**A special issue of Societies (ISSN 2075-4696).**

**Deadline for manuscript submissions: 31 December 2011**

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**Interests:** histories and theories of social power and identity (linked with class, ethnicity, race, age, citizenship, gender and sexualities), of cities and urban social relations; socio-legal and governmentality studies

**Published Papers**

No papers have been published in this special issue yet, see below for planned papers.

**Special Issue Information**

Dear Colleagues,

Human beings have been on the move for an estimated 80,000 years when homo sapiens first began migrating from their homes in Africa. Over the centuries the history of the social world has been profoundly shaped by humanity’s ebb and flow throughout the four corners of the earth. Sometimes on a voluntary basis, sometimes forced, mass migration has been propelled by natural disasters, persecution, war, and poverty; colonization and exploitation; political and religious oppression and the longing for a healthier, wealthier and safer life. Today there are 214 million international migrants, more men, women and children "on the move" than at any other time in history. This special issue provides a critical look at how mass migrations have affected the past and present of both sending and receiving countries as well as the how advancements in transportation and communications technology will affect patterns of transnational population movements in the future. Contributors also call our attention to the gendered and familial nature of the migration experience.

Prof. Dr. Madine VanderPlaat  
Dr. Val Marie Johnson  
Guest Editors

**Submission**

Manuscripts should be submitted online at [www.mdpi.com](http://www.mdpi.com) by registering and logging in to this website. Once you are registered, click here to go to the submission form. Manuscripts can be submitted until the deadline. Papers will be published continuously (as soon as accepted) and will be listed together on the special issue website. Research articles, review articles as well as communications are invited. For planned papers, a title and short abstract (about 100 words) can be sent to the Editorial Office for announcement on this website.

Submitted manuscripts should not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere (except conference proceedings papers). All manuscripts are refereed through a peer-review process. A guide for authors and other relevant information for submission of manuscripts is available on the [Instructions for Authors](http://www.mdpi.com/article/47) page. *Societies* is an international peer-reviewed Open Access quarterly journal published by MDPI.

Please visit the [Instructions for Authors](http://www.mdpi.com/article/47) page before submitting a manuscript. For the first couple of issues the Article Processing Charge (APC) will be waived for well-prepared manuscripts. English correction and/or formatting fees of 250 CHF (Swiss Francs) will be charged in certain cases for those articles accepted for publication that require extensive additional formatting and/or English corrections.

**Keywords**

- migration patterns
- transnationalism
- gender
- children
- families
### Planned Papers

**Title:** Privileged Mobility in an Age of Globality  
**Author:** Sheila Croucher  
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**Abstract:** By 2050, the world's population of international migrants is estimated to top 400 million. A small but growing number of those migrants are leaving well-developed, affluent countries of the global North to settle in less well-developed countries of the global South. These migrants of relative privilege, many of them retirees, are motivated primarily by a desire to enhance their quality of life. Although this migratory flow receives much less attention than more familiar, and reverse, movements of laborers or refugees, its implications for the destination sites, sites of origin, and study of international migration generally are significant. This article will examine the contemporary border crossing of privileged migrants and the economic, political and cultural issues at stake for the countries and individuals involved. It will also discuss how incorporating privileged mobility into the study of international migration can help refine many of the existing theories on global migration and transnationalism.  
**Keywords:** expatriates; lifestyle migration; retirement migration; transnationalism; globalization

**Title:** The Resilience and Settlement of Refugee Youth: A Critical Narrative Using Body Maps  
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**Abstract:** Since Canada is one of the top 5 countries to accept refugees, resilience in settlement must be explored to identify ways in which service providers can support refugee youth to a greater degree. This paper discusses the resilience and settlement of refugee youth through a critical lens to serve three purposes: (1) tell the story of three refugee youth through pre-arrival, arrival, and settlement phases of their migration journey; (2) explain and discuss the facilitators and barriers that exist in each phase including but not limited to education, language, family, and faith; and finally (3) examine the production, image and audience associated with sharing a narrative through body mapping. Body mapping was used as a tool for discussing and drawing three participants’ settlement stories. These participants are also introduced in this article through vignettes and corresponding body maps.  
**Keywords:** refugee youth; critical narrative; successful settlement; resilience; body mapping

**Title:** Refugees without Status: Economic Disparities and Escaping the Violence in Mexico  
**Author:** Maria Cristina Morales  
**Affiliation:** Department of Sociology and Anthropology. University of Texas at El Paso, Old Main, Room 312, El Paso, TX 79968, USA; Email: mcmorales@utep.edu  
**Abstract:** Since the “war on drugs” in 2008 the violence and unrest in Mexico has been catastrophic for human rights. At the frontline of this war is the Mexican-U.S. border city of Cd. Juárez, Chihuahua, which has become internationally known as the “murder capital of the world.” In Juárez, neighboring El Paso, Texas, USA, estimates of the murders are as high as 8,000, leaving approximately 10,000 orphans. Juárez has also experienced an exodus of approximately 500,000 people seeking safety, some migrating to the Mexican interior and others to El Paso. Based on 51 qualitative interviews with Juárez-El Paso border residents, along with ethnographic observations, we examine the human right implications of the “war on drugs” and the transnational movements and settlement of those escaping the violence. Results suggest that while those with business visas have been able to migrate legally and mostly assimilate into El Paso, those who are not represented in this elite migration wave are left trying to flee with limited resources, without legal status, and they face additional difficulties in the settlement process. While Juárez and El Paso have historically been referred to as “sister cities,” the experiences of Juareneses in seeking to alleviate the impact of the violence is more symbolic of a “step-sister” relationship. Moreover, while the extreme violence certainly calls for the refugee status of countless Mexicans in imminent danger, only a few have attained refugee status.  
**Keywords:** Refugees without Status; economic disparities; escaping the violence in Mexico

**Title:** Turbulent Trajectories: African Migrants on Their Way to the EU  
**Author:** Joris Schapendonk  
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**Abstract:** Migration has mostly been analysed from the position of fixed points; the A and the B, the push and the pull, the sending and receiving country. This bipolarity has undermined our understanding of how migrants move from their places of origin to certain destinations. For this reason, this contribution takes migrants’ journeys as its analytical starting point. It thereby focuses on one of the most stigmatised forms of human mobility of our times: Irregular migration from sub-Saharan Africa towards the European Union. This study is based on a ‘trajectory ethnography’ that is inspired by the recent launch of the mobilities turn (Sheller and Urry 2006). The findings are based on the collection of migration biographies of sub-Saharan African migrants living inside, and just outside, the borders of the EU. In addition, some individual migrants have been followed longitudinally from the moments they had entered European borders (Morocco and Turkey). The study gains in-depth insights into the issue how migration trajectories evolve in a context of closing borders. By taking into account both the flexibility of migrants and the rigidity of borders, this article puts into perspective the unidirectional and often frictionless metaphors of migration – as if migrants move like ‘flows’ and ‘waves.’  
**Keywords:** migration trajectories, sub-Saharan African migration, EU, transit migration, mobilities studies

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*Last update: 10 October 2011*