

Announcing the 4th German-Canadian Webinar



Title

Navigating the arrangements of entrance and settlement – Germany and Canada in comparative perspective

Organised by: Prof Dr Felicitas Hillmann (TU Berlin) & Prof Dr Howard Duncan (Carleton University)

Abstract:

A rarely discussed difference between Germany's and Canada's migration governance lies in the way access to the country (via visa policies) and bureaucracies of settlement and integration are organized (through a capillary system of services). In Canada, the federal government can issue a permanent residency visa that entitles holders to enter the country, live there permanently, and work. A single visa of this type provides all these authorizations. In Germany, by contrast, an entry visa issued by the national government only opens the door to the country because work and residency permits are granted by state or municipal authorities who require documentation additional to what the national government requires for the entry visa. These differences can manifest in how well and quickly a migrant or a refugee can integrate into society, the educational system, and the labour force. Our webinar focuses on this interplay of the multiple actors involved in structuring integration trajectories. It is this question of access to the labour market that will form the basis of this webinar.

In both countries, the national government provides funding for non-governmental organizations to support newcomers in their integration. These NGOs and semi-state stakeholders offer remedial language training, advice on searching for employment, adaptation to the national work culture, and various measures to enhance economic and community integration. Yet, against all efforts, we see deskilling and queuing in both countries for the recognition of qualifications. Thus, our question is whether the respective visa regimes and authorities affect newcomers' ability to integrate. Canada is often seen as a role model for Germany in the recruitment of skilled labour. However, not only geography but also the structure of the migration arrangements and their implementation differ profoundly. Therefore, simple "copy and paste" technology transfers will hardly work out, but more nuanced approaches are necessary to improve existing procedures. An aspect of this question is whether differences among provinces/states are salient factors in determining an immigrant's success in the labour force.

The online event takes place: 28.05.2024, 16.00 – 17.30 (Berlin) / 10.00 – 11.30 h (Ottawa)

Invited speakers:

Prof Dr Ather Akbari, St. Mary's University, Canada
Prof Dr Herbert Brücker, IAB Nürnberg/BIM Berlin, Germany
Prof Dr Howard Duncan, Carleton University, Canada
Prof Dr Dan Hiebert, University of British Columbia, Canada
Dr Melissa Kelly, CERC Toronto, Canada
Prof Dr Tuan Nguyen, University of Applied Labour Studies Schwerin/Mannheim, Germany
Dr Thorsten Schlee, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany
Juliette Smith, Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre, Canada
Moderator: Prof Dr Felicitas Hillmann, TU Berlin, Berlin

supported by:



Paradigm shift_new Outlooks

Join us here:

<https://tu-berlin.zoom.us/j/63404680083?pwd=c0dycnJ5aFRlZk1oRTlpUU1oRUN6Zz09>

Meeting ID: 634 0468 0083

Passcode: 791923

More about our project and the speakers:

The webinar is organised by the “Paradigm Shift_New Outlooks” project, based at TU Berlin and funded by the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS). The interdisciplinary project connects scientists from various countries and deals with questions in the areas of migration and the future of work. A central aspect of the project is the enhancement of the German-Canadian collaboration of scholars on central topics of migration and integration related to labour markets and social policies.



Prof Dr Felicitas Hillmann

Felicitas Hillmann is the head of the project "Paradigm Shift_New Outlooks" at Technical University of Berlin, where she works on the role of migration for urban and regional development and directs the scholarly “nups-network”. She is a member of the German Council for Migration, and has published widely on migration and integration.



Prof Dr Howard Duncan

Howard Duncan is an Adjunct Research Professor at Carleton University and a Director of the Montreal-based think tank, Liquid Space Lab. He was the former Executive Head and Chair of the Metropolis International Steering Committee, Editor of the IOM's journal, International Migration, and an advisor to the Century Initiative and the World Bank's KNOMAD initiative.



Prof Dr Ather Akbari

Ather Akbari is a professor of economics at Saint Mary's University. He is a labour economist with research interests in immigration economics. He chairs the Atlantic Research Group on Economics of Immigration, Aging and Diversity (ARGEIAD) and is also the Academic Director of the Master of Applied Economics (MAE) program at the Sobey School of Business.



Prof Dr Herbert Brücker

Herbert Brücker is an Economics Professor at Humboldt University Berlin, Director of the Berlin Institute for Integration and Migration Research (BIM), and Head of Department for Migration, Integration, and International Labour Studies at the Institute for Employment Research (IAB). He specializes in international migration, European Integration, immigrant integration, labor markets, and empirical methods.



Prof Dr Dan Hiebert

Daniel Hiebert, Emeritus Professor of Geography at the University of British Columbia, specializes in public policy research related to immigration policy, the integration of newcomers into the housing and labour markets of Canadian cities, and the consequences of Canadian society's growing 'super-diversity'. He collaborates with government and non-government partners.



Dr Melissa Kelly

Melissa Kelly is a Senior Research Associate with CERC Migration at Toronto Metropolitan University. She studies migrants and refugees' settlement and integration in diverse contexts and leads a Partnership Development Project on international migration in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. She is also on the Welcoming Standard Content Advisory Board for Welcoming America.



Prof Dr Tuan Nguyen

Tuan Nguyen is a Professor at the German Federal Employment Agency University of Applied Sciences, where he focuses on Integration and Labour. He previously worked as a senior research assistant at Helmut Schmidt University and taught at the University of Hamburg and Ostfalia University of Applied Sciences Braunschweig/Wolfenbüttel.



Dr Thorsten Schlee

Thorsten Schlee is head of the junior research group “Migration and Social Policy” at the Institute for Work and Qualification at the University of Duisburg Essen. His interest is in political theory, constructivism, democratic theory, local democracy, and administration. His current research focuses on how refugees (can) access social policies.



Juliette Smith

Juliette Smith is a highly experienced professional with over 14 years of experience in immigration and employment services. She is currently the Manager of Employment Services National Projects at the Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre, where she is committed to driving positive change and helping newcomers achieve their full potential.