedded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals – but what does that mean? Do we live in an era of mass migration? Does migration exacerbate issues such as brain drain, inequality, and social tensions? Will climate change bring about another refugee crisis? And what role do businesses play in the realm of migration and sustainable development?

Register for the in-person event (limited seating): <https://www.wu.ac.at/en/wumatters/terminkalender/details/detail/mythbusting-migration>

* There will be no livestream, but a recording of the event will be available on the official [YouTube channel](#) of the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

About the Panelists



Jesús Crespo Cuaresma, WU Vienna

Jesús is Professor of Macroeconomics at WU Vienna, Research Scholar at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), and Research Associate at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO). His research interests include applied econometrics, economic growth, human capital, and migration. His work—published in leading scientific journals—has provided new insights into the role of environmental shocks as drivers of human mobility, particularly forced migration.



Jason Gagnon, OECD

Jason is the Head of the Migration and Skills Unit at the OECD and specializes in the relationship between migration and development in countries of origin, with a focus on enhancing the positive impacts and minimizing negative effects through policy. Much of his work centers on South-South migration and the intersection of migration and financial sector development.



Aida Hajro, University of Leeds

Aida is a Professor of International Business at the University of Leeds and a Visiting Professor at the Institute for Human Resource Management at WU Vienna. Her research focuses on the intersection of organizations and migration. She is also the Founding Co-Director of Migration, Business & Society, a global research and policy initiative dedicated to advancing migration-related targets within the sustainable development agenda.



Judith Kohlenberger, WU Vienna

Judith heads the Research Institute for Migration and Refugee Research and Management at WU Vienna and is Senior Researcher at the Austrian Institute for International Affairs (oiip) and Affiliate Policy Fellow at the Jacques Delors Centre, Hertie School Berlin. She is a member of the Integration Council of the City of Vienna, co-editor of German Journal of Forced Migration and Refugee Studies and author of several books, most recently *Migration Panic* (2025).



Milda Žilinskaitė, WU Vienna

Milda is a Senior Scientist and Director at WU's Competence Center for Sustainability Transformation and Responsibility, and, together with Aida Hajro, a Founding Co-Director of the Migration, Business & Society initiative.