

## Faculty of Sociology

### Further activities

- Working Paper Series  
([www.uni-bielefeld.de/soz/ab6/ag\\_faist/workingpaper.html](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/soz/ab6/ag_faist/workingpaper.html))
- Regular talks by guests researchers in Colloquium Series „Global Migration as the New Social Question“  
([www.uni-bielefeld.de/soz/ab6/ag\\_faist/aktuelles.html](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/soz/ab6/ag_faist/aktuelles.html))
- Research Class as part of the doctoral training at the Faculty of Sociology  
([www.uni-bielefeld.de/soz/ab6/ag\\_faist/doktoranden.html](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/soz/ab6/ag_faist/doktoranden.html))



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# COMCAD

Center on Migration,  
Citizenship and  
Development

### About COMCAD

At the core of the activities of the Center on Migration, Citizenship and Development (COMCAD) stand the social mechanisms which contribute to the genesis and reproduction of social practices and structures beyond the borders of national states. We specifically deal with the implications for social inequalities and membership, such as citizenship. We differentiate between transnationalization as cross-border processes, transnational social spaces as cross-border formations, and transnationality as a heterogeneity which characterizes cross-border relations.

Our agenda encompasses three areas of research: cross-border migration, multiple forms of migration and mobility, and the transnational social question, that is the politics of social inequalities encompassing both global North and global South. In all three fields our research is concerned with how categories of persons, organizations and states build social formations in the form of transnational social spaces which cut across national borders, such as diasporas, transnational communities, transnational families, transnational social movements, issue networks of organizations – and the consequences of transnational social formations for life worlds, social inequalities and membership.

The work of the Center on Migration, Citizenship and Development (COMCAD) builds on the critique of methodological nationalism and above all seeks to develop and employ methods adequate to overcome these shortcomings. An important part of the working group's activities in research training are third-party funded projects and doctoral dissertations which reflect

### Research

Research at the COMCAD takes a decidedly transnational perspective, inspired by the growing and vibrant field of Transnational Studies. Projects look into the genesis and reproduction of dense and durable sets of border-crossing transactions and the impacts on local, national and global processes in the fields of geographical migration, social mobility, social transformation and development. While much of research on migration, mobility and development focuses either on the OECD world on the one hand, or on regions in Asia, Africa and the Americas on the other hand, research takes a systematic look at the links between these disparate worlds; between „North“ and „South“, „East“ and „West“. A particular focus rests on issues of membership raised by transactions across borders of states, especially on citizenship. Recently, a new focus on the transnational social question, social inequalities and adaption strategies to climate change has been added.



### Current and recently finalized projects

- TRANSMOB – Transnational Mobility and Social Positions in the European Union
- Bright Futures – China: A Comparative Study of Internally and Internationally Mobile Chinese Higher Education Students
- Bright Futures – Japan: A Comparative Study of International Migration of Japanese and Chinese Higher Education Students
- YMOBILITY – Youth Mobility: maximizing opportunities for individuals, labour markets and regions in Europe
- EURA-NET – Transnational Migration in Transition: Transformative Characteristics of Temporary Mobility of People
- Social Inequalities and Migration: A Longitudinal Comparison between Germany and the United States
- Beyond Humanitarianism – The Syrian Refugees in Turkey
- MECLEP – Migration, Environment and Climate change: Evidence for Policy