International Geographical Union
Union Géographique Internationale


IGU Commission on
Global Change and Human Mobility
(GLOBILITY)

http://www.globility.org
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The Globility Commission members

The total number of members of the Commission is 166 (as of 14 March 2016) and the number of countries involved is 52. The increase in the number of members since 2012 has been 28.7% (from 129 to 166 members). The number of countries has increased of 8.3% (from 48 to 52 countries).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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TOTAL 166
2. Meetings

2.a The meetings Globility Commission has organized in the period 2012-2016 with summary information on their locations, dates, and numbers of participants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Month and Year</th>
<th>Oral Presentations</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bamberg</td>
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<td>25-26</td>
<td>April 2013</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Japan</td>
<td>04-09</td>
<td>August 2013</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<td>05-07</td>
<td>September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Krakow</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td></td>
<td>August 2014</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
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<td>17-21</td>
<td>August 2015</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budapest</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>31-01</td>
<td>August-September 2015</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>84</td>
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</table>

2.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).

2.b.1. A conference on ‘migration, emigration and return migration’ was held in Bamberg (Germany) in the year 2013 (“Bamberg Meeting”). It was organized in the framework of the IGU Globility Commission jointly by the Geographical Research on Migration and Transition, University of Bamberg/Germany (prof. Daniel Göeler), University of Latvia (prof. Zaiga Krisjane) and University of Tirana/Albania (prof. Dhimiter Doka). Processes of in-migration, out-migration and return migration were analysed in a comparative perspective from sending and receiving countries. All participants agreed that the migration patterns of the beginning of the 21st century are not 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 the knowledge concerning migratory movements in the last two decades and the development of possible new migration models.
“Bamberg meeting” promoted by Daniel Göler and Zaiga Krisjane

2.b.2. The IGU Globility Commission has organized its own sessions (“Kyoto Meeting”) in the framework of the IGU 2013 Regional Conference. Two different topics were discussed in the sessions developed during two full-working days. The first 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 receiving 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 on human mobility. Geographical information systems, mapping and spatialization techniques used in several presentations enriched the debate of the different geographical perspectives.

“Kyoto meeting” tea ceremony promoted by Yoshitaka Ishikawa
2. b. 3. The IGU Globility Commission organized its own sessions ("Rome Meeting") in the framework of the 2013 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 climate change and 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 impacts of the global economic crisis.

“Rome meeting” promoted by Armando Montanari

2. b. 4. The Globility Commission organized its own sessions ("Krakow Meeting") in the framework of the 2014 IGU Regional Conference. In the “Krakow Meeting” two different topics were discussed and developed.

- The first topic - ‘New approaches to migratory policies in a mobile world’ - tackled the issue of the crucial role played by the migratory policies in the world population flows. Imposing barriers has determined how many immigrants can arrive, who can do it and in which circumstances. Moreover, migratory policies and regulations differ not only among countries but in the course of time,
depending on the economic development and on the decisions of policy-makers. In accordance with the context of the global capitalism, migrations have intensified the interdependency of places, despite the increasing frictions between the free movement of capitals and the restrictions imposed to the human mobility. The presentations aimed at re-thinking the characteristics of the migratory policies and at analyzing case studies at the national and local scales. Topics such as circular migration, asylum policies, migratory policies in the external borders of EU, and the regulations of rural-urban internal migration were addressed and discussed.

- The topic of the second session was ‘Re-thinking the concept of human mobility: new theoretical advances’. The discussion revolved around a concept of human mobility that goes beyond rigid divisions and is geared to the study of different mobilities: those consumption-led and those production-led, the temporary and the permanent ones, the recurring and non-recurring ones, the international and the internal ones. Through these new approaches, a better focus on the theoretical issues of human mobility was developed. Therefore, in this session epistemological, methodological and applied researches from the perspective of different case studies were discussed.

In the field of epistemological approaches different schemes of migration systems were presented, from theoretical definitions to applied research, with a special attention to cross-border mobility and consumption-led mobility. From the focus of methodological approaches, the use of volunteered GPS trajectories to the calibration of a spatial interaction model was presented; finally, in the purest sense of novelty, an approach to the repercussions of attachment to place in the post-mortal mobility was introduced.

A group of participants at the end of the meeting held at Jagiellonian University
The Globility Commission organized its own sessions ("Moskow Meeting") in the framework of the 2015 IGU Regional Conference. In the “Moscow Meeting”, four different topics in four sessions were discussed.

- The first one - ‘Human mobility and latest Census data: new evidences, new insights’ - tackled the issue of availability of data related to human mobility in Population Censuses. The conclusions of the session confirmed that statistical data still vary from country to country. However, human mobility is still a phenomenon very difficult to measure and track. Data arising from Population Censuses - both in terms of stocks and flows - enhance the possibilities of researchers on this matter, as demonstrated in the papers presented by Genghe Gao (China) with respect to the inter-provincial flow of rural population in Henan province and by Rajan Bhandari (India) regarding the Tibetans immigrants in India. In the paper presented by D.V. Zhitin and A.I. Krasnov, the information provided by the last Census from Russian Federation allowed them to offer a new ethnic perspective of the population in St. Petersburg from the point of view of the spatial segregation.

- The topic of the second session was ‘Responses to displacement from Asia Pacific’. By focusing on forced displacement, the Session addressed these main themes: urban environment, climate change, and regional sustainability. The staggering global dimensions of forced displacements of people from their homes, and livelihoods due to development, disasters and environmental change were increasingly attracting attention at key intersections of research and practice. The session examined these issues through the lens of people’s responses to forced displacements in the cases of the Three Gorges Dam (China) (Brooke Wilmsen, Australia) and in the case of Fukushima (Japan) evacuees (Jane Singer and Winifred Bird, Japan). A theoretical reflection was also presented by Susanna Price (Australia) with respect to the negotiation of settlements in forced displacements.

- The third session revolved around ‘People on the move. The perspective of the life cycle and the role of gender’. The mobility processes explained as a consequence of the interaction between migration policies, trade, labour market and welfare policies, on the one hand, and the people’s decisions and practices, on the other, were examined in the case studies presented by Parreño-Castellano, Domínguez-Mujica and Díaz-Hernández, from Spain, linking the labour life courses of migrants with their lifestyle preferences in the Spanish tourist destinations.

The presentation of Manuela Bauer, from the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (Germany), focused on the close relationship between labour market, international volunteering, tourism and education, through the perspective of the youth mobility in the called ‘gap year’. The findings of a research conducted in Germany indicated that there is a difference in the gap year migration behaviour of young women and men. This theoretical contribution was not only a characterization of the target group, but also a scientific contribution to geographical life cycle research in questions of adolescent behaviour and role of gender.
An important turn was given in the last presentation of this session from people to places. Alexander Fetisov, from Russian Federation, introduced the importance of spatial proximity in the intensity and scope of the neighbourhood interactions, concluding the need to reinforce the study of distance as a key variable in all models of human mobility.

- In the last session, with the title ‘Real and virtual borders, the challenge of human mobility’ four contributions were presented. The building of fortress-spaces with solid physical borders occurs simultaneously with the tendency to fluidization of borders because, beyond the measures of control, perceptions and wills of people contribute in destroying barriers to move. This was demonstrated in the presentation entitled ‘Beyond the migration policies: understanding the emigration of young-skilled Spaniards in the context of economic and financial crisis’ by Josefina Domínguez-Mujica, Ramón Díaz-Hernández and Juan Parreño-Castellano, from Spain.

Transnationalism was the theoretical framework of analysis developed in the contribution presented by Maria Savoskul, from Russian Federation, ‘Emigration of Russian Germans to Germany and transnational links with Russia’. In this presentation the classification of Russians living in Germany in three different groups of ethnic identity was the target of the research: “Real Germans”, “Russian Germans” and “Russaki (Russacks)”. Kira Morachevskiaia, from Russian Federation, focused the attention on the transborder connections in the Russian-Belorussian borderland, applying the “core-periphery” model. The purpose of the study was to determine the role of central or peripheral position of the settlement/town in the intensity of transborder connections.

Finally, in this session, Montasser Abdelghani, from Oman, developed an analysis of ‘The hierarchy of workers, according to nationality, in the labour market of the Sultanate of Oman’, shedding light on the peculiar socio-geographical location of immigrants in Gulf countries.

A group of participants in one of the sessions of the “Moscow meeting”
2.b.6. The Globility Commission organized its own session ("Budapest Meeting") in the framework of the 2015 EUGEO Congress. In the "Budapest Meeting", the session entitled ‘Changing world, changing human mobilities: global convergence and divergence’ consisted of six slots.

- Theoretical approaches and interpretations of the concept of human mobility were presented. Progresses and advancements made in the field since the year 2000 were analyzed and summarized, and possible tracks for future developments were indicated.

- Migration (permanent, temporary, circular, return; voluntary, forced; legal, illegal; international, intra-European, national, regional; gendered; highly skilled, low-skilled; pre- and post- world economic crisis; pre- and post- EU enlargement; ) was one of the main topics of the session. Explanatory factors were identified and spatial, social, economic and political impacts of migration were discussed with reference to specific case studies - mostly in Eastern Europe - and, also, specific minorities (ex. Roma). Attention was paid to rural-peripheral vs. urban-central areas, to the changes occurred in Eastern Europe after the political and economic transition, to the difficulties in hosting societies in accepting immigrants. The role of recruitment agencies was explored for the specific case of Japanese highly-skilled workers in Germany and the role of national policies in favouring the return of migrants was explored for Hungary.

- Tourism (medical and thermal tourism; cross-border; VFR; ecotourism; rural tourism; food tourism; cultural tourism) was an important topic of the session. A multifaceted perspective characterized presentations and discussions: tourists’ needs and attitudes, perceptions of tourists in tourist areas, tourist industry and enterprises (especially hotels), tourist resources. Marketing techniques and tools were presented, together with innovative tourist products with reference to several case studies, especially in Eastern Europe. Tourism as a modifier of the borders and boundaries was presented with relationship to two case studies (French-Andorran and US-Mexican borders). Problems such as the seasonality of tourism in some areas were tackled and new parameters for the statistical analysis were proposed.

- Residential mobility was presented in the specific case of Riga (LV), explanatory factors and spatial patterns were identified.

- Daily commuting and new modes of transportation were two topics discussed in the session. Car sharing as a form of networked mobility in Hungary, difficult accessibility of educational facilities in Latvian rural areas, gender differences in the use of public transportation in Croatia, were good examples of divergences in the contemporary world.
A group of participants in the “Budapest Meeting”

2. c Planned meetings of the Commission to be held in 2016 and topics to be addressed

For the upcoming 33rd International Geographical Congress (21-25 August 2016, Beijing, China), under the topic “Shaping Our Harmonious Worlds”, the Globility Commission has proposed six different sessions, two of which are joint sessions.

The first session is entitled ‘Moving World, Moving Actors; the Global Changes and Personal Challenges’. It has the aim to anticipate a comprehensive interpretation of the factors determining and resulting on the human mobility processes, and of the challenges to this mobility. The contributions will link human mobility theories and empirical case studies to spatial global changes, shaping different world experiences.

The second session is entitled ‘Information, Communication, New Media, and Human Mobility’ and it has the purpose to collect contributions that highlight the role of new media and forms of information and communication in shaping tourism and migratory flows; in characterising tourism and migratory destinations; and, finally, in providing new information to researches in the fields of tourism and migration.

The third session, entitled ‘Youth Mobility. An Emerging Phenomenon at the Global Scale’, will be sponsored by the YMOBILITY European research project (Horizon 2020), with the aim to share information about a two-fold question: what are the consequences of youth mobility for the individuals, as a way for personal development, and what are the consequences for the regions, both of origin and destination, to guarantee the regional equilibrium (for the regions of origin) and the social equilibrium (for the regions of destination).
The fourth is ‘Development Safeguards, Forced Displacement and Resettlement –Inside China and Going Out’ and has been promoted by Susanna Price and Brooke Wilmsen seeking to share information to understand what China has learnt from its domestic practice of social safeguards, both as regards DFDR and indigenous ethnic minorities, and how this influences its social responsibilities abroad. Whilst the primary focus is on China and its investments overseas, papers discussing safeguard policy application or DFDR in other contexts will be considered.

By the other hand, regarding joint sessions, the Commission on ‘Population Geography’ and the ‘Globility’ Commission have promoted one session entitled ‘Demographic Sources and Methodologies to Study Human Mobility’. The focus of contributions will be related with these topics, to better contribute in recognizing and analysing new demographic tools and methodologies to study human mobility. In addition, the Commission on ‘Urban Geography’ and ‘Globility’ have also proposed a session entitled ‘Human Mobility and Urban Vulnerabilities’. This session will offer contributions linked to the complex assemblage of urban disparities in social and economic terms, the subsequent vulnerabilities, and the role of the spatial human mobility in these issues.
3. Networking and communication

3.a Globility has maintained contacts with other IGU Commissions to promote joint sessions in the IGU regional conferences or congresses. As mentioned, the IGU Commissions on ‘Population Geography’ and ‘Global Change and Human Mobility’ developed a successful joint session in the 2015 IGU Regional Conference in Moscow; there are two joint sessions planned for the upcoming 2016 Beijing Congress in order to strengthen the collaboration between Globility and the IGU Commissions on ‘Population Geography’ and ‘Urban Geography’.

3.b The most important obstacle to Globility Commission is to promote the organization of meetings out of the context of IGU events, because in recent years, universities around the world have experienced significant financial constraints; these have made difficult for a very large number of researchers to take part in the planned meetings, despite their interest in the Commission’s activities, expressed to the Globility meetings’ organizers by email. Nevertheless, in 2013 Globility Commission joined the “Bamberg Meeting”, organized by the University of Bamberg, as mentioned above. Even more, the EUGEO Congresses – held in 2013 (Rome) and 2015 (Budapest) – gave the opportunity to exchange knowledge on the issue of “Global Change and Human Mobility” among the Commission’s members, since Globility has organized its own sessions in both congresses.

More recently, the collaboration between the Universities of Chemnitz (Germany) and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain) - through the Globility Commission - obtained funds to deepening in the study of new flows of young skilled Mediterranean citizens to other EU countries. A book is in preparation and it will be published in October 2016 by Transcript. It will be edited by Birgit Glorius (a member of the Globility Commission) and Josefina Domínguez-Mujica (chairperson of the Globility Commission). The volume is the outcome of the conference “Migration and Crisis – understanding migration dynamics from Mediterranean Europe in the context of economic and financial crisis” held in Chemnitz (Germany), on 19th and 20th May 2015.

Other important success of Globility is the forthcoming book with the homonymous title of the Commission: ‘Global change and human mobility’, edited by the chair of Globility, Josefina Domínguez-Mujica and containing contributions from its more active members. This volume with seventeen chapters will be published under the Springer series entitled ‘Advances in Geographical and Environmental Sciences’ whose Editor is Professor R. B. Singh, Vice-president of IGU. http://www.springer.com/us/book/9789811000492

At last, and recently, an active group of researchers of the Globility Commission, got funds for a research project related to youth mobility in the framework of the Horizon 2020 Programme (H2020-YOUNG-SOCIETY-2014); an additional project proposal has been submitted in relation to the call H2020-SC6-REV-INEQUAL-04-2016 and is, now, in the evaluation process.
4. Publications

4.a Articles and volumes published

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:


Aure, Marit and Munkejord, Mai Camilla. (2015) Creating a Man for the future: A narrative analysis of male in-migrants and their constructions of masculinities in a rural context. Sociologica Ruralis n/a-n/a


Berthommière W., Maurel M., Richard Y., 2015, 'The Integration of Immigrants in France. Economic and Geographical Approach', in J. Domínguez Mujica (ed.), Global Change and Human Mobility. Springer series on Advances in Geographical and Environmental Sciences


Glorius, B. 2015, “Stay, return or move on? Mobility decisions of international students in Germany”, in: Nadler, R., Z. Kóvacs, B. Glorius, T. Lang (eds.), *Mobility against the stream: Return..."


Göler, Daniel; Krisjane, Zaiga & Māris Berzins (2014): International Migration in the Periods of Transition and Crisis. The Example of Latvia. The Baltic Region 20, 2, S. 75-85. [also in Russian]


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

http://www.ceg.ul.pt/finisterra/ (In SCOPUS)


Irimiás A, Michalkó G Invisible tourists – hidden destinations: the path of the Great War in the Alpine region


Pulau Region of Penang State, Malaysia, Asian Journal of Agriculture and Rural Development, Volume 5(2): 30-41


Li Wei and Carlos Teixeira 2015 “The Housing and Economic Experiences of Immigrants in Canada and the United States”, pp.3-19 and

Li Wei and Wan Yu 2014 “Internationalization of Geography PhD Education” GeoJournal 80(2): 231-238. (DOI: 10.1007/s10708-014-9579-1)


Li Wei, Claudia Sadowski-Smith, and Wan Yu 2015 “Return migration and transnationalism: evidence from highly-skilled migration” Elaine Levine and Monica Verea eds. Internacional sobre Migración de Retorno Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico Press

Li Wei, Lucia Lo, and Alex Oberle 2014 “Bank Branch Network and Service to Immigrants” The Canadian Geographer 58(1): 48-62


López-Sala, A (2015), "Exploring dissuasion as a (geo)political instrument in irregular migration control at the Southern Spanish maritime border" in Geopolitics vol 20, Issue 3, pp. 513-534
Madge, C. Raghuram, P. and Noxolo, P. (early online view) Conceptualising international education: From international student to international study. Progress in Human Geography. ISSN: 0309-1325.


Piguet, E., and F. Laczko eds. 2014. People on the move in a changing climate: Comparing the impact of environmental change in different regions of the world: Springer.

Podgorelec, S., Gregurović, M., Klempić Bogadi, S. (2015), Satisfaction with the quality of life on Croatian small islands: Zlarin, Kaprije and Žirje, Island Studies Journal, 10 (1), 91-110


Salazar, N. B. (2014) To be or not to be a tourist: The role of concept-metaphors in tourism studies, Tourism Recreation Research, 39(2), pp. 259-265.


Van Naerssen, Tom Lothar Smith, Tine Davids and Marianne Marchand (Eds.) 2015 Women,Gender, Remittances and Development in the Global South. Farnham (UK) Ashgate Publishing


Veldevan der,Maerin and Ton van Naerssenand (Eds.) 2015 Mobility and Migration Choices. Thresholds to Crossing Borders. Farnham (UK) Ashgate Publishing.


Yasin Abdalla Eltayeb Elhadary and Narimah Samat, Integrating Geographic Information System and Discriminant Analysisin Modelling Urban Spatial Growth: An Example from Seberang Perai Region, Penang State, Malaysia. Asian Social Science; Vol. 11, No. 2; 2015


4.b New accurate URL of the commission’s website

http://www.globility.org/

The Globility website is run by an IT independent supporter, webmaster, under the supervision of the Chairperson of the Globility Commission, Prof. Josefina Domínguez-Mujica, and under the management of the Scientific Secretary, Dr. Barbara Staniscia. The website has a new domain since 2014 and represents the major tool for exchange of information among the members of the Globility Commission.
5. Archival Contributions

First Meeting. University of Bamberg (Germany)

Second Meeting. Kokusaikaikan (Kyoto)
Third Meeting. Sapienza University (Rome)

Fourth Meeting. Jagellonian University (Krakow)
Fifth Meeting. Lomonosov Moscow State University

Sixth Meeting. Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest)
Josefina Domínguez-Mujica (Chair) and Barbara Staniscia (Scientific Secretary)
6. Continuation

6.a Global Change and Human Mobility (Globility)

6.b Statement of the mission of the Commission/Task Force

The Commission appeals to scholars interested in the issue of changes and mobility across the world. Owing to its ability to link locations and societies, human mobility is receiving an increasing academic attention among scholars. The ‘Globility’ commission (Global Change and Human Mobility) promotes a new reading and recognition of human mobility in the context of globalization, to deepen in the exchange of knowledge with regard its different forms such as migration and tourism, namely, the diverse practises in which human mobility is displayed through different countries and societies. The geographical perspective allows researchers to find this common nexus as an important issue in the process of interrelation between global phenomena and local manifestations.

6.c A list of the individuals who will comprise the steering committee from 2016-2020:

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