

## Conference PROGRAMME

### 'WELCOMING EUROPE'? UNDERSTANDING MIGRATION IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL AGEING, DEPOPULATION AND RURAL-URBAN TRANSFORMATION

Organised by the [Welcoming Spaces \(H2020\)](#) in collaboration with the [Focus area Migration and Societal Change](#) – and [Centre for Global Challenges \(UGlobe\)](#) Utrecht University

**FRIDAY, 21 JUNE 2024 (10:00–17:30hr)**  
Janskerkhof 2–3 (Room 0.01), Utrecht, The Netherlands

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#### 09.30-10.00 - COFFEE AND REGISTRATION

#### 10.00-10.15 - OPENING

- Prof. Dr. Ajay Bailey (Head of Department SGPL, Utrecht University)
- Prof. Dr. Annelies Zoomers (IDS, Utrecht University – Principal Investigator Welcoming Spaces)
- Ilona von Bethlenfalvy (EU project officer)

#### 10.15-11.30 - SETTING THE STAGE: Linking Global ageing to migration and rural-urban transformation worldwide: what are the challenges?

- Prof. Dr. Tanja Bastia (Professor, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester)
- Prof. Dr. Helga de Valk (Director, Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute)

**Discussant:** Prof. Dr. Monique Kremer (Dutch Advisory Council on Migration and professor active citizenship University of Amsterdam)

**Moderator/discussant:** Prof. Dr. Maggi Leung (International Development Studies, University of Amsterdam)

#### 11.30-11.45 - COFFEE BREAK

#### 11.45-12.30 - LESSONS FROM H2020 WELCOMING SPACES & BOOK LAUNCH

*A modern guide to spatial justice in Europe: Engendering welcoming spaces for migrant emplacement and inclusive development in 'left behind' areas*

*Book launch:* Dr. Karin Geuijen /editorial team

Lessons from Spain, Italy, Poland, Germany, and the Netherland

- Netherlands (Dr. Marlies Meijer, Wageningen University)/Dr. Sara Miellet (Utrecht University)
- Germany (Dr. Sabine Meier, RheinMain University of Applied Sciences)
- Spain (Prof. Dr. Laura Oso Casas, Dr. Keina Raquel Espiñeira González & Leticia Santaballa Santos - Universidade da Coruña)
- Poland (Dr. Joanna Zuzanna Popławska, Warsaw School of Economics SGH)
- Italy (Dr. Ester Driel, Interdisciplinary Social Science, Utrecht University)

**Discussant:** Prof. Dr. Ajay Bailey (Head of Department SGPL, Utrecht University)

**Moderator:** Dr. Karin Geuijen (Coordinator, Welcoming Spaces)

## 12.30-13.30 - LUNCH

## 13.30-14:30 - OVERCOMING BOTTLENECKS AND FINDING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

13.30-13.45: Blerta Bajrami-Shaqiri, entrepreneur and professional in care and founder of Partisan Medical Mercenaries

13:45-14.00: Interactive map - Irene Almazán, Adolfo Patón, María García Tarancón (CEPAIM Spain); Dr. Bianca Sytniewski and Irene Almazán

14.00-14.30

- Economic revitalization – Prof. Dr. Laura Oso Casas (Universidade da Coruña); Dr. Joanna Zuzanna Popławska, Warsaw School of Economics SGH)
- Political resistance/instability – Dr. Jose Ricardo Martins (Utrecht University)
- Social Cohesion – Dr. Karin Geuijen and Dr. Sara Miellel (Utrecht University); Leticia Santaballa (Universidade da Coruña)

**Discussant:** *Dr. Ilse van Liempt (Human Geography and Spatial Planning, Utrecht University)*

**Moderator/discussant:** *Dr. Dora Sampaio (International Development Studies, Utrecht University)*

## 14.30-15.00 – COFFEE BREAK

## 15.00-16.00 – MOVING FORWARD: learning from good practices

15.00–15.20

- Ben van Essen (SBE Samenwerkingsverband Burgerkracht Europa): Power of meaningful organizational partnerships and cross-border contacts
- Stephan Rothe & Steffen Präger (Plattform e.V.): Innovative inclusive practices in Germany

15.20–16.00

- Importance of migrants/citizen engagement in emplacement - Dr. Sara Miellel (Utrecht University) and Dr. Keina Raquel Espiñeira González (Universidade da Coruña)
- Importance of governance/local government/mayors - Dr. Jose Ricardo Martins (Welcoming Spaces)
- Role of the media - Jofelle Tesorio (Welcoming Spaces)

*Discussant: Prof. Dr. Tanja Bastia (Global Development Institute, University of Manchester)*

*Moderator/discussant: Dr. Bianca Szytniewski (IDS, Utrecht University- Welcoming Spaces)*

**16.15-17.00 - FINAL PANEL:** How to achieve spatial justice and contribute to the SDGs/Setting the agenda for a 'whole society' approach: how to inspire each other and make policies more coherent?

- Jan Braat (Senior policy-advisor on migration and inclusion at the city of Utrecht)
- Huub Wilbrink (Senior policy maker, Central Organization for the Reception of Asylum Seekers)
- Prof. Dr. Tanja Bastia (Global Development Institute, University of Manchester)
- Ben van Essen (SBE Samenwerkingsverband Burgerkracht Europa)

*Moderator/discussant: Prof. Dr. Annelies Zoomers (IDS, Utrecht University – Principal Investigator Welcoming Spaces)*

## 17.00-17.15 - CLOSURE followed by drinks

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**FOR REGISTRATION, PLEASE FOLLOW THIS [LINK](#).**

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