International Geographical Union
Union Géographique Internationale

Report of Commission Activities 2013

IGU Commission on Global Change and Human Mobility
(GLOBILITY)

http://w3.uniroma1.it/globility/
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The number of commission members in total (147) and by 50 country as of 1 December 2013.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Country</th>
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B. Meetings

a. The meetings Globility Commission organized during 2013 with information on their locations, dates, and numbers of participants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Oral Presentations</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bamberg</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>25-26</td>
<td>April</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyoto</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>04-09</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>56</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
<td>05-07</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>30</td>
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</table>

b. A brief summary of the topics addressed at each meeting and the findings or conclusions resulting from the discussions if appropriate. Please highlight the new ideas and insights identified at each meeting and their immediate and long-term theoretical and practical implications (do include a photograph or two if you have them).

b.1. The Bamberg Meeting, within the framework of the IGU Globility Commission, was jointly organized by the Geographical Research on Migration and Transition, Univ. of Bamberg/Germany (prof. Daniel Göeler), University of Latvia (prof. Zaiga Krisjane) and University of Tirana/Albania (prof. Dhimiter Doka) and the topic was ‘migration, emigration and return migration’. During the meeting these processes were analysed within a comparative perspective from the sending and receiving countries. All participants agreed that the migration patterns of the beginning of the 21st century are not at all new phenomena. But, obviously, there are new forms and novel dynamics in the observed spatial mobility. Thus, the biggest challenge of migration research is the systematization of migratory movements and the development of migration theory in the last two decades.
b.2. The Kyoto Meeting of the IGU Globility Commission was developed within the framework of the IGU Regional Conference. Two different topics were discussed in the sessions organized and developed during two complete days. The first of them was ‘beyond economy and politics: human mobility and subjectivities’ and covered the discussions on transnationalism, multiculturalism and social processes. The life style cycle and the educational impacts of migration were also approached upon the focus of reception and sending places.

The topic of the second session of the Kyoto Meeting was ‘the challenge of human mobility: overcoming frontiers and difficulties in times of economic crisis’ The discussions revolved around the effects of the crisis on the standards of life of migrants, urban development and housing market, and the impact of these circumstances in the human mobility. The geographical information systems, mapping and spatialization techniques used in varied presentations enriched the debate of the different geographical perspectives.
b.3. The Rome Meeting of the IGU Globility Commission was developed within the framework of EUGEO Congress. The topic was ‘Recent developments in global change and human mobilities’ and the contributions dealt with the perceptions and cultural interactions inherent to the processes of mobility; different methods of analysis, concepts and notions were displayed to study the nexus between the climate change and the human mobility. Other lens of debate was the re-interpretation of the relationships between tourism and migration.

The immediate and long-term theoretical and practical implications of these different discussions drive to a deep analysis of the transnational perspective; among other goals, the migrants’ attachment to places, gender condition and transcultural processes; the re-thinking of the role of policy makers in front of the global challenges (climate change and human mobility); the interactions among the complex forms of human mobility; and the new tendencies of human mobility from a geographical perspective, attending to the differentiated spatial impact of the global economic crisis.
c. **The meetings or other events you plan to hold in 2014, including locations, dates, and the topics to be addressed.**

For the upcoming Kraków IGU Regional Conference 2014 (18-22.08.2014) Globility Commission has proposed three sessions, two of them specific to Globility and a joint session with the Commission on Mediterranean Basin. These sessions will go through ‘New approaches to migratory policies in a mobile world’, ‘Rethinking the concept of human mobility: new theoretical advances’ and (joint session) ‘New trends of the human mobility in the Mediterranean basin: towards a new migratory model?’

**C. Networking**

a. **Means by which your commission has collaborated with other IGU Commissions and Task Forces during 2013.**

Globility has maintained contacts with other IGU Commissions, in particular with the ‘Population Geography Commission’, ‘Gender and
Geography Commission’ and ‘Mediterranean Basin Commission’. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to hold any joint meeting during 2013, since the organization of 3 summits required by itself a significant workload from the members of Globility.

On the other hand, in recent years universities around the world have experienced significant financial constraints, which have made it difficult for a much larger number of researchers to take part at Globility’s different meetings, although the average number of attendants in the last three congresses has been remarkable. The most important obstacle to the Commission is to promote the organization of independent meetings to the IGU events. Past experiences, such as the implementation of new technic procedures to interchange information among researchers (i.e. streaming live) and the possibilities to get research funds from the European Union must be also analysed in order to contribute to new forms of international cooperation in research.

D. Publications

a. Newsletters, special journal issues, and books published in 2012-2013 (complete citations).

A list of the articles and volumes published by some of the Globility members on issues of global change and human mobility, in English and/or their national languages is the following:


http://cgge.aag.org/Migration1e/CaseStudy6_Japan_Feb13/CaseStudy6_Japan_Feb13.html

http://www.eurogeographyjournal.eu/articles/EJG_6016_1_SustainabilityMJML_EJG_FINAL-1.pdf


**b. The current accurate URL of the commission’s web site.**

*[http://w3.uniroma1.it/globility/](http://w3.uniroma1.it/globility/)*

The Globility web site has been managed since year 2000 by Prof Yoshitaka Ishikawa and since 2013 by the new Scientific Secretary Dr Barbara Staniscia, and it represents the major tool for exchange of information among the members of the Globility Commission. It also constitutes the archive of the Globility Commission, with all the documents produced by Globility since year 2000.
E. Archival Contributions

The venues of the Meetings

First Meeting. University of Bamberg (Germany)
Second Meeting. Kokusaikaikan (Kyoto)

Third Meeting. University of La Sapienza (Rome)
Josefina Domínguez-Mujica (Chair)

Barbara Staniscia (Scientific Secretary)