

MAGYC
Migration Governance and Asylum Crises



**Comparative
Perspectives on
Migration Diplomacy**
Fiona Adamson, H el ene Thiollet,
G erasimos Tsourapas (eds)

30.10.2022

D8.10

D8.10 Comparative Perspectives on Migration Diplomacy

MAGYC: The MAGYC (**MigrA**tion **G**overnance and **AsYlum C**risis) project seeks to assess how migration governance has responded to the recent “refugee crises” and has since been influenced by it, and how crises at large shape policy responses to migration. This four-year research project (2018–2022) brings together twelve international partners: the Hugo Observatory from the University of Liège (Coordinator), Sciences Po, the University of Economics in Bratislava, the GIGA institute of Global and Area Studies, Lund University, the IDMC, SOAS University of London, the University of Milan, the Lebanese American University, the University of Macedonia, Sabanci University, IfPO/CNRS.

Website: www.themagycproject.com



This project has received funding from the European Commission's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under Grant agreement number 822806.

Editors: Fiona B. Adamson (SOAS, University of London)
Hélène Thiollet (CNRS CERI Sciences Po)
Gerasimos Tsourapas (University of Glasgow)

Contributing authors:

James Hollifield (Southern Methodist University), Noora Lori (Boston University), Nicholas Micinsky (Maine), Juliette Tolay (Pennsylvania State)

Publication available on:

This publication will not be posted on the website.

Suggested citation:

Version History:

Version No.	Date	Changes
1	31.10.2022	Initial version submitted as deliverable to the European Commission

Disclaimer: *The information and views set out in this report are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Union. Neither the European Union institutions and bodies nor any person acting on their behalf may be held responsible for the use which may be made of the information contained therein.*

Special issue submission

The concept of “migration diplomacy” has gained increased currency in international relations research to describe “states’ use of diplomatic tools, processes, and procedures to manage cross-border population mobility” (Adamson and Tsourapas, 2019, p. 116), as well as how migration and asylum policies have been used “as” diplomacy (Thiollet 2011). The concept allows for an understanding of the interplay between foreign policy and mobility by placing power relations and classic diplomatic concerns at the core of the study of the international politics of migration. This forum introduces readers to the concept, sets forth some current debates in the burgeoning literature, and places them in a comparative perspective.

Contributions include a commentary by the three editors that lays out the concept and state of the field; a piece by Fiona B. Adamson (SOAS) and James F. Hollifield (Southern Methodist University) which analyzes trajectories of South-North migration diplomacy via a historical-comparative study of Turkey-EU and Mexico-US relations; an extension of the concept to include *mobility diplomacy* by Noora Lori (Boston University), in which she draws on global passport rankings to focus on inter-state negotiations and bargaining around visa-waivers and short-term travel authorization, with a particular focus on states in the Global South. Nicholas Micinski (Maine) and Gerasimos Tsourapas (Glasgow) explore American migration diplomacy under Trump by looking at domestic-level determinants of migration diplomacy vis-a-vis the Middle East (e.g. courts; congress; party base/activists). The contribution by H  l  ne Thiollet (CNRS Sciences Po) examines how migration and asylum diplomacy has become part of the politics of humanitarian and military interventions in the Horn of Africa since the 2000s. She analyses the perspectives, interests, and practices of African and Western states, showing the connection between migration diplomacy and securitization dynamics. Finally, Juliette Tolay (Pennsylvania State) asks whether current trends in migration diplomacy can be viewed as a reflection of the re-ordering of the international. Individual cases from Latin America and the Middle East highlight how often migration diplomacy practices are enabled by policies from the global North, in ways that both signal the decline of the Western-liberal order and its hegemonic resilience.

Through its contributions, the forum will explore the actors, practices and levels of foreign-policy making as they relate to the management of cross-border mobility in both the Global North and Global South and suggest the utility of a migration diplomacy framework for scholars of international relations theory as a means of analysing and explaining the international politics of migration and asylum.

Cited works

Adamson, Fiona B. and Gerasimos Tsourapas. 2019. Migration Diplomacy in World Politics. *International Studies Perspectives* 20(2): 113–128.

Thiollet, H  l  ne. 2011. Migration as Diplomacy: Labor Migrants, Refugees, and Arab Regional Politics in the Oil-Rich Countries. *International Labor and Working-Class History* 79 (1):103 - 121.