HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
Großbritannien-Zentrum · Centre for British Studies

CALL FOR PAPERS

Immigration Law and Policy, Border Control and Migrant Deaths

Berlin – Humboldt University (Großbritannien-Zentrum/Centre for British Studies) and Online

30 Sept – 1 Oct 2021

This two-day conference will explore the relationship between migration and border control law and policy and migrant deaths within and close to the borders of Europe, as well as relevant practice and research in the area of contentious death investigation. Abstracts are welcome from established scholars, early career researchers, PhD students and practitioners.

Area of Focus 1: *The features of migration and border control law and policy that contribute to the vulnerability of migrants to serious harm or death*.

We are interested in papers that explore the following issues that contribute to, or concern, the vulnerability of migrants (**it is not necessarily vital for contributions to explicitly focus on the link between these issues and deaths**):

- The outsourcing and off-shoring of border control.
- The concept of vulnerability.
- The embodied border paradigm (Moreno-Lax, 2017).
- Vulnerability and immigration detention.
- Push-backs.
- Cooperation between European countries and third States.
- State responsibility for harm or death.
- The jurisdictional reach of human rights protections.

While the focus of the conference will be on the situation in Europe, papers with a focus outside of Europe will be considered where they are particularly relevant to the link between border control and migrant deaths.

Area of Focus 2: *Contentious death investigation where the death may engage State responsibility*. We are interested in hearing from academics, lawyers and NGO's.

- Any papers which directly address investigations into the deaths of unsettled migrants and refugees are particularly welcome.
- Current issues and developments in investigative obligations arising under human rights law.
- The purposes and importance of contentious death investigation for the public and for stakeholders (families, communities, survivors).
- Stakeholder experiences of contentious death investigation.

Area of Focus 3: *Methodology* - Finally, papers or presentations on **methodological issues** related to research on either contentious death investigation generally or field research into the experience of migrants and refugees would also be welcome.

Abstracts

Please Send your 300 word abstract on your presentation and a short bio (no more than 100 words) to sam.mcintosh@hu-berlin.de by 25 May 2021.

Please also indicate whether:

- If circumstances allow, you would be able and willing to give your presentation in person in Berlin; and
- Whether to do so you would need to travel to Berlin and would require accommodation while here.

On site and online options

There is a chance that the conference can be held as a face-to-face event, and we very much hope this will be the case. If it becomes clear closer to the time that a face-to-face event in Berlin will not be possible after all, we will move the event entirely online.

If the event can be held in person, hygiene regulations (which will no doubt continue to apply in some form) coupled with recent technological upgrades at the Centre mean that the intention will anyway be to hold a 'hybrid' event where people will also be able to participate remotely.

Registration and funding for travel and accommodation

There is no registration fee for the conference. The conference is part of a project funded by the Volkswagen Stiftung. **In the event that the conference can take place in person we will be able to cover the reasonable travel and accommodation expenses of most, if not all presenters.**

If you do not wish to present at the conference but would like to nevertheless be kept informed about the event, please email Catherine Smith at catherine.smith@rz.hu-berlin.de and we will add you to our email list.

For further information, please contact Sam McIntosh at sam.mcintosh@hu-berlin.de .

VolkswagenStiftung