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Global shocks, policy change and the dynamics of diversity in migration flows to Australia (1945 to 2021)

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Presented by The ANU School of Archaeology & Anthropology and the Migration, Mobility & Movement Network

Migration Network Seminar Series 2022

Unanticipated refugee crises and deliberate shifts in state policy have been seen as the central drivers of the increasing diversity of immigration to contemporary Australia. Drawing on approaches to diversity in the social sciences and natural sciences, this paper argues for a relational analysis of immigration to explore the complex interactions between different global migration flows.

While refugee shocks in the late 1940s and early 1970s have had a significant impact in changing the composition of population movements to Australia, more profound shifts in the diversity of immigration have been the product of demographic contractions of migratory currents. Policy initiatives focused on the economic utility of skilled or temporary migrants have also resulted in a narrowing of immigrant diversity.

Through the historical analysis of these shifts in migrant diversity to Australia, our understanding of migration moves beyond the momentary influxes that overwhelm public debate to the long-term dynamics and interrelationships of population flows.

Details

Monday 14 November, 1- 2pm In person: Menzies Library, McDonald Room Online: <u>Via Zoom click here</u> Meeting ID: 893 0706 2890 Password: 431014

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