

CALL FOR PAPER PROPOSALS
CONFERENCE ON IMMIGRATION IN FRONTLINE STATES:
POLICY CHALLENGES & NEW RESEARCH

Crete, Greece – June 18-19, 2024

Organized by

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The scale of cross-border immigration in European frontline states since 2015 has been massive, generating concerns among native populations regarding the economic impact of immigration and cultural change that could result from integrating large numbers of culturally distant groups. Although migrants constitute a small percentage of the global population, more than 281 million people crossed borders in search of refuge from conflict or natural disasters, or in search of better opportunities in 2022. International migration has doubled since 1990 as part of an evolving process of globalization that inevitably forces societies to come to contact with distant others, while re-assessing who belongs where and what it means to share a national identity. Migration has benefits – in the form of satisfying unmet labor demand in “host” countries and providing stabilizing monetary flows to “sending” countries—but it also impacts local cultures. Regional economic hubs – the United States, Europe, the Gulf, India, South Africa, and Australia – are top destination points that experience the costs and benefits of international immigration. But nowhere are the stresses of international immigration felt more acutely than in “frontline” states that receive and must accommodate large inflows of migrants and refugees without necessarily sharing in the long-term benefits of migration. Frontline states are points of transition, where migrants land and look to the future, and where natives face their fears regarding moving away from their past.

Our workshop will explore concepts, ideas, and policy challenges generated by immigration in frontline states, with a view toward sharing state-of-the-art research across the social sciences that could inform public discourse and policymaking. We are concerned with all types of migrants and refugees, but also with the local societies that host them and which must find ways to integrate them in frontline states. We seek to understand causes and consequences of cross-border immigration, including the connection between inter-state conflict and immigration; all types of processes and manifestations of native-immigrant conflict in frontline states; and any policy recommendations on how to reduce or overcome such conflict. Our focus is Europe, which was deeply affected by the Syrian and Ukrainian refugee crises, and within Europe frontline states such as Greece; but we adopt a broader comparative perspective and would like to also learn from research focused on other parts of the world. Our ultimate aim is to arrive at a synthesis of the latest research on challenges to multiculturalism in frontline states, with a view to informing the scholarly literature while also engaging with policymakers and stakeholders whose work is focused on accommodating migrant and native populations in societies “in flux”.

We invite paper proposals on any topic related to the theme outlined above. We seek thought-provoking papers that are grounded in theory while providing rigorous and original empirical analyses that address questions of vital practical, normative, and policy importance. We are open with regard to methodological approach and encourage applications from researchers across the social sciences.

Interested scholars should submit **one-page abstracts** for consideration by **February 2, 2024**. Notifications of acceptances by **February 22**. Paper drafts must be submitted by **May 15, 2024** in order to be included in the program. Only completed (unpublished) papers will be accepted for presentation. Well-developed pre-analysis plans will also be considered. We **cover all accommodation expenses and meals for 3 nights (June 17, 18 & 19)** in Chania, Crete, for all participants. Other expenses, including travel, are not covered. Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words and may be submitted through the following link: <https://forms.gle/ozq3oyJKnCdcit6>. Direct any questions to Eleni Kyrkopoulou (eleni.kyrkopoulou@yale.edu).