



**VC
ML** VIENNA CENTRE
FOR MIGRATION
AND LAW

INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

MIGRATION IN TIMES OF POLARIZATION

JUNE 30 & JULY 1, 2025

PROGRAMME

June 30, 2025

- 10:00 Open Meeting PhD Network
Nora Markard, Julia Kienast
Top Floor | Elevator DG
- 12:30 Registration Basement Floor,
Lecture Hall U10 | Elevator U1
- 13:00 Welcome Basement Floor,
Lecture Hall U10 | Elevator U1
- 13:30 **Work-in-progress-workshop**

13:30 Autocratization of Migration Law & its Consequences (TOP FLOOR | Elevator DG)

- **Alex Geraki Trimi** (Ghent University), **Pedro Sanz Díaz** (Dublin City University): 'States' Tactics before the ECtHR in Cases concerning Migrants' Access to European Territory: a Coordinated Effort?'
- **Tamás Molnár** (FRA/WU Vienna): 'Peculiarities of Reparations for Wrongful Expulsion of Non-Nationals'
- **Marielys Padua Soto** (The American University Cairo): 'The Role of Law and Politics in Shaping Migration Dynamics'
- **Emma Marshall** (University of Exeter): 'The Challenges of Strategic Litigation in a Time of Exclusionary Migration Politics'

13:30 Intersecting Injustices (Basement Floor, Lecture Hall U10 | Elevator U1)

- **Hoda Bourenane** (Goethe University Frankfurt): 'Asylum and Gender Equality: A Critical Examination of the CJEU's Recent Jurisprudence'
- **Eleni Karageorgiou** (Lund University): 'When Consultancy Meets Technocracy. Private Firms and the Politics of EU Migration Control'

- **Bernadette Lumbela** (Max-Planck-Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg): 'Migrant Workers' Rights in Bilateral Labour Agreements concluded by Germany and France'
- **Giulia Raimondo** (University of Fribourg): 'Breaking Through? Rethinking the CJEU's Feminist Turn in Asylum Law'

15:30 Coffee Break Basement Floor, Lecture Hall U10 | Elevator U1

16:00 Rightlessness and Barriers (TOP FLOOR | Elevator DG)

- **Hanaa Hakiki** (ECCHR), **Nerges Azizi** (ECCHR/Birkbeck, University of London): 'From El Tarajal to the Melilla Massacre: Intentional Investigative Failures and the Denial of Legal Personhood at Borders'
- **Ingrid Kiessling** (Gabriela Mistral University Chile): 'The Freedom to Migrate'
- **Adel-Naim Reyhani** (University of Bologna/LBI Vienna): 'Studying International Refugee Law from the Prism of Rightlessness'
- **Pauline Endres de Oliveira** (BIM/Humboldt University Berlin), **Nikolaus Feith Tan** (Melbourne Law School): 'Extraterritorial Processing and the Future of Asylum in Europe: Assessing Transit Processing under International Law'

16:00 Socio-Economic Rights (Basement Floor, Lecture Hall U10 | Elevator U1)

- **Serde Atalay** (Lund University): 'Housing and Its Discontents: Instrumentalization of Housing in Migration Law and Policy'

Faculty of Law (Juridicum)
1st Basement Floor, Lecture Hall U10
(Elevator U1)
and parallel some Lectures | Work-in-
progress-workshop on top floor
(Elevator DG)

Schottenbastei 10-16, 1010 Vienna

<https://staatsrecht.univie.ac.at/team/vien-na-centre-for-migration-law-vcml/konferenzen-tagungen/>

July 1, 2025

Venue Basement Floor, Lecture Hall U10 | Elevator U1

08:30 Registration

9:00 Panel I: Global Mobility – Migration Infrastructure and Migrant’s Agency

- **Lilian Tsourdi** (University of Maastricht): ‘Governing Migration through Funding: The Implications of the Whole of Government Approach for Mobility’
- **Nora Stappert** (University of Copenhagen): ‘Migration Infrastructures and Migrants’ Rights in Europe’
- **Alan Desmond** (University of Leicester): ‘Denying them the Fruits of their Labour?: Why We Should Recognize Migrants’ Right to Cheaper Remittance Transactions’
- **Zvezda Vankova** (Lund University), **Albert Kraler** (Krems University): ‘Agency in the Active Refugee Admission Policies- between Hypervulnerability and Refugee Entrepreneurship?’

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 Panel II: International Protection – The Pivotal Role of Borders

- **Cathryn Costello** (UCD Dublin): ‘Fairness in Asylum and Migration: The Lure and Limits of Automation’
- **Joyce De Coninck** (NYU): ‘Relationalising EU Human Rights Responsibility in Integrated Border Management Externalization Practices’
- **Judith Kohlenberger** (WU Vienna): ‘Toward a Politics of Non-Injury: Denormalizing Border Deaths’
- **Sarah Tas** (University of Maastricht): ‘The Datafication of Borders’

13:30 Lunch-Bufferet

15:00 Panel III: Modes of Belonging – Structural Inequalities in Immigration Societies

- **Maarten Vink** (EUI Florence): ‘The Role of Citizenship in Immigration Societies: Overcoming or Perpetuating Inequality?’
- **Dana Schmalz** (MPI Heidelberg): ‘Integration Through Participation’
- **Anna Goppel** (University of Bern): ‘Migration, Types of Belonging, and Citizenship’

16:30 Coffee Break

17:00 **Keynote: Ayelet Shachar**
University of California, Berkeley

‘Unsettling the Open versus Closed Border Dichotomy: On Stratified Mobility and the Grand Transformation of Citizenship’

End of the Conference

- **Josh Friedman** (DePaul University Chicago), **Theresa Herzog-Abusaeeda** (WU Vienna): ‘Protecting Rights Across Contexts and International Sharing (PRAXIS): A Comparative Study on Food and Housing for Forced Migrants in Chicago and Vienna’
- **Simona Schreier** (University for Continuing Education Krems): ‘Beyond the Borders: Uncovering the Social Harms of Return Migration through a Zemiological Lens’

18:30 **Opening Remarks (Basement Floor, Lecture Hall U10 | Elevator U1)**

19:00 **Opening Keynote: Violeta Moreno-Lax**
ICREA-University of Barcelona & Queen Mary University of London
‘The Future of EU Migration and Asylum Policy: Strategic (De)personification and Selective Rightlessness’

Reception

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About VCML:

The Vienna Centre for Migration & Law (VCML) aims to advance innovative research on migration law and the social and political dynamics in immigration societies.

The VCML takes a comparative, interdisciplinary approach and looks at migration law and processes, with a specific focus on the human rights of migrants. It encourages research on migration law and the dynamics of immigration societies. Additionally, it seeks to promote dialogue between different stakeholders in academia, the judiciary, civil society, and politics.

To this end, the VCML studies migration in a global context but specifically focuses on the legal framework and societal dynamics in Europe and Austria. We particularly emphasize the role and agency of migrants themselves.

The VCML focuses on migration law and covers topics related to labour, education and family migration, forced migration, as well as the legal and societal aspects of the economic, social and political integration of migrants. This broad, interdisciplinary focus is reflected in three main research areas ("streams"):

Global Mobility:

This stream is dedicated to the complex legal framework of international migration movements and their impact, covering the dynamics and regulation of labor, education and family migration, as well as border control and freedom of movement. The research examines how law and politics impact the international movement of people and its effects on migrants and the societies of origin and destination. The economic, legal and infrastructural conditions of global migration, as well as the role of cross-border migration networks and private actors in migration processes, are of particular interest.

International Protection:

This stream will focus on analyzing the rights and obligations involved in the granting of international protection. We are interested in understanding the interaction between national, European, and international regulations that govern forced migration, including the implementation of the reformed Common European Asylum System (CEAS) at a national level. The emphasis will be on the standards of international protection, with legal, social, and political factors playing a central role. Additionally, we will explore the emergence of new challenges brought about by climate change and geopolitical shifts, as well as the various practices of cooperation and externalization of responsibilities.

Modes of Belonging:

The third stream focuses on the legal and social processes of integration in immigration societies. It explores the role of the law in promoting an inclusive society and examines the conditions under which belonging and social cohesion are successful in immigration societies. This involves studying legal mechanisms for establishing the belonging of migrants, as well as the opportunities for multiple affiliations with both the country of origin and the country of residence. We are particularly interested in citizenship law, the rights of migrants to participate, and social practices of inclusion such as empowerment, representation, and education, as well as exclusion, including discrimination and racism.

The "Vienna Centre for Migration & Law" provides a platform for scientific exchange, interdisciplinary discussions and engagement with practitioners. It supports innovative research on the legal framework and social dynamics in immigration societies, and aims to contribute to the advancement of migration law and policy in Austria and Europe.