

Dialogue and Asymmetries

Debating Development,
Identity and Migration
2016-2018

Freie Universität Berlin
École de Gouvernance et d'Économie de Rabat
Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement Alger
Cairo University
University of Benghazi

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Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics Berlin, Germany

International and intercultural projects like “Dialogue and Asymmetries – Debating Development, Identity and Migration” are among the most inspiring and rewarding projects I am involved in as a director of the Centre for Middle Eastern and North African Politics at Freie Universität Berlin. It was a pleasure and an honor to work with such a team of outstanding scholars and excellent students from Algeria, Egypt, Germany, Libya and Morocco. In the many meetings, workshops, seminars, field trips, staff exchanges, public talks and private discussions we attended in the framework of the project, we critically explored the possibilities of dialogue under conditions of asymmetries. Together, we decided to highlight three areas of shared societal and political concerns. Development, identity constructions and migration stuck out as fields, which are highly contested in all countries involved and which deserve closer academic scrutiny and further debate. This brochure documents the concept and questions of the project, and presents the scholars involved. It shares some of the main results of the student’s field work and research projects, which were centrestage of all activities.

The success of such complex projects builds on the efforts and energies of many different people, to whom I owe much gratitude. Thanks to the generous funding of the DAAD, we were able to sustain the Centre’s and Freie Universität’s links to colleagues in Egypt and Libya, while building new relationships to institutions of higher education in Morocco and Algeria. The project was meticulously prepared and implemented by a team of highly motivated lead-instructors from FU Berlin, EGE Rabat and CREAD Algiers, with great support by colleagues from Cairo University and the University of Benghazi. Our special thanks extends to Secrétaire Général M. Mohiedine Bentahar who enthusiastically supported the institutional links with EGE Rabat and Director Yacine Belarbi for showing great support for the project at CREAD Algiers. We are also very grateful for the countenance of the German embassies in Morocco and Algeria.

Three exciting and inspiring years with many novel ideas and a lot to think about come to an end. I am grateful for an outstanding experience with great students and colleagues. We had challenging academic discussions. We shared thoughts and criticism, we enjoyed cultural exchange and sharing each others’ daily routines. In times in which the Mediterranean turned into a deadly border and racism grows in Europe, intellectual and human bonds like the ones we built in this project are important seeds of change. These bonds will carry us a long way.

Cilja Harders



École de Gouvernance et d'Économie de Rabat

Rabat, Morocco



On behalf of EGE community, I would like to express my deep satisfaction and pride for the opportunity to be part of an international project like “Dialogue and Asymmetries – Debating Development, Identity and Migration”. It was highly beneficial for us – at an academic level first- to build up such a solid and multidisciplinary cooperation with colleagues from different countries (Germany, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, Morocco etc.) who developed right from the start the scientific bases of an enriching dialogue about issues of mutual interest, namely the pressing questions of development, identity and migration. A clear consensus exists in support of the action plan drawn up and the dynamic of the events, workshops and research activities.

Along with the academic dimension of the cooperation, I have personally witnessed the consolidation of strong human relationships and values not only between participants and researchers but also between the institutions represented in this project, which in itself represents a praiseworthy achievement equal, to a large extent, to the academic and scientific realisations.

Special thanks goes to the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) for providing the necessary funds needed for the realisation of this ambitious project. Without the assistance and financial support of the DAAD, the success we are enjoying today would certainly not have been possible.

My thanks goes also to EGE’s partner Freie Universität Berlin and especially to the brilliant team and top management of the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics for the tireless academic input, logistics and organisational design and follow-up of the project. EGE participants – be they researchers or administrative staff – learned substantially through closer collaboration with their peers at Freie Universität Berlin, and I hope we will be able to build on this experience to develop further research cooperation in the future.

Last but not least, I would like to congratulate the group of instructors - and students alike - for the energy, hard work and the passion with which they conducted the project activities and who, by doing so, laid the ground work for deeper reflexion and long-lasting research about the issues and subjects discussed within this project.

Thank you all for believing in EGE, and we look forward to more exchange opportunities.

Mohiedine Bentahar

Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement

Algiers, Algeria



The participation of CREAD in the project has been beneficial in many ways. In terms of training, the seminars organized in Berlin and Algiers and the summer school held in Rabat allowed young researchers and students from other participating Algerian universities to practice in group work and collective exchanges. Thus, it included practices rarely used in Algeria. The experience accumulated in this framework will improve on-going training practices and the implementation of innovative projects.

In terms of research, our participation in the project has opened up new perspectives for studying migration and identity in terms of cross-reading and comparative reading. It is with this in mind that we now consider thinking our thoughts and developing our research projects.

The reorientation of our research training activities and the practice of studies towards these new perspectives could not be effective without collaboration of academic partners from different countries. In this regard, the project confirmed the commitment of the participants to a collective cooperation that will certainly materialize in new projects.

The success of this project is the fruit of the commitment of all the partners under the guidance of our colleagues from Freie Universität Berlin and their head Professor Harders to whom we express our acknowledgment and gratitude. We also thank DAAD for supporting the project.

Hocine Labdelaoui

Centre for Middle Eastern and North African Politics, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Freie Universität Berlin (FU Berlin) is a leading German research institution founded by students and scholars in 1948. The university contains 15 departments and central institutions offering over 150 degree programs across a wide range of subjects for more than 35.000 students. The Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics has a longstanding experience in developing programs strongly emphasising on dialogue between Arab and German professors, students, experts and scholars. Focal fields of research and teaching in the center include contemporary political, social and cultural transformations in the region based on critical and qualitative approaches. This has had a profound impact on the practices of cooperation and teaching as well as the research conducted by the team members including Naoual Belakhdar, Janine Budich, Prof. Cilja Harders, Dr. Fouad Marei and André Weißens.



École de Gouvernance et d'Économie de Rabat, Morocco

Founded in 2008, the École de Gouvernance et d'Économie de Rabat (EGE Rabat) forms part of the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University and stands for its Faculty of Governance, Economics and Social Sciences. The faculty is a leading institution in the field of Social Sciences in Morocco and aims at becoming a renowned international institution. The curriculum is based on multidisciplinary teaching in political science, economics, social sciences, law and history. Classes are taught in French (main language), English and contemporary Arabic. To diversify the profile of its students, it practices an active policy of excellence scholarship paired with a social component. EGE has also created an intensive language course for Arabic teaching called Program for Applied Arabic (PEAA), which is designed for non-native Arabic speakers wishing to develop their Arabic skills by choosing short term (1 or 2 months), middle-term (1 semester) or long term (full year) courses.



Building on their dialogue and collaboration with scholars at FU Berlin, EGE's contributions to the project involve a team of EGE faculty and staff including Prof. Najib Bounahai, Dr. Lisa Bossenbroek, Dr. Marleen Henny, Dr. Manuel Goehrs and Racha Lotfi.

Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement, Algeria

The Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement (CREAD) was founded in 1985 as a continuation of the CREAD that started its activities in 1975. CREAD is an institution under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research aiming at developing basic and applied research in the field of economics and related disciplines, disseminating research findings among its members through appropriate means, including publishing a quality journal regularly, and providing support to operators and decision makers in the economy. CREAD's participation in the project is represented by Prof. Hocine Labdelaoui, Dr. Mohamed Saïb Musette and Dr. Chems-Eddine Zelaci as well as Prof. Daho Djerbal of NAQD-Journal as a scientific consultant of the project.



EuroMed Program, Cairo University, Egypt

Cairo University has a long history but was officially established in the early 20th century. The Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences (FEPS) has become one of the most prestigious academic institutions in Egypt. With its expertise in Economics, Political Science and Statistics as well as Computational Socio-Sciences and Public Administration, FEPS entered a multitude of international cooperation projects. The cooperation between the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics and the Faculty for Economics and Political Science dates back to 1999. The leading colleagues at Cairo University are Prof. Riham Bahi, Dr. Chérine Chams El-Dine, Dr. Shaimaa Hatab and Prof. Sally Khalifa Isaac.



University of Benghazi, Libya

The University of Benghazi in Libya was established in 1955 under the name „Libyan University“. Today, the university includes various faculties and centers of consulting, research, and service. Prof. Dr. Amal S. El-Obeidi, the collaborating colleague is an Associate Professor at the Political Science Department of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Benghazi. She was the faculty's dean from 1999 to 2001 and head of the Department of Political Science from 2006 to 2008. Simultaneously she was the head of the research unit at the University of Garyounis Research Centre. Currently, Prof. El-Obeidi holds a research position as Humboldt Fellow at the University of Bayreuth.



In a Nutshell



„We believe that this project was a great success, both academically and interculturally.“
Marleen Henny, EGE Rabat

The multilateral project “Dialogue and Asymmetries: Debating Development, Identity and Migration” engaged lecturers, students and experts from Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, Libya and Germany in a dialogue on some of the main challenges in political and social sciences on both shores of the Mediterranean. The three subtopics, development cooperation, identity, and migration, were addressed in teaching activities and staff exchanges aiming at building students’ capacities as well as strengthening institutional efforts to foster cross-cultural learning and understanding through dialogue.

The project built on the longstanding partnership between Freie Universität Berlin (Germany) and the École de Gouvernance et d’Économie de Rabat (Morocco), it established a new partnership with the Centre de Recherche Appliquée pour l’Économie et le Développement (Algeria), and maintained the relationships with the partners Cairo University (Egypt) and the University of Benghazi (Libya). Our aim was to foster open and constructive debates on the conditions of dialogue amongst the participants. All partners shared a strong commitment to sustaining and extending cultural sensitivity in teaching and knowledge production.

Based on critical thinking, reflexive inquiry, and group work across national and institutional cultures, the project emphasized intercultural learning through exchange and exposure. The project reached out to students and teaching staff alike and strengthened multilateral networks in the region and beyond. It was based on shared concerns and it built on bi- and multilateral dynamics, fostering German-Arab and Arab-Arab dialogue. Thus, the project stands out in its innovative introduction to fieldwork trainings and methodological tools, to exchange perspectives and to empathetically comprehend each other’s point of view.

Aims of the Project

Amongst all project partners three main subjects were identified that currently trigger intense societal debates challenging North-South relations: the mechanisms and pitfalls of international development cooperation, the stereotypical construction of identities in the course of migratory processes and the politics of migration mirrored in its perception by local actors. These issues are highly relevant for social scientists and constitute shared concerns in our societies. The topics were dealt with in the framework of two Exchange Seminars and a multilateral Summer School. All events and their respective contents were rooted in a strong collaboration during preparatory workshops.

In reaction to the feedback of partners in former exchange projects of the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics, this project reflected on the conditions and limits of dialogue as well. Dialogue between Europe and its Southern neighbours is needed today, particularly in the context of the rise of the so-called Islamic State, controversies about foreign interventions in the Middle East and North Africa, the closing of borders and an alarming rise of racism and violence on both shores of the Mediterranean.

Guided by the premises of critical and postcolonial theorists, the project examined the process of the production of epistemological categories and concepts such as “development”, “beneficiary”, “identity”, “migrant” and “refugee”. Against this backdrop, the project was explicitly a “Dialogue on the conditions of Dialogue”. Overcoming (Neo)-Colonialism, Racism, Eurocentrism and Orientalism can only be achieved through a dialogue in which all parties reflect on their respective positionalities to overcome hegemonic structures of knowledge. We dedicated plenty of efforts to the creation of shared spaces where the students were enabled to live and learn together. All students were hosted by their fellow students or by host families to strengthen intercultural bonds. We implemented mediated multilateral group work as an educational method and provided field research training. In our classroom set up it has been a priority to create an empathic atmosphere in which students were encouraged to learn from each other across national and cultural borders.



Participants' Voices

"[...] I also liked the curiosity of the German students, since they really wanted to experience Morocco as we Moroccans do, not as tourists would. I feel like both sides did their best to show the places they like and the activities they enjoy in their respective cities as they would have done for a best friend."

Mohamed Hachim Wafdi, EGE Rabat

"The Algerian-German seminar is one of the best exchange seminars I had so far. [...] I also appreciate the field visits that I had to conduct with my working group. It has a great added-value for the seminar because not only did we focus on the theoretical aspects of the topic but also on concrete examples of migrants that have experienced all challenges of migration."

Khadija Bouchtaoui, EGE Rabat

"What puzzled me was to see the similarities in the discourse about illegalized immigration in Algeria and Germany both arguing with securitization and racist arguments. I wish we would have had more time to speak about these discourses and work on de-constructing them by also critically reflecting on our own opinions, narratives, and prejudices."

Verena Günther, FU Berlin

"Appropriate introduction for self-reflection and critical analysis" – I would prefer to summarize the intensive 10 days of the summer school in this phrase. The analytical approach used in presenting the topics was new to me and I have to admit I enjoyed learning this new approach in dealing with such cases."

Samira Elsheikh, Cairo University



Structure of the Project

Starting with the Moroccan-German Exchange Seminar in 2016, the project partners from FU Berlin, EGE Rabat, Cairo University and University of Benghazi laid grounds for the development of an increasing cooperation between German and North African academia. While the first seminar was bilateral on the students' level, lecturers from all partner countries took part in its creation and implementation. In 2017, the Algerian-German Exchange Seminar, in cooperation with the new partner CREAD, strengthened the multilateral aspect by including one student from Morocco, Cairo and Benghazi as well. The final event of the project in 2018, the joint Summer School at EGE Rabat, subsequently increased the participation of students from each partner country and thus marked a unique collaborative academic event in times of political closure and repression.

PART ONE

Assessing Development:

Critical Perspectives on Development and Cooperation in Morocco

- Moroccan-German Exchange Seminar including lecturers from Algeria, Egypt and Libya
- Preparatory Workshop and academic Staff Exchanges

PART TWO

Exploring Identities:

Migration and Identity Construction in Algeria and Germany

- Algerian-German Exchange Seminar including lecturers from Morocco, Egypt and Libya
- Preparatory Workshop and academic Staff Exchanges

PART THREE

Linking Migration and Politics:

From Transit to Arrival - Perspectives from Migrants and Supporting Organisations

- Multilateral Summer School with lecturers and students from Morocco, Germany, Algeria, Libya and Egypt
- Preparatory Workshop and academic Staff Exchanges

Moroccan-German Exchange Seminar “Development and International Cooperation - Critical Perspectives from Morocco and Germany”

FU Berlin, May 29th to June 4th and EGE Rabat, July 17th to 23rd 2016

Since the outbreak of popular uprisings in the Middle East and North Africa, cooperation schemes between Germany, the EU and their southern neighbors expanded in scope, geographical reach, and stakeholder involvement. Especially since 2011, the German government embarked on numerous initiatives in the areas of democratization, decentralization, and capacity building for civil society and private sector actors. Morocco has been a major addressee of German and European cooperation initiatives especially in the areas of democratization, decentralization, and migration. The exchange provided 10 students from Morocco and Germany with the opportunity to assess current cooperation schemes and to apprehend different perspectives on this highly controversial topic.

The special design of the seminar as a field-work-based course included not just interactive in-class lectures and discussions by/with stakeholders, but also an examination of the involvement, opinion and assessment of local actors involved (or excluded) from such schemes. Students engaged with these questions through interview- and observation-based fieldwork. In-class instructions in Berlin and Rabat and the preparatory sessions introduced the students to some of the key issues pertaining to Moroccan

politics and society, the country's development challenges, as well as German and EU foreign policy, on decentralization and political reform in Morocco. In addition, students received training in fieldwork methodologies. Since collaborative group research projects are a pillar of the seminar, ample time was dedicated to working group sessions during which students familiarized themselves with their research topics, chose and studied their respective field sites, and developed their research design and work plan.

„It was interesting to immerse into different academic systems [...] I loved the group and I hope to stay in touch with a great part of them.“ Sahra Rausch, FU Berlin

During the exchange seminar in Berlin, students visited major stakeholders and official government agencies involved in international development cooperation. These included the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the German Parliament, and the German Foreign Office. During these visits, students discussed with high-ranking officials as well as project implementers their understanding of development cooperation and their assessments of German development assistance. In Morocco, field visits were designed to give students an

insight into the implementation of international development cooperation through interactions and meetings with Morocco-based officers and project managers in international, governmental and non-governmental organizations involved in development assistance and cooperation in Morocco. These included the UN Development Programme (Morocco Country Office), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Heinrich-Böll-Foundation, as well as some of their local partners, target groups and grassroots associations and organizations. Five student research teams were formed, each consisting of one student from FU Berlin and one student from EGE Rabat. Each team was assigned a broad thematic research question which students were then asked to develop and undertake.

Complementing the intense theoretical and empirical study program, the exchange seminar included several activities designed to enhance personal encounters. The Berlin week started with a brunch in one of Berlin-Neukölln's historical parks allowing students and lecturers to interact freely and personally. This was followed by a thematic city walk in Berlin-Wedding focusing on Germany colonial history and its iterations in the urban landscape. In Berlin, Moroccan stu-

dents were hosted by their German colleagues. Two months later, the Rabat part of the exchange commenced with a trip to the beach en route to Casablanca where the group was accompanied on a themed city tour with a focus on the city's

“I've had the most wonderful, thought provoking and rewarding time with my host Sahra as we were able to challenge each other intellectually, culturally and learn a lot from each other.” Sara Loukili, EGE Rabat

rich colonial art-déco architecture and urban design. The week in Rabat included a networking breakfast including a representative of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Morocco, a representative of the GIZ Country Office in Morocco and a representative of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Morocco. During their field travels in Morocco each of the research teams was accompanied by a junior academic supervisor from one of the participating universities. Close cooperation between students and team supervisors during fieldwork visits allowed students to raise concerns and questions related not only to their academic fields of inquiry, but also pertaining to their future career perspectives and personal trajectories.



Participatory Budgeting in Chefchaouen and Larache, Morocco: A Comparative Analysis

Since 2011, Morocco has initiated notable reforms of political, social and economic institutions. The new Constitution includes several provisions on participatory approaches and grants local governments further powers than they enjoyed previously. Recently, amendments to the communal charter have allowed the municipalities the ability to establish and apply their own Communal Plan for Development (Plan communal de développement or PCD). The participatory budgeting proposals were accepted and allowed in Morocco as a means of strengthening the Communal Development Plan.

The paper seeks to critically analyse and compare the two projects of Participatory Budgeting that were implemented in the Old Medinas of the two towns over the course of 2016. It aims to outline the various factors that led to the contrasting outcomes between the two towns. Both projects were implemented by the Réseau Méditerranéen des Médinas (RMM) and Fonds Andalous des Municipalités pour la Solidarité Internationale (FAMSI) in roughly the same period of time, namely 2015-2016. They are still ongoing, and the project phase is set to end in late 2016.

Literature

Since the 1990s, we have witnessed a “proliferation of (...) methods for participatory approaches” (Chambers, 1995). Participation has thus become a crucial guideline for sustainable development.

As Sylvia I. Bergh (2009) points out, there is an important link between civil society engagement and public sector accountability. Allowing civil society to play an active role in democratic processes could thus help to strengthen public sector accountability. Bergh argues that such an effect has yet been limited in Morocco, both at the national and at the local level. Participatory Budgeting, many believe, has the potential to create spaces for broad democratic engagement and political change.

Research question

Participation is a concept thought up by western scholars. Participatory Budgeting, in contrast, has its roots in the very community it first affected, namely Porto Alegre in Brazil. It was first developed in 1989, and according to the non-profit organisation Participatory Budget Project (PBP), there are now more than 1500 municipalities implementing participatory budgets around the world (PBP 2016).

In the cases of Chefchaouen and Larache, this form of democratic involvement was brought to the citizens by two outside organisations, the

aforementioned Réseau Méditerranéen des Médinas (RMM) and Fonds Andalous des Municipalités pour la Solidarité Internationale (FAMSI). RMM was created in 2011 by the presidents of the communes of the Tangier-Tetouan region of Morocco (RMM 2016). This paper seeks to answer the question of whether the Participatory Budgeting projects in Morocco promoted a culture of accountability and civic engagement.

Fieldwork

The recent introduction of Participatory Budgeting in Chefchaouen and Larache, as pilot experiences, by national and local government sponsorship and international cooperation, is an opportunity to explore the pre-conditions and context surrounding the introduction of the process. By comparing the pre-conditions in both towns, we can accurately assess and analyse the different outcomes. These contextual comparisons provide concrete elements to understanding the assessments and preliminary evaluation of the projects.

In general terms, the Communal Development Plan was launched in all Moroccan municipalities and designed to fit their potential and prioritise their needs. The Participatory Budgeting process was then introduced in this context. However, from the perspective of pre-conditions, Chefchaouen had prior experience with regard to international cooperation and has witnessed similar projects in the years before.

Results

Our research results illustrate three key elements to the success of Participatory Budgeting projects. These results are rather inconclusive to the participatory approach in general as further research and field investigations would be necessary in order to build a clear idea on how participatory approaches can influence the relations between the state and the citizens through reinforcing the culture of accountability and civic engagement.

// Participatory initiatives yield better results when backed by the local and/or central government.

// Appropriation and effective individual citizenship are crucial for the construction of local participatory projects as well as their continuity.

// Responding to the needs and potential of the time and place.

Chambers, R. (1995). “Paradigm shifts and the practice of participatory research and development”, in Nelson, N. and Wright, S. (eds.), (1995): “Power and Participatory Development”, London: IT Publications

Sylvia I. Bergh (2009). „Constraints to strengthening public sector accountability through civil society: the case of Morocco“, International Journal of Public Policy, Vol. 4, Nos. 3/4

Mohamed Hachim Wafdi and Jamel Flitti

Morocco's Decentralization Process: A Step Towards Democracy or Just Smoke and Mirrors?

This article examines the project of advanced regionalization in Morocco with a focus on the most recent legal and practical features of the process which has been launched in 2011.

The fieldwork and more broadly the research which yielded this article aimed to investigate whether the decentralization reform has brought changes towards democracy and devolution of power, thus answering a couple of research questions such as: Have the newly elected regional bodies been able to wield influence in the system? How does the antagonism between the elected and the appointed work in practice and in whose favor is the dual system?

Through the analysis of primary sources such as constitutional and organic law, relevant literature as well as through expert interviews conducted in Rabat in July 2016 (with scholars and experts working either for the NGO TARGA which aims at providing training and workshops for newly elected regional representatives, the GIZ the major German Development and Cooperation Agency and relevant scholars from the field), the article analyses whether the decentralization process constitutes a step towards a more democratic governance system by examining the extent of devolution of powers and the performance of checks and balances. The analysis and conclusions of the article are also supported by the outcomes of previous field research conducted by academics and professionals such as Anja Hoffman's "Morocco Between Decentralization and Recentralization: Encountering the State in the 'Useless Morocco'" and "Vom Machtpolitischen Instrument zum Demokratischen Wert. Dezentralisierung in Marokko.", a research paper by Helmut Reifeld.

By embedding the process in a broader context of decentralization efforts both in Morocco and in other so-called developing countries, the article scrutinizes the general idea of decentralization as a panacea for various kinds of dysfunctions within governance systems. The study shows that regionalization and decentralization as such cannot be and end in themselves and must be implemented according to functional, social and historical backgrounds of the country.

The article concludes that the process, which has been initiated by the King Mohamed VI, does not automatically strengthen the position of

elected bodies although the legal framework is in their favor. By using Bourdieu's term of capital, the article finds that elected and appointed representatives have different resources and forms of power. While appointed representatives of the central state mostly rely on cultural capital, namely their profound knowledge of the law and management of public affairs, the elected representatives rather rely on social capital, for example in forms of networks and proximity to local tribes. Thus, two different kinds of power 'currencies' can be identified.

The overall pattern in Morocco's semi-decentralized governance system is that in most cases the appointed representatives still have a higher potential to wield power since they have A) the ability to hamper the work of the elected and B) elected bodies often lack self-confidence and knowledge to use their power resources. However, there are some very rare cases which do not follow these patterns but are considered as outliers (i.e. a former Minister of the Interior who becomes President of a Region).



Hoffmann, A. (2013). „Morocco Between Decentralization and Recentralization: Encountering the State in the 'Useless Morocco'", in Local politics and contemporary transformations in the Arab World (pp. 158-177). Palgrave Macmillan, London.

Reifeld, H. (2014). „Vom Machtpolitischen Instrument zum Demokratischen Wert. Dezentralisierung in Marokko", in KAS Auslandsinformationen (pp. 93-116), 8/2014.

The work of Local and International Stakeholders in the Field of Migration in Morocco

Aim of the Project

This research paper pursues the question of the impact of the new Moroccan strategy for immigration and asylum (SNIA) on the work of national and international stakeholders. To narrow the scope of the research, the focus was put on sub-Saharan migrants in the framework of the immigration policy.

Before 2013, migration was not an issue in the Moroccan society. It was less visible on media outlets and public debate platforms. The exception was made for Moroccan clandestine emigration and the transit of sub-Saharan migrants towards Spain. The adoption of the national strategy of immigration marks the awareness of Morocco of the fact that it has become not only a source of migration and a transit country, but also a country of destination. Whereas it is a breakthrough for Morocco to adopt an immigration policy before other African countries, it is important to measure the extent of its efficiency and to compare the legislation to its implementation. Therefore, we have shifted towards the relevant stakeholders to assess the change in their work after the implementation of Morocco's integration policy in 2014.

Fieldwork

We conducted interviews with non-governmental actors based in Rabat such as the German development agency GIZ and the anti-racism group GADEM as well as the CNDH (Conseil National des Droits de l'Homme), the National Human Rights Council. Our main findings are based on the interviews that we conducted in Rabat and show the stakeholders' projects and their suggestions on how integration can work on the local level, their challenges faced by the consequences of SNIA and the prospects for the future in doing development. The purpose of this research project is to also understand concept of development and to apply it to the field of migration within Morocco. Moreover, the aim is to inform about the current legal framework (law 02-03) as well as the engagement of GIZ with its project RECOMIG (Renforcement des capacités des collectivités locales marocaines dans le domaine migratoire) and GADEM's campaigns to address the difficulties that are faced by undocumented Sub-Saharan migrants. It will further outline the social challenges for NGO work caused by the implementation of the SNIA. Hence, it goes without saying that the results of this paper will also include the impacts of SNIA and development work on the individual level.

Research question: What is the impact of the SNIA on the work of GIZ and GADEM and what does this mean for undocumented Sub-Saharan migrants?

Concluding findings and ethical considerations

The implementation of SNIA is an important development, yet it remains inefficient. As CNDH states in their reports and recommendations for the government, law 02-03- on immigration- is not adapted to the current context. The ongoing campaign of regularisation has not yet accomplished its goals. That is to say, even migrants who had the fortune of being regularised are not permanently integrated, they still have to renew their permits and find employment until the new law on immigration is implemented. Furthermore, equal access to education and social services is yet to be enhanced for sub-Saharan migrants. In the same manner, GADEM is aiming at the adoption of the new law. Its main concern is not only the already regularised individuals, but also the undocumented ones who are without any prospect. They can neither go to Europe, nor go back to their countries of origin. Opposed to them are Europeans and citizens with a special status (i.e. Senegalese citizens do not need a permit to work in Morocco). However, GADEM still has not managed to have a substantial impact in creating jurisprudence in its main area of expertise, such as racism and hate crimes reporting. Furthermore, new immigration law is not implemented yet. Therefore, we cannot fully assess GADEM's capacity in the field of advocacy.

Foreign agencies that are working on development such as the German-founded GIZ have launched projects such as RECOMIG to foster economic, cultural and social integration in ten Moroccan municipalities by offering vocational trainings for refugees, migrants and returnees. However, due to the limited duration of the project- which ends in December 2017-, it has proven difficult to oversee this project on a sustainable way. Moreover, challenges could also be found in municipalities' level with one another. Though GIZ aimed at a decentralised procedure in which local experts could set their own agenda, the cooperation has been time-consuming. In addition, the municipalities were very different in terms of number of refugees, migrants and returnees which made it hard to be on the same level of knowledge on the field of migration.

The difficulties along the development work become apparent in that it is only limited to documented-regularised migrants. Funding has only been made available for regularised migrants. Moreover, specifically Sub-Saharan migrants are all encompassed as one whole target group opposed to individual nationalities, European expats, invisible migrants such as Chinese and Filipino, and refugees. This research has also shown that there is a lack of expertise on the non-governmental level, the proliferation of several NGOs and too many development projects being unlinked. There is a strong need of cooperation amongst NGOs, but more importantly the collaboration with (self-organised) migrant associations needs to be strengthened.

Managing integration from abroad - How are the European objectives to integrate migrants translated to the local context in Morocco?

For a long time, Morocco has been mainly perceived as either a country of emigration or as a transit country for third country nationals from Sub-Sahara Africa and the Middle East on their way to Europe. However, in the light of increased border controls to tackle the influx of migrants and refugees to the European Union (EU), it has recently been argued that Morocco has changed to a country of reception within the last twenty years.

While there didn't exist any legal framework for the integration of migrants before, the government adopted a national integration and asylum strategy (La Stratégie Nationale de l'Immigration et de l'asile- SNIA) in December 2014. As the SNIA is still quite new and not yet well-known in Moroccan municipalities, the German Corporation for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit - GIZ) has set up a program to strengthen the Moroccan municipalities in managing integration efforts (Renforcement des capacités des collectivités territoriales dans le domaine migratoire-RECOMIG).

Research Question

This research paper is the result of an academic exchange seminar by the Freie Universität Berlin and the Ecole de Gouvernance et d'Economie in Rabat. The main research question is how the European objectives to integrate migrants in transit countries outside of the European Union are translated to the local context in Morocco. Specifically, the objectives and the preliminary implementation of the GIZ RECOMIG program are analysed and compared to the approach of established NGOs working in the field of integration as well as international organizations such as the UNHCR.

Field Work

The field work took place during a stay in Rabat and included four semi-structured interviews which were enriched with some side-lining conversations during visits of organisations and institutions: As a part of the program, the authors were first given a presentation by a staff member of the RECOMIG program, during which the official objectives of the program as well as the context of the overall work done by GIZ in Morocco were presented. Based on this presentation and prior desk research, the authors conducted another semi-structured interview with the leading technical advisor of the project, who was accompanied and complemented by another staff member. Based on the output of this interview, two more interviews were conducted with NGOs working in the sector of migration and integration: Firstly with two staff members of an independent association that is supporting irregular migrants and refugees in Morocco (Groupe antiraciste de défense et d'accompagnement des étrangers et migrants- GADEM) and secondly with a member from a migrant organization (Centre Culturel Africain Maroc) that is receiving funds for one of its programs (Kulturemozaik Web Radio) by the RECOMIG project. A final interview was conducted with two staff members from the local office of the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the field work, the authors analyse, how the European objectives of deterrence and improved local integration are translated to the local context in Morocco. It is argued, that the objectives of the GIZ RECOMIG program, which is the biggest project by a Euro-

pean donor organisation dealing specifically with the local integration of migrants in Morocco, fails to recognize the actual needs of the majority of migrants living in Morocco, while impeding the economic integration of undocumented migrants as they are excluded from the labour market integration strategies of the program. Furthermore, the sudden influx of money from European countries, canalized through corporations such as GIZ, results in the set-up of organizations, which only tackle very selective issues if at all while established international partners such as the local UNHCR branch struggle from a lack of funds. Finally, Morocco cannot be considered a safe country for all migrants despite all integration efforts as e.g. LGBTIQ refugees cannot rely on a legal basis, which guarantees their basic freedoms. All in all, the RECOMIG program therefore stands exemplary for an integration strategy, that is politically motivated on both sides and therefore likely to fail on the ground.



Cultural Projects in International Development Cooperation: The Example of the Mix City Project in Morocco

The project Mix City is focusing on theatre performance in public spaces in Morocco. It aims to tackle - mainly through the play “B7al B7al” (we are the same, in Moroccan Arabic) - discrimination and racism issues that are taking place within Moroccan society, more specifically against sub-Saharan migrants. Being part of “the Diversity, Drama and Development” program co-funded by the European Union in the framework of Medculture, this project also associates a diverse group of protagonists such as Moroccan NGOs and associations, artists, a company built by migrants in Morocco, and various other European financial contributors (such as the Heinrich Böll Foundation).

In a newly dynamic of Moroccan political context, launched by the constitutional reforms that have started since 2011, culture seems to have taken a greater place and importance in international cooperation and development projects, in one hand; and in the Moroccan national political agenda, in another. However, in spite of the declared political will on the national level to grant more access to culture to the Moroccan population many local authorities have banned the play.

Methodology

By conducting four interviews with the main stakeholders of the project and the analysis of secondary data related to the project, this paper is an attempt to understand the dynamics revolving around the project Mix City. Mainly this will be targeted by focusing on the strategy of each stakeholder to either conceive the project (in terms of relevancy of its content and its fitting to the national Moroccan context) or in terms of local partners and how they used the project differently in order to reach their own interests.

Results

At the end of the day the project Mix City appears to have achieved a successful result. The play ended up taking place in spite of a series of obstacles and all stakeholders have been able to turn this experience to their own advantage.

Although designed in strict terms by the EU, it seems that such a project turned out to be implemented in a way that it was beneficial to the stakeholders. Most importantly it needs to be stated that Mix City also benefited from a specific national context of social and political transformation wherein EU-funding of Moroccan based projects could flourish.

Its added value as a cultural development project might lie in the fact that it has been an experience of Drama (the play, but also the internal

conflicts between some partners), Diversity (of protagonists, nationalities, publics), and Development (building capacities of the protagonists to create more networks and look for various funders and actors, create jobs, enlarge the cultural scene in Morocco, bring culture to the population that doesn't have an easy access to it, focus on social cohesion and human rights).

Conclusion

In conclusion, the stakeholders managed to achieve a successful result: the play ended up taking place - despite some being banned initially in a few cities, Moroccan people heard of it and national as well as international buzz in the Media helped to lift the ban and bring more attention to the project.

Moreover, the Forum Theatre methodology, inspired by both the Theatre of the Oppressed forum technique and the Halqa (popular traditional street theatre performance in Morocco) provides a space for expression and communication between sub-Saharan migrants and Moroccan people on issues affecting that population (HBS 2016). Such project clearly builds bridges between the two populations by encouraging the audience to think collectively on the issues. Therefore, Mix City is a project that contributes to a better mutual understanding that is promoting the integration of minorities and social cohesion in the social fabric and peaceful conflict resolution. It is also a cooperation project between diverse and different stakeholders gathered around the same project, in spite of some conflicting interests. They seem to be complementary organizations that have been benefiting from each other's experience.

The importance of culture (“soft power”, Eickhof 2014) and public space at its core has become increasingly important in development cooperation projects, especially after the Arab uprisings (2010, 2011). The streets are febrile and boiling, they are the identified place where political change is assumed to happen more quickly or prominently or visibly. HBS and the EU, the main foreign funding partners of the project, are clearly capitalizing the changes through the path of culture in their missions of development cooperation and political change in Morocco. We could only give a limited insight into one cultural development project. Further research needs to focus much more on the above-mentioned importance of culture in development cooperation; which integrates the level of the EU, its impacts in the MENA region and the political circumstances in the respective countries.

Eickhof, I. (2014). “My Friend, the Rebel: Structures and Dynamics of Cultural Foreign Funding in Cairo.”, in Arab Revolutions and Beyond: Change and Persistence: Proceedings of the International Conference Tunis, 12-13 November 2013. Edited by Naoual Belakhdar, Ilka Eickhof, Abba el Khawaga, Ola el Khawaga, Amal Hamada, Cilja Harders, and Serena Sandri, 41-51. Working Papers for Middle Eastern and North African Politics No. 11.

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung (2016). “Projet MIX CITY : Théâtre-Forum „B7al B7al” (Tous égaux)- Halqa.”

Algerian-German Exchange Seminar: „Debating Migration and Identity Construction in Germany and Algeria“

CREAD Algiers, May 13th to 20th and FU Berlin, July 8th to 15th 2017



In light of the recent debates on the impact of migration on national identities, this exchange seminar aimed at fostering the understanding of the historical patterns and narratives on migration in Germany and Algeria. In essence, the seminar was designed to improve the students' knowledge on different forms of migration, their political, social and economic impact, as well as the development of narratives and stereotypes. The goal was to link all of these questions to the respective colonial histories of both countries.

In total, 14 bachelor, master and doctorate students from the Freie Universität Berlin and CREAD and one student each from Cairo University, EGE Rabat and the University of Benghazi participated in the seminar. By meeting political actors and discussing amongst each other, the students and scholars were enabled to reflect critically on the current political discourses while taking into account issues of identity construction, notions of citizenship and the perceptions of the "Other". On the one hand, the intention was to incentivize exchange amongst students from the Global North and students from the Global South. On the other hand, the seminar aimed at strengthening inter-Arab collaborations amongst all project partners. The first part of the seminar took place in Algiers and focused on the characteristics of inward and outward migration in Algeria. Field visits and guest lectures sought to inform the students about the causes, socio-economic consequences and the political impact of emigration from Algeria and the narratives on immigration to Algeria. The second part of the seminar in Berlin intended to introduce students to German migration policies and put a strong emphasis on inward migration. The students conducted research projects with different state and non-state actors involved in the question of migration. All projects were linked by a focus on narratives and stereotypes on migrants.

On top of the fruitful lectures, seminar discussions and individually organized interviews, the participants also had the chance to discover the respective country through several cultural activities. The cultural program in Algiers started off with a guided tour of the Casbah which is part of Algeria's UNESCO World Heritage Site. Throughout the tour we learnt about the life of the Algerian people during the Ottoman Empire. In the National Museum of Popular Arts and Traditions where we admired historic objects of everyday life such as the traditional clothing and jewelry of Algeria's different regions. In the Palace of the Rais we were exposed to the life of the Algerian upper class during the AH 10th and AD 16th century. We then moved on to the Botanical Garden of Hamma, a popular 58-hectare park in which also the original 1932 Tarzan movie was shot. We finished off our tour at the martyr shrine where we learnt more about Algeria's fight for independence. Throughout the

week we had numerous common dinners where we explored the taste of the Algerian cuisine. At the end of the week, the group enjoyed a guided tour to Tipaza where we visited Roman ruins and pre-Roman sights such as the Royal Mausoleum of Mauretania. The day ended with a refreshing swim at the beach close by. In Berlin the cultural program began with a wander around Kreuzberg - a neighbourhood characterized by its multinational social structure. We walked towards Oberbaumbrücke that used to link the Soviet and the American sector and along the East Side Gallery where you can see the work of renowned

„I could master some empiric techniques of collecting information such as interviews, field visits and focus group.“ Asma Wissame Dziri, CREAD

international artists that painted directly on the Berlin wall. During a boat trip along the Spree, we learnt about the background of all the official and historic buildings and museums we passed. A walk along the Tiergarten and past Schloss Bellevue where the German president resides led us to the German Parliament. We visited the cupola of the Bundestag while listening to an audio guide that taught us about the history of the Parliament and the surrounding area. Afterwards, we entered the actual building and got a grasp of the public plenary hall. We ended the day at the Körnerpark in Neukölln by listening to a concert of contemporary music. Another highlight later that week was a guided tour by a Syrian refugee who told us his story while showing us around the centre of Berlin. The cultural program enabled us to understand the history of the country we were in better and was therefore also enriching our discussions on migration throughout the seminar. Additionally, it gave way for social interaction between the participants of seminar.



The Algerian Community in Germany

While Algerian migration to France is widely researched, Algerian migration to Germany is a neglected issue in public discourse as well as in academic research both in Algeria and Germany. Being aware of the very low number of immigrants (compared to France) our group was still interested in finding out more about Algerian migration to Germany, its history and actual conditions. The question, if we can even speak about an Algerian community in Germany remains pending and there is a lack of information on history and current data.¹ Still, with two interviews we collected valuable information about the personal experience and life of Algerian migrants in Germany.

Personal Migratory Experiences

Interview I was conducted with two 30 to 35-year-old, single males who are living in Berlin for about 6 years (Interviewees I and II). Secondly, we interviewed a 65-old man who is living in Berlin since the 1990s, after a first stay in Berlin during the time of the GDR in the 1970s and 1980s. He is married to a German wife and they have six children (Interviewee III). All interviewees are academics and entered Germany in regular migration regimes. Interviewee III migrated to Berlin with a cooperation program for students between Algeria and the GDR. Interviewees I and II came to Germany in 2012 for a PhD and an internship. Interviewees II and III came with a special interest in German language and culture while interviewee I ended up here by coincidence (“pour hazard”). Besides their similar educational status, their experiences vary due to the different periods of migration, age and family status.

Algerian Community Organizing

The interviews represent the three mayor periods of migration from Algeria to Germany: the

first migration took place in the 1960s and 1970s to East- and West-Germany in the context of Government Programs. The second period was a forced migration due to the violence experienced in the Algerian “Black Decade” of the 1990s. Finally, the migration from the early 2000 until today of highly educated Algerians to study or work in Germany. Still, in this report as well as in our interviews illegalized experiences of migration (“haraga”) are missing, which will be reflected in the second part of this report.

Each interviewee has founded an association that is interested in the Algerian community in Germany. “Yedd” is doing cultural work and has been created in 2007, including many members with German, Algerian members and other nationalities. The concern is to make Algeria known to Germany and to the world. The same aims are also valid for the second organization, the “Association for Algerian Academics in Berlin”, which is currently in the process of being founded. This organization is aiming to strengthen academic exchange and to support Algerian academics in Germany. These two interviewees (I and II) also maintain a facebook group with numerous followers where contacts are made and questions on accommodation or other issues answered.

All interviewees described the Algerian community in Germany as an only loosely organized one which meets for cultural events and national holidays. According to interviewee I, the three periods of immigration shaped the community since the relations within the different cohorts are comparatively closer. Interestingly, it was also mentioned that due to the little knowledge about Algeria and common history, the relations between the Algerian migrants and German society is not as biased as it is in the French case. In the latter, the colonial history still shapes the experiences that are made with each other.



Integration and Identity

We could find different perceptions and identity concepts among the interviewees. While interviewees I and III strongly identified with Algeria (“je suis 200% algérien”), the third person described himself being less attached to his country of origin (“je viens de l’Algérie”). Interviewee III considers himself as an expatriate as opposed to a migrant, which for him implies a form of forced migration. The two younger immigrants (interviewees I and II) saw borders as fluent (“frontière permeable”) and identities unfixed and not mutually exclusive, describing a perceived “double presence”. From our point of view, these statements were especially instructive for a more theoretical reflection upon the notion of identity. The permeable borders and the heterogeneity of identification do not lead to a lack or absence of identity but rather to a richness – this way of narrating their experience of living in Germany (interviewees I and II) goes along with Stuart Hall’s conceptualization of identity:

“The diaspora experience as I intend it here is defined, not by essence or purity, but by the recognition of a necessary heterogeneity and diver-

sity; by a conception of ‘identity’ which lives with and through, not despite, difference; by hybridity. Diaspora identities are those which are constantly producing and reproducing themselves anew, through transformation and difference.”

Concerning the issue of integration, interviewee I disagreed with the term and proposed to differentiate between the “openness” and “closeness” of a culture and individuals. All interviewees disagreed with the assimilation concept and emphasized the richness of the Algerian culture. Furthermore, the importance of keeping their “roots” while at the same time accepting German culture, values and rules was highlighted. Regarding obstacles of integration, interviewee III described the misconception in German society of linking Islam with terrorism, leading to racist attitudes. The main thing we can deduce from this issue is that the interviewees see a difference between integration, assimilation and adaptation whilst emphasizing the richness of knowing and living two or more languages, cultures [...].

Hall, Stuart (1990): Cultural Identity and Diaspora. In: Rutherford, Jonathan (ed.): Identity. Community, Culture, Difference. London: Lawrence & Wishart. p. 235.

Refugee Integration in the German Labour Market since August 2015: Processes and Challenges

The declared objective of this working group is to focus on the socio-economic dimension of one crucial phase in German migration history. To this end, processes and challenges of the integration of refugees into the German labour market will be elaborated and discussed. In the following, the subsequent research question will be covered: What are the challenges of refugee integration into the German labour market? [...] With regard to methodology, two expert interviews were arranged to ensure a comprehensive insight into the matter of interest. Firstly, a top-down perspective was covered with the Federal Agency for Work's Regional Directorate for Berlin/Brandenburg. Secondly, a bottom-up dimension was addressed by our visit to JOBLINGE Kompass Berlin, which specializes on labour market integration for refugees and asylum-seekers with high likelihood of receiving asylum. [...]

Theoretical Concepts

In our research and during the interviews in Berlin, we were able to precisely plot the following types of migration in Germany: In the field of regular migration, which is marked voluntary movement of individuals or populations from one country to another or from one region to another for economic, political or cultural reasons or the regular crossing of the border of countries, we identified three types of regular migration: student migration (voluntary migration of students for study), family migration (voluntary migration of families for various reasons) and economic or business migration (voluntary migration for economic or business reasons (exp: search for work)).

In the field of irregular migration, when movement takes place outside the regulatory norms of the sending, transit and receiving countries, the

concept used in this work covers four categories. Asylum seekers (in the process of their asylum request) are people who have left their home country as a political refugee and are seeking asylum in another. Recognized refugees, are those granted asylum, thus the right to remain in German territory. In case asylum is denied, persons must leave German territory. The last category is illegal immigrants (group term: undocumented), who are persons in an illegal situation (presence on German territory without papers and without authorization or documentation of their cases).

In the following, our analysis sets a focus on the second category of recognized refugees. One must bear in mind, that the processes and challenges for labour market integration are highly diverse in the different categories. Due to both actors' working profile, the focus on recognized refugees granted asylum will productively limit the scope of analysis with regards to feasibility aspects.

Findings

From the interviews we conducted with both organizations, we have found that refugees have to go by different, complex processes to be integrated in the German labour market. Once arrived, they undergo a health check before being transferred to a „Welcome Center“. After these steps, a security check is done to ensure that they have a clean criminal record. Consequently, they can request asylum in the Federal Agency for Migration and Refugees. The asylum decision should take two days in the legal framework. However, the decision can take one to four years before they are integrated in the market. [...]

According to our interviews with both organizations, refugees have to overcome the following challenges in order to be integrated into

the German labour market: The evaluation of language skills, language courses, the evaluation of work qualification, alphabetization and intercultural training. First of all, language training can be considered as one of main challenges for migrants and teachers. For instance, Integration Courses can be overcrowded and teachers are often under-qualified. Therefore, many students complete the course without significant German language skills. The heart of the matter is that the professional orientation is closely linked to the language competence of the refugees. In connection with that, refugees with language level A2 can only be integrated in the low skilled labour market. On the other hand, skilled and highly skilled labour requires high language skills. In order to work as a doctor in Germany for example, one needs a language level C1. The second challenge relates to alphabetization of illiterate refugees. This process may uptake a long time, creating problems for refugees and the German labour market. Furthermore, intercultural training was considered like another challenge for refugees by the interviewed actors. Intercultural training is based on intercultural competence, the ability to communicate effectively and appropriately with people of other cultures. Besides the challenges that were stressed out by our interviewees, we found some gaps between expected challenges by societal and personal discourses and the challenges of the administrative-interviewees' discourse.

The whole process as a challenge was our first detection. This challenge is linked very tightly with another which we recognized quickly in our group: The basic living conditions as a factor of quick labour market integration. Even though our Interviewees were key players of the integration system, they had nothing to do with living conditions like housing, etc., although it has a major

impact on the physical and mental ability to work. We also could detect some wide spread prejudices, that turned out to be wrong. This was the case for the funding of the integration and added value by the refugees. Even though common sense in wide parts of the society, refugee integration is too costly, we found out, due to the German economic situation funding is not a problem for the state. The federal agency for work also gave us numbers: 50% of labour market integration after 5 years and 75% after 7 years obviously contradict the prejudice of a low added value to the German labour market.

Furthermore, the group expected wide spread daily racism within the institutions and companies as a major challenge, but our interviewees denied this problem. Especially the federal agency saw racism only as a rare individual case problem. Nevertheless, there are programs to fight racism within the institution and the anti-discrimination-law to fight racism of employers. This statement is however not representative, and we expect a more ambivalent output with more interviews. [...]

Lobbying for the Rights of Migrants: Agenda Setting and Constraints.

When lobbying for the rights of migrants, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) face structural constraints that influence to what extent they can get their message across. This report focuses on outlining these constraints, describing how lobby groups decide for which topic they lobby and how difficult this is at the moment. The analysis is based on interviews conducted with a globally working faith-based NGO and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), a foundation linked to the German Social Democratic Party.

How do lobby groups come up with topics?

The two organizations named four different ways that inspire the specific topics they lobby for. For both of them public discourse seemed to play an important role. FES also told us that experts such as academics were frequently asked to write policy papers that were then discussed in public and therefore inspired their focus. Both respondents stressed that both the federal government and the regional governments have a crucial agenda setting role. Finally, they described input of partner organizations as another way of coming up with topics. The Social Democratic Party and the trade unions frequently contact FES to ask for advice. The faith-based organization we have visited works very closely with partners from the Global South, whose priorities influence on which topic the NGO chooses to work on.

Which topics are currently easy or difficult to lobby for?

When asking our interviewees about the current discussions in Germany, they told us that the issue of migration is currently less relevant to the German society than in 2015. In their view, the discourse has shifted from immediate help to integration policy. When it comes to groups of migrants, they informed us that the public was very much focused on refugees. They also spoke of an “economic discourse” that is critical of “economic” and therefore “African” migrants. Human rights-based arguments were seen less favourable by the German society who according to our experts had most sympathy for people fleeing war. Furthermore, they described the media coverage as anti-muslim and even spoke of an islamization of the discourse. Our interview partner at the FES contrasted this with the fact that most immigrants moving to Germany actually came from within the European Union. We also identified differences when it comes to gender. According to our interviewees, men were generally more present than women which were not portrayed as migrants. This focus makes it difficult to raise awareness of the role of German arms sales in fostering migration. On the one hand, proposals such as granting the right to vote at local elections to foreigners from outside the EU are presently extremely difficult to get through. On the other hand, fighting causes of migration is seen very positively at the moment.

Limitations to lobbying and possible coping mechanisms

The organizations’ social basis, the accessibility of politicians and the timing might pose difficult limitations to the effectiveness of lobbying. Even bigger organizations with a broader donor structure frequently have a specific social basis characterized by a particular value system or socioeconomic background they must take into account. Sometimes the organizations’ approaches go further or against the opinion of the basis. Interestingly, such contradictions do not make the lobby groups we spoke to alter their stances. They rather try to persuade their basis by organizing public discussions, educational trips or by teaching multipliers that pass on their knowledge.

One of the biggest challenges for NGOs is getting access to the people they want to address. Often the main targets are members of parliament (MPs) which are very busy and therefore have only a limited amount of time available for groups lobbying for migrants’ rights. An effective coping mechanism that helps dealing with this issue appears to be cooperating with other groups that are also advocating for migrants’ rights.

Furthermore, timing appears to play an important role for success as well. Even if an organization has easy access to MPs and is able to convince them of their point of view, those MPs might often not be able to actually publicly support the position due to the public opinion. If the public thinks very negatively about a certain proposal, politicians see it as a lost cause to use their political capital for this issue. This is especially true during election periods. Nevertheless, the public discourse might also open windows of opportunity to attract funds and public attention. However, sometimes the fields the state is funding are not in line with the beliefs and ideological orientation of the lobby group.

Conclusion

As this analysis has shown, lobby groups have several different ways to come up with the specific topics they are advocating for. Sometimes the policy process is initiated bottom-up by partner organizations feeding in their opinions or by public discourses influencing the agenda setting. In other instances, the input is less inclusive and generated top-down by local and federal government actors or academic discourses. Obstacles such as a more conservative social basis, limited access to politicians or bad timing might hinder the work of NGOs advocating for migrants’ rights. However, the organizations have developed coping mechanism like education, cooperation and using windows of opportunity. At the moment, there is a window of opportunity for advocating for more developmental funds to the home countries. Other endeavours might be more difficult to implement. The two interviews do not allow for generalizations about the role of smaller lobby groups led by migrants themselves. In comparison, there might be structurally disadvantaged in the policy landscape and therefore probably face additional difficulties. Further research needs to be done in order to assess their specific constraints.



[...] This research aimed at exploring the so-called refugee crisis from the perspective of the EU and the changing of power dynamics. Two explorative qualitative interviews have been conducted with a representative from the German EU commission representation and two researchers from the SWP (German Institute for international and security affairs), two organisations that have different outlooks on the crisis and the response.

EU Response to the Refugee Crisis

In Response to the Refugee Crisis the European Union drastically changed the Dublin System that was introduced in the 1990's. The Dublin System was unable to prevent the crisis, because it was unable to reduce pressure on countries most affected due to their geographical location. The Dublin Reform includes four pillars that are supposed to reduce the incentives for irregular migration, save lives and secure external borders, introduce a common asylum policy, which will include financial support to countries more affected, an EU wide application system, support countries in their efforts to secure external borders, support resettlement programs, put forward agreements with partner countries in Africa and includes frameworks such as the EU-Africa trust fund. Furthermore, a new common legal migration system including integration policies is supposed to be put forward. This system includes a penalty system, that will penalize countries, not complying with the system.

Currently 19 EU countries, including Germany, Hungary and Poland are violating the frameworks and are in the process of being penalized. The EU has also put forward measures to comply with the four pillars of its new strategy in order to reduce pressure on countries formerly disadvantaged by the Dublin System. To solve a crisis of such a dimension, actors such as the SWP see

a European solution as necessity, since the member states are not capable of resolving the crisis alone, policies today seem to be too narrow to tackle the real issues and root causes of migration and new measures must be taken, so the SWP.

Changing Power Dynamics?

The MENA region's governments have been in the position of low bargaining power towards actors such as the European Union. Some countries such as Algeria stand quite independently and are not crucially dependent on cooperation with the European Union. The EU has been in a relative high bargaining position so far, but the refugee crisis in Europe could have the potential of changing these power dynamics. The European states are suddenly in the position of being under high pressure financially, politically and in regard to civil society actors. Crucial to the question how power dynamics change is the question of whether the states in the MENA region and African states will act collectively or individually.

The EU and its states have changed positions from offering cooperation to being in the position of necessity to demand cooperation, in order to lower pressure on the political and societal situations in the countries concerned the most. Some countries have shown their new bargaining power in demanding conditions for frameworks the EU has proclaimed that would be similar to the Refugee Deal between the EU and Turkey. The demands of countries such as Egypt are high and not only involving financial means but being included in trade deals and trade frameworks. Where before the EU was able to set the rules, some countries now use their negotiation powers in order to strengthen their own positions. The question resulting is to who's advantage are power dynamics changing and who will profit from this change in power distribution?

EU – Algerian cooperation on migration

The EU and Algeria adopted their joint partnership priorities at the Association Council on 13 March 2017. The Partnership priorities establish a framework for renewed political cooperation and enhanced cooperation. They have been defined by common accord in the framework of the revised European Neighborhood Policy and the EU's overall strategy for foreign and security policy. In the 2014-2017 period, the EU cooperation with Algeria focused on justice reform, strengthening of citizen participation in public life, labour market reform and employment, as well as diversification of the economy. For the years 2018-2020, the EU-Algeria cooperation will focus on the newly agreed partnership priorities which will include political dialogue, governance, Rule of Law, the promotion of Human Rights, cooperation on inclusive socio-economic development, trade and market access, energy partnerships, climate change, environment and sustainable development, strategic dialogue and security and the Human dimension including migration and mobility. [...]

Challenges and Conclusion

The challenges are mostly national and linked to the political will of member states in creating migration laws. Communications between member states and African/ middle eastern states is a crucial issue especially in implementing policies and recommendations. Furthermore, mixed migration policy would prove challenging in lumping various groups under one policy.

Protection of refugees is high on the agenda but protecting refugees by closing borders poses even more danger, here the EU is trapped between securing Europe and its populations and limiting the number of victims drowning in the Mediterranean. Not to mention the protection

of refugees within Europe, refugee centres and issues of gender-based violence.

Perceptions of this so-called crisis are misused in media in favour of certain political agendas, this places many governments in dilemmas and would have to change. The Dublin reform looks into stabilising countries where refugees are coming from, it would also prove challenging later to limit EU member states' weapon exports and support of certain groups in the MENA region in expectation of a favourable outcome. The questions remain whether it is really an issue of security, economy and coping with numbers, or rather an issue of xenophobia, political conflicts, outbursting populism and Europe not really reflecting the values it claims to have and the ultimate question whether the Refugee crisis can be claimed to be in Europe or rather outside of it.



Multilateral Summer School: „From Transit to Arrival – Perspectives from Migrants and Supporting Organisations on the Impacts of North African Migration Policies“ EGE Rabat, July 7th to 17th 2018

For decades, migration experts, scholars and policymakers have considered North African countries as transit countries for migrants whose final destination is Europe. However, with escalating conflicts, state fragility, demographic challenges in the Middle East and North Africa and more restrictive European border control policies, migrants often find themselves forced to settle for an undetermined period in so-called transit countries. This, in consequence, places certain responsibilities upon these countries and forces them to adapt to the needs and concerns of their new residents who often lack a suitable legal status.

The jointly developed Summer School introduced five students of social sciences at FU Berlin, EGE Rabat and CREAD as well as three students from Cairo University and two students from the University of Benghazi to critical approaches on migration politics and well-prepared fieldwork experiences in Morocco. The students learned about the recent changes in North African migration policies with a focus on their impact on local stakeholders in Morocco, such as NGOs in support of migrants. Building on that, they were involved in collaborative fieldwork-based research

projects cutting across disciplinary and institutional-cultural divides. In order to prepare the students for this endeavour, all project partners jointly developed and delivered a comprehensive, albeit introductory, curriculum comprising of three components: an introduction to Moroccan and North African migration policies, an introduction to critical migration studies as well as fieldwork research methodologies. Meetings with organizations working in the framework of the Stratégie Nationale d'Immigration et d'Asile, as well as with local activists representing interests of migrants and refugees themselves, provided the students then with concrete knowledge about the different actors' perspective on migration politics and its impact on the daily lives of migrants. In addition to a demanding academic experience, the students were offered a lot of space to get familiar with each other. To further intensify the cultural exchange component, all students were hosted by Moroccan families.

One of the pillars of the Summer School was the close cooperation of lecturers and students alike. Since the event – in comparison with the Exchange Seminars – offered less time to spend

with each other, we decided to introduce the participants as early as possible and to involve them in collaborative fieldwork-based research groups. Each working group was assigned to one of five NGOs that agreed to meet the Summer School participants for interviews. The organisations were Caritas Rabat, Groupe Antiraciste de Défense et d'Accompagnement des Étrangers et Migrants (GADEM), Fondation Orient Occident (FOO), Collectif Des Femmes Migrantes Au Maroc (COFMIMA) and Ajru. The early development of joint working structures, supported by group supervisors, allowed for a very well-prepared start of our program in Rabat. The opening theatre workshop of our program in Rabat by Ajru – a local organisation working in the field of migration – allowed the students to empathically approach each other by jointly exploring the empowering effects of the methodologies of the "Theatre of the Oppressed".

In this line of pedagogy, the continuing focus on mutual listening and empathic understanding throughout the week enabled the Summer

School participants to build strong connections with each other and to collectively explore the challenges of qualitative field research. Giving the groups ample time to learn about each other's perspectives, assumptions and question, but also to solve conflicts of interest by themselves, laid grounds for very interesting outcomes of the research projects.

„The thing that I've appreciated in this experience is this mixture of cultures, languages and backgrounds, it was very nice to meet all these people and create this kind of friendship. Because I believe that all good things happen within good relationships.“ Asma Mestour, CREAD

Concluding their group presentations, all students agreed that they felt much more confident to work in groups and to do interviews in their different disciplines. As in the previous years, they very much appreciated the repeated feedback session during the program and parted with many new ideas for their individual academic development and for possible future projects.



Interview Group: Caritas

Who is Caritas?

Caritas is an international confederation of Catholic charity organization present in more than 200 countries and territories, the name was taking from Latin and it means the love of other. Caritas has been working in Morocco with vulnerable migrant populations since the beginning of the 2000s. Historically, more than 25,000 migrants have been accompanied by the teams at the reception centres in Casablanca, Rabat, Tanger, currently a new axis on Meknes and Fes.

In Caritas reception centres, all migrants with vulnerable situation are welcomed regardless of their status, nationality, religion or their gender, the reception of Caritas is based on a personalized listening of each case for a support articulated around different coordinated services: emergency assistance, access to public health and Moroccan schools, professional training, social and psychological support. Not only this but also, they have provided migrants with information and advice, they have also pregnancy monitoring programs for women.

The interview was conducted with Madame Fanny Curet who is working with Caritas since 2013, she is the coordinator of the Qantara program, this program has been functioning since April 2016, that aims to improve the access of the migrants to their fundamental rights in Morocco.

Moroccan Migration Policy

In 2013 Morocco adopted a new migration policy, called Strategie National D'Asyle et d'Immigration, and in 2014 the first regularization procedure started. However, the law regulating the presence of foreigners in the country, the law 02-03, is still valid so for migrants is still difficult to regularize their status except from the extra-ordinary regularization procedures. As 2013 new policy was an important turning point for Morocco and for the associations working with migrants, we thought it would have been interesting to understand how Caritas changed its way of working toward migrants. What emerged from the interview is that the situation of migrants changed completely, in fact, they are nowadays more visible, they achieved freedom of movement within the country, whereas before they could have been deported to the border in every moment, and for those who achieved a regular status they feel more secure.

However, there are still huge problems and challenges for their integration, our interviews highlighted the fact that now the situation of migrants is under the eyes of everyone and their presence cannot be denied under a discourse of transit migration. Caritas keep on working for the access to the rights for those non-regularized. Nevertheless, the main change for Caritas is that nowadays they can cooperate with other actors, while in the past they were mainly working alone, and they changed their role from provider of services to mediator, in fact their aim is to become a bridge between the migrants and the Moroccan institutions.

Caritas' Approach Towards Education

Before 2013, Caritas offered educational classes for children like language courses directly at Caritas' buildings - mainly because migrant children weren't allowed to enrol in Moroccan schools. Since the reforms, every migrant child is in theory allowed to enrol in a Moroccan school. However, Migrant children and parents face multiple problems.

Two main problems are according to Caritas:

1. The language barrier. Parents and pupils are facing this problem. Parents have difficulties communicating with schools and enrolling their children, when they don't speak Arabic or French. The Moroccan primary schools are in classic Arabic, the colleges are in French - migrant pupils who don't speak these languages face difficulties in class.
2. Complicated process of administration. There is no standard way when it comes to the process of enrolling migrant children to schools. The process differs between cities and schools. There is no support for migrant parents, to explain, what they must do to enrol their child.

The new role of Caritas since the reforms is that of a mediator between the educational system and the migrants. They support parents during the process of administration. The new approach of Caritas is not to create separate spaces, but to support the integration of migrants in the Moroccan society. They are organizing language classes in the schools, in the afternoon after the regular classes. In cooperation with schools, they are trying to make schools accessible, inclusive and integrative spaces.

Final Reflections

Regarding the work progress the group was trying to develop, we had a very organized and systematic way that would be further explained below.

First, we decided to separate and split ourselves to have "individual brain storming". The following step we had was to arrange and discuss what each one has gathered from information and questions, considering that everyone has sphere of interest that she is eager and curious to explore. After we gathered and discussed the entire questions, we decided to remove the redundant questions and to compress other questions, which was the difficult part of the group work. Moreover, it took us some time to rephrase the compressed questions for answering all our areas of interests. Later, we came to the last part of designing the questionnaire which was reorganizing them to have coherent and consistent line of questions.

Moving to the interview strategy, we decided that the two fluent French speakers are the ones who would conduct the interview, other tasks as taking notes and observing the general environment were given to the other two group members. Furthermore, when talking about the method of delivering our gathered data, we decided to divide the entire transcript into themes and every member has a special theme as a task to analyse.

Interview Group: Collectif Des Femmes Migrantes Au Maroc

On Friday, July the 15th at 12 AM, Susan, Asma and Salma had a meeting with Madame Zoé, founding member of the Women Migrants Collective in Morocco (COFMIMA) in Morocco. The interview has been prepared a few days before the event, with the help of our supervisors Prof. Racha Lotfi and Prof. Cilja Harders. After defining the main lines and considering our supervisors' advice, the group drew up a list of questions that were aligned to the purposes of the summer school. These questions were articulated on one main objective: The problems of female migrants in Morocco through the scope of COFMIMA.

Thus, in accordance with the objective of the summer school, we have chosen to carry out a qualitative research. As such, we used the semi-structured interview as a data gathering technique. A choice that is explained by the exploratory nature of our research. To do so, the interview contained four major questions with sub-questions that were asked to have a better understanding and assimilate the answers when they are not very clear. The questions are open and/or to be developed. The interview was conducted with the interviewee on the basis of a thematic analysis grid in order to collect a considerable amount of data. Topics that were discussed with our Interviewee were priorities of COFMIMA, changes over time, effects of Moroccan migration policies and measures to overcome the problems.

For the preparation of our interview, we focused on three topics, which we considered to be the most important ones: Employment, health and sexual violence. During the interview we realized that these are not the only big problems COFMIMA is dealing with at the moment. Therefore, we also included language and housing as problems female migrants are facing and spontaneously came up with questions targeting these topics, too. In the following, we are giving short summaries on each problem and what we learned from COFMIMA how this affects the women they work with.

Employment

During the interview, Madame Zoé mentioned various ways of how employment turns out to be a problem for female migrants: First, she said that it is difficult to find jobs, even for women who have studied in their countries, because their foreign diplomas are not accepted in Morocco. Also, it is difficult to get a permit to work. Additionally, she explained that many face difficult situations even when they find a job. „They are exploited“, is what she said.

Health

Madame Zoé said that health is an issue during the whole process of migration, from leaving their country to building up a life in Morocco. She referred this topic to sexual violence and said that various women are ‚contaminated‘ with HIV. Also, she referred sexual violence to the problem of housing and explained that some women are so desperate to find a place to stay that they sometimes end up living with men who force them to have sex with. She also mentioned pregnancy as a special health issue for women. She explained that many have problems with the language, especially with nurses. She explained that the access to healthcare is a big problem. In Morocco, people who cannot afford health care normally can take advantage of the ‚carte ramed‘ which allows them to use health service for free. Migrants are supposed to be able to use this card, too. But until now, not one migrant has got one, according to Madame Zoé.

Language

As we realized during the interview, language is also a big problem for female migrants. Although many come from Francophone countries and French is widely spoken in Morocco, too, many face problems because they are not able to speak Arabic. Because of bad experiences in Morocco and especially violence, many do not

want to learn the language. Madame Zoé explained that they try to help the women to learn Arabic though, and are planning to offer a language course. She also explained that many do not want their children to go to Moroccan schools, mainly because they do not plan to stay, but then if the children go and learn Arabic, this helps them, too, because the children can firstly translate and secondly push the mothers to learn Arabic, as well.

Sexual violence

She mentioned that there are other organizations who help women with orientation and offer psycho-social help after experiencing sexual violence. She explained, that many do not want to take legal actions, mainly because they do not believe that they could be successful with this. Madame Zoé knew about one case which has been transferred to Gadem, another association working in the legal field.

Housing

She explained to us that a big problem are high prices in Morocco for renting apartments. Therefore, many women share rooms with other women and children. Also, many women do not get official contracts for renting a place and therefore are being defrauded or get problems with their permit to stay or work as they have to proof that they have a place to live.

Apart from the different problems, we also wanted to know what mainly causes these problems. We assumed before that the change in Moroccan migration policies might have an effect. Madame Zoé stated, however, that the regularization has not improved much. Theoretically now, many things are clear, for example the acceptance of foreign diplomas. But in reality it does not work. The reason as she understands it is: „The agents in the administration don't do their work, they don't help the king with his migration policy.“

We also wanted to know how Madame Zoé thinks these problems can be overcome. She explained to us that the idea of COFMIMA is to mainly help women to get financially independent through employment. Therefore, they offer formations and trainings to help women find a job. Through this, they think that the other issues will improve, too.

Reflection

Lastly, we want to take some reflections of our fieldwork process. Generally, in a field or a group work, the interviewers face different obstacles and difficulties, when preparing questions and especially during the interview. For our case, when we were preparing our interview, the first difficulty that we faced is about the choice of our focus and the aspects that we should develop. To facilitate our work, we draw a mental map in which we developed two main topics; the first one is about the structure of the association, the second is about the problems faced by the female migrants. After a reflection with Prof. Harders' help, we decided to take one topic and develop it, in order to have a clear and meaningful focus on one single problem.

Kayra Hohmann, Ameen Mohamed and Imene Laihem

Interview Group: Foundation Orient Occident

FOO is a Moroccan non-profit organization recognized of public utility. Its mission is to come towards the difficulties of migrants, refugees and the disadvantaged youth, and to promote employability by setting up socio-educational and professional training centres. FOO also works for the enhancement of diversity, and for the valorisation of all cultures.

Interview content

The organization deals with International non-governmental organizations (INGOs) like the IOM, UNHCR, as well as Caritas in helping different migrants and refugees as well as providing legal support to asylum seekers to pass the refugees status determination interview held by the UNHCR and gets the refugee certificate from them. It as well helps the non-successful applicants by sending them to caritas to get support and help from them.

The organization is also working with the Moroccan government in helping the Moroccan irregular migrants in Europe by providing them certain needs and supporting them (housing, funds and suitable jobs) in order to reintegrate them into their original society. Most of the funds collected by the FOO is from foreign embassies and the INGO's and they fund a lot of programs for women, minors and migrants, refugees and asylum seekers but helping minors is of the utmost priority to them. FOO also provides a radio channel for tuning on the migrants' cultures and music to the Moroccan people and hosts festivals like the Raba Africa Festival. FOO works in two ways: by helping the migrants in acknowledging their talents and integrating them inside the Moroccan society and as well paves the way for acknowledgment by the Moroccans of the migrants' cultures amongst each other and within the Moroccan civil society.

Reflection on fieldwork process

Thinking of the fieldwork process in general, we encountered some minor obstacles. In the beginning the uncertainty regarding if the interview could even take place, its time and form hindered us to prepare in detail for the interview situation. During the interview itself, we needed some time to get used to its informal structure. Since we were walking and were introduced to the FOO by a guided tour, it was hard to put ourselves in the position of the interviewer. Who will take notes? Who should speak? After a short while we adapted to the situation and managed to create a dialog between Fatima, who was giving the tour, and us. Our efforts were facilitated a lot by the friendliness of everyone who welcomed us. Both the interview atmosphere as well as the possibility to ask everyone who was working at the foundation, created a mutual space of trust. A practical obstacle was the language barrier. During the

interview preparation as well as during the interview itself, questions and answers were partly conducted in Arabic, English or French.

Reflection on methodologies and conclusion

Within the group it was a bit difficult that none of us were Moroccans and we had little knowledge about Moroccan policies and didn't know how the process is functioning at place. There is as well that we all had different standpoints regarding culture, language, traditions and academic viewpoints. Although did not each other before, it was an amazing experience and a situation that we learned a lot from.

The interview made us realize once more that migration is a complex question that requires complex answers. Our questionnaire only touched some of them. An important conclusion of our work was to listen more to what is said rather than waiting for answers on our questions. While we were curious to find out specific information about migration policies and the organization's relation to the state, we concluded that their discretion about state issues was a powerful statement as well. We did not prepare our questions according to the structural forces that the organization is facing. So, in our presentation and final reflection we tried to focus on what is important for the Foundation itself. Their work showed us how migration has short term (e.g. first aid, PT therapy, shelter, food) and long term dynamics (e.g. education, health care, transportation, professionalization) that can differ from each other, and be group specific and dependent on the state and monetary context they involve in. By doing so, we were able to recognize that the FOO is providing important work that is filling a vacuum beyond the state capacity but within in the frames of the state.



Othman Belkebir, Reem Elbreki, Samira Elsheikh
and Fatima el Sayed

Interview Group: Groupe Antiraciste d'accompagnement et de défense des étrangers et migrants (GADEM)

Our team has been selected to meet with Groupe Antiraciste d'accompagnement et de défense des étrangers et migrants (GADEM). The group was founded in 2006, and they care about three main activities: Advocacy, Legal accompaniment and Confluence.

[...] GADEM is using and doing advocacy both on the local, national and international law. [...] they use legal accompaniment as a tool for advocacy. [...] They involve people directly in the issue, by providing them with the necessary information about their rights, so that they are able to go to the police station on their own. They only intervene if it is needed. [...] they believe that integration of migrants in a critical manner. It is very important to engage them against racism and discrimination by creating events of exchange between Moroccans and migrants, and by the organization of events bringing foreigners and Moroccans together. One of the most known event they organize is the festival "Migrants in scene".

GADEM as well cooperates with partner organizations: NGOs like Caritas, government institutions like National council of Human Rights, Migrants' Bureau in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Summary of the results

[...] Many elements attracted our attention, especially those that are related to their attitude towards migrants and refugees, the way they cooperate with the "partners" of the migration domain, their evaluation of the impact of the 2013 policy reform and finally the possible perspectives that our interviewee draws of this process. [...]

GADEM occupies a very hybrid and uncomfortable position regarding their relationship with the ministries, in the sense that they need to maintain a certain relationship with those institutions: even though they are critical towards the official discourse, we noticed that they also reproduce in a paradoxical way.

Regarding the 2013 policy reform, our interviewee acknowledged a certain evolution in the practices of the authorities that practiced before massive arrests, deportations to no man's lands and more broadly human violations. After 2013, mass arrests in the metropolises decreased drastically, except in the north, and Morocco knew a movement of recognition of migrants' associations that were allowed the access to the funding, in addition to the regularization operations that were initiated twice. Nonetheless, these findings were relativized by our interlocutor who emphasized the different situations near the frontiers with the European union and the persistence of several issues, such as the ghettoization of migrants and the terrible living condition, the need

of the authorities to keep the migrants far from the frontiers, the forced deportation to other Moroccan cities of the migrants that were found in the north and the difficult implementation of the migration policy due to agenda's importance.

Finally, our interlocutor shared with us some insights on the questions that should be followed very carefully regarding the evolution of the migration question. She expressed her concerns about the development of detention centers, and the possibility of implementing a re-admission agreement between Morocco and the EU as it was the case with Turkey.

Reflection on the Methodologies

Interview was the main tool in the research to collect information. The methodology was mainly to interview the organizations' representative in a one-hour field visit to get an adequate amount of information in order to enable the team to have a better understanding of migration policies in Morocco. [...]

First of all, the team started with brain storming questions, each member of the team wrote down a set of questions which seemed to be relevant to the main goal. But this step was not completed without checking the organization's website first to avoid any duplication of questions [...]. After checking the website, the questions became clearer and took a certain direction. Nevertheless, the team was keen to come up with more in-depth and more relevant questions, so key words in the research questions were highlighted and the team started to re-phrase the suggested questions. [...] As a following step, the team counselled with the supervisors, which was fruitful enough for the team to have new insights, comments and notes on the set of questions. Flexibility has been shown in this step and the team considered some of the supervisors' comment and amended some questions accordingly. And as final step in this preparation phase, the team selected most relevant questions and formulation of different types of questions.

During the interview, and in methodology implementation, both recording and note-taking were used as data collection tools. [...] Immediately after the interview, a reflection session lasted for almost an hour and was moderated by the team supervisor. It included reflections on the team's feelings, comments, notes, methodology, and reactions. The reflection section was an added value to the main presentation as it helped the team to document the ideas on the spot and to think more in depth, analytically and crucially on the methodology, and on the experience as a whole.

Participating Lecturers

Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics, FU Berlin, Germany

Naoual Belakhdar is a political scientist and was a Research Associate at the Center where she pursues her PhD. Her research interests focus on various forms of protests and resistance in the Middle East and North Africa, film and politics in the Arab World and collective memory.

Janine Budich is a political scientist. She was Research Associate and PhD student at the Center and the main coordinator of the DAAD funded project “Dialogue and Asymmetries: Debating Development, Identity and Migration”. Her fields of interest are authoritarian and discriminatory politics and civil society studies.

Prof. Cilja Harders is Professor of Political Science and director of the Center. Her research on the MENA region with special emphasis on Egypt mainly focuses on transformations of authoritarianism, politics “from below”, Euro-Mediterranean relations and gender relations.

Dr. Fouad Gehad Marei is a Mercator Fellow at the Max Weber Kolleg, Universität Erfurt. He was an Associate Researcher at the Centre and the Orient Institute in Beirut. His research focuses on governance, development and state-society relations in conflict and post-conflict contexts and faith-based political activism.

André Weißenfels is a Research Associate at the Center and a PhD fellow at the Berlin Graduate School for Muslim Cultures and Societies. His current research is an ethnographically inspired study of an electronics factory in Tunis. His main research interests are economic epistemologies and knowledge-power-problematics.

Participating Lecturers

Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement
and Revue Naqd, Algeria

Prof. Daho Djerbal is Professor of Political Science and History at the University of Algiers 2. He is also cofounder and director of the interdisciplinary bilingual research journal “NAQD: Revue d’études et de critique sociale” which has a long tradition of involving researchers from the global North and the global South.

Prof. Hocine Labdelaoui is Professor of Sociology at the University of Algiers 2, Associate Research Director and Team Leader “Migration & Mobility” at CREAD. His main areas of research are International Migration, Local and Community Development, Adult Literacy.

Dr. Mohamed Saïb Musette is an Algerian Sociologist, acting as Research Director at CREAD. He is a senior expert on Youth, Labour Market and International Migrations.

Dr. Chems-Eddine Zelaci holds a PhD in Political Science and is specialized in International Politics (University of Paris 1, France). He has long served the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Algeria. He is involved, as Associate Researcher Master, in a research program on „International Mobility of Students“ within the think tank CREAD.

Participating Lecturers

École de Gouvernance et d'Économie de Rabat, Morocco

Prof. Fadma Ait Mous is an Assistant Professor at the Hassan II University of Casablanca (Ain Chock Faculty of Arts and Humanities) and an Associate Researcher at the Centre de Recherche Economie, Société et Culture at EGE Rabat. Her research is mainly focused on issues related to nationalism and social movements, gender and socio-political transformations, history and memory, social media, citizenship and migration.

Dr. Lisa Bossenbroek is a Social Scientist. She obtained her PhD in Rural Sociology at the University of Wageningen, Netherlands. Currently she works as a post-doc at EGE Rabat. Her research focuses on the gendered dynamics of rural change.

Dr. Manuel Goehrs was a Lecturer at EGE Rabat. His research pertains to cross-border cooperation, participatory governance and legal pluralism. In Morocco, Goehrs examined the process of decentralisation implemented by the executive following the constitutional reform of 2011.

Marleen Henny has a Bachelor degree in European Studies and a Master degree in Islam in the Modern World. Her research interests are: women rights, emancipation of women in a religious context and the perception/expression of freedom of religion. She was working as the head of International Cooperation and Partnership office at EGE Rabat.

Racha Loutfi is a Lecturer of Classical Arabic and French at EGE Rabat. She has a Master's degree in French Language and Literature and a DEA in French Language and Literature from the University of Aix-Marseille I. Currently she holds the position of Academic Advisor and is in charge of outgoing students from EGE Rabat.

Participating Lecturers

EuroMed Program, Cairo University, Egypt

Prof. Riham Bahi is Associate Professor of International Relations at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University, where she currently heads the EuroMed Program. Her research interests include international relations and global governance, Islamic feminism, global and transnational aspects of political Islam and U.S. Foreign Policy.

Dr. Chérine Chams El-Dine is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University. She is also teaching at the French University of Egypt. Her current research focuses on the resilience of authoritarianism and the democratization process in the Middle East, with special emphasis on Iraq and Egypt.

Dr. Shaimaa Hatab is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University. Her research investigates the position of different players in regime transitions and socio-political transformations within the context of the Middle East and Latin America.

Prof. Sally Khalifa Isaac is Professor of Political Science (International Relations), and a former Director of the EuroMed Program at Cairo University, Egypt. Her publications tackle mainly Euro-Arab relations, US-Egyptian Relations, NATO-Arab partnerships, Inter-Arab relations, and Egypt's domestic and foreign policies.

Participating Lecturers University of Benghazi, Libya

Prof. Amal S. El-Obeidi is Associate Professor of Comparative Politics in the Department of Political Science at the University of Benghazi, Libya. Currently she is a Visiting Professor to University of Bayreuth in Germany and she is an Associated Researcher in the research project "Political Orders in the Making" since 2016. Her research interests focus on gender issues, migration, public policies and security issues, especially in the Mediterranean region.

Berlin

Freie Universität Berlin
Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics
Hnestrassse 22
14195 Berlin
Germany

polvoro@zedat.fu-berlin.de
+49 30 838 56640

Rabat

École de Gouvernance et d'Économie Rabat
Avenue Mohamed Ben Abdellah Regragui
Rabat 10112
Morocco

info@egerabat.com
+212 5372 76100

Algiers

Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement
Rue Djamel Eddine El-Afghani
El Hammadia
BP.197
Rostomia, Bouzaréah Alger
Algeria

cread@cread.dz
+23 1800-88 or-86

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