ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

Retirement migration has become a multifaceted field of research since the end of the twentieth century. Recently, research has drawn attention to the growing evidence about retirement migration from relatively affluent countries of the “global North” to less economically well-off countries of the “global South.” The latter includes countries in Southeast Asia, South and Central America, Africa and Eastern Europe. This development points to the increasing global interconnectedness of aging in relatively affluent countries and raises critical questions about the interrelation of global inequalities with age and aging in the “global North”. Low pensions, old age care and health related problems, social, emotional or intimate limitations in the countries of origin, and the search for new experiences have been identified as important reasons for moving to countries in the “global South”, as these countries appear to provide extended options for action and participation in old age. Research points out the ambivalences of these mobilities at the level of old age life worlds. While they might imply extended options for life in old age, they also contain considerable constraints and vulnerabilities. Equally, in their global interconnectedness, these developments raise critical questions about the implications for the countries of destination and the challenges to the old age regimes in the countries of origin.

CONFERENCE VENUE

Erbacher Hof
Grebenstrasse 24-26
55116 Mainz
Germany

REGISTRATION

Participants can register until Feb. 29, 2020 via e-mail ertl@uni-mainz.de. No conference fee is charged.

ORGANIZATION

Prof. Dr. Cornelia Schweppe
Dr. Annika Müller
Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz
Research Cluster Transnational Aging
Institute of Education
Germany

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Retirement migration to the „global South“. Current insights and future perspectives

March 12-13, 2020
Mainz, Germany

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DAY I (MARCH 12, 2020)

12:30 – 01:00 p.m.  
REGISTRATION

01:00 – 01:30 p.m.  
OPENING

01:30 – 02:15 p.m.  
KEY LECTURE
Matthew Hayes (St. Thomas University, Canada)  
The Coloniality of Contemporary Retirement Migration to the Global South

02:30 – 05:00 p.m.  
PANEL 1: COPING, ADAPTATION, NEGOTIATION
Stefan Kordel (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany)  
US-Migration to Rural Ecuador: Relational Negotiations and Performances of Privilege in Migrants’ Life-Worlds
Rose Jaji (University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe)  
Retirement Migrants from the Global North and Life in Zimbabwe
Rachel Barber (University of Guadalajara, Mexico)  
An Acquired Taste: Mexican Folk Art as a Means for Boundary Negotiation and Migrant Adaptation in Chapala, Mexico
 Çağrı Kahveci, Elifcan Karacan, Kira Kosnick (University of Frankfurt, Germany)  
Tactical Mobility: Navigating Mobile Ageing and Transnational Retirement between Turkey and Germany
Chair: Dora Sampaio (Max-Planck-Institute Göttingen, Germany)

05:15 – 06:00 p.m.  
KEY LECTURE
Sheila Croucher (Miami University, USA)  
The Globalization of Precarity: International Living and Dying

06:30 pm  
DINNER & GET-TOGETHER

DAY 2 (MARCH 13, 2020)

09:00 – 09:45 a.m.  
KEY LECTURE
Sirijit Sunanta (Mahidol University, Thailand)  
The Role and Impact of International Retirement Migration on Thailand’s Old Age Regime

10:00 – 12:00 p.m.  
PANEL 2: SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS
Annika Müller (University of Mainz, Germany)  
Migrating in Old Age to Kenya: Social Relationships in a Postcolonial Context
Désirée Bender (University of Mainz, Germany) (tbc)  
Searching for Love, Sex and Intimacy: Intimate Relations of Male Retirement Migrants in Thailand
Claudio Bolzman (University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland) and Tineke Fokkema (Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands)  
Social Relationships of Retirement Migrants with the Local Population in Morocco
Chair: Cornelia Schweppe (University of Mainz, Germany)

12:00 – 01:30 p.m.  
LUNCH

01:30 – 03:30 p.m.  
PANEL 3: CARE AND SOCIAL SUPPORT
Paul Green (University of Melbourne, Australia)  
In Search of Project Marigold: Bespoke Fantasies of Independence and Dependent Sociality in Ubud, Bali
Vincent Horn (University of Mainz, Germany)  
Care Facilities for German-Speaking Elder People in Thailand
Cornelia Schweppe (University of Mainz, Germany)  
Retirement Migration to Thailand and the Lack of Social Protection
Chair: Britta Buschmann (University of Mainz, Germany)

03:45 – 05:00 p.m.  
ROUND TABLE: RETIREMENT MIGRATION TO THE „GLOBAL SOUTH“. FUTURE CHALLENGES
Megha Amrith (Max-Planck-Institute Göttingen, Germany)  
Anita Böcker (Radboud University, The Netherlands)
Caroline Oliver (University College London, UK)  
Claudia Olivier-Mensah (International University of Applied Sciences, Frankfurt, Germany)