



# Public opinion and forms of mobilization concerning asylum seekers and refugees in anti-immigrant times

## Global challenges and local solutions

### International Conference & Book Presentation

24 and 25 October 2019

Royal Academy of Science, Letters and Fine Arts of Belgium

Place du Trône 4, Brussels

# Welcome

This conference is the final dissemination event of a research program financed by the Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO), as part of the framework programme Belgian Research Action Through Interdisciplinary Networks (BRAIN-be). The research project entitled “PUMOMIG – Public opinion, mobilizations and policies concerning asylum seekers and refugees in anti-immigrant times (Europe and Belgium)”, took place in 2017-2019 and involved researchers from the Free University of Brussels (ULB), the Liège University (ULiège) and the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KULeuven). It also involved national rapporteurs from five European countries including Germany, Sweden, Hungary Greece, and Italy. PUMOMIG’s main findings and the research book *The refugee reception crisis in Europe. Polarized opinions and mobilizations* (Brussels University Press, European Studies Collection, 2019) will be presented and discussed in the conference.

By bringing together scholars in the field of migration and asylum, as well as civil society organizations and citizens’ initiatives, political authorities and institutions, EU actors and organizations active in the management of the refugee issue and the reception of asylum seekers in Europe, the conference aims to open debate about what happened during and after the so-called “long summer of migration of 2015”, as well as on alternative localized strategies and practices to deal with the refugee reception crisis.

We welcome you to Brussels and wish you a fruitful conference.

## Andrea REA

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Professor of Sociology  
Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences – ULB

## Marco MARTINIELLO

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FRS- FNRS Research Director  
Director of the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies CEDEM – Uliège

## Bart MEULEMAN

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Professor of Sociology  
Coordinator of the Centre for Sociological Research CeSO – KULeuven

# Programme

## DAY 1

Thursday 24 October 2019

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09.00/09.30 **Welcome and Introduction**  
Andrea REA (ULB)  
Marco MARTINIELLO (FRS- FNRS, ULiège, CEDEM)  
Bart MEULEMAN (KULeuven, CeSO)

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### **SESSION 1 (09.30 – 12.30)**

Chair: Thibault LIEURADE (The Conversation)

09.30/09.50 *European Citizens' Opinions Towards Immigration and Asylum Policies. A Quantitative Comparative Analysis*  
**Arno VAN HOOTEGEM and Bart MEULEMAN (KULeuven)**

09.50/10.10 *Mobilizations and Opinions Regarding Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Undocumented Migrants in Belgium: Frames, Motivations and Actions*  
**Elsa MESCOLI (ULiège), Marije REIDSMA (KULeuven), Antoine ROBLAIN (ULB)**

10.10/10.30 *Debate with the audience*

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10.30/11.00 *Coffee break*

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11.00/11.20 *Divided Reactions: Pro- and Anti-Migrant Mobilization in Germany*  
**Sophie HINGER (Osnabrück University)**

11.20/11.40 *A Sense of Hospitality? On the Political Ambivalence of the "Willkommenskultur"*  
**Sarah MAZOUZ (CNRS, CERAPS)**

11.40/12.00 *Pro- and Anti-Migrant Mobilizations in Polarized Sweden*  
**Pieter BEVELANDER and Anders HELLSTRÖM (Malmö University)**

12.00/12.30 *Debate with the audience*

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12.30/14.00 *Lunch break*

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### **SESSION 2 (14.00 – 16.00)**

Chair: Marco MARTINIELLO (FRS- FNRS, ULiège)

14.00/14.20 *Cities of Refuge: Human Rights and the Role of the Local Level in the Reception and Integration of Forced Migrants*  
**Moritz BAUMGÄRTEL and Tihomir SABCHEV (Utrecht University)**

14.20/14.40 *The Imaginary Invasion: How the Discourse on the “Refugee Crisis” Has Impacted Italian Politics and Society*  
**Maurizio AMBROSINI (University of Milan)**

14.40/15.00 *Civil solidarity in an era of neoliberal migration policies. Rethinking refuge through grassroots initiatives*  
**Robin VANDEVOORDT (University of Oxford)**

15.00/15.20 *Unravelling Solidarity and Hostility: Mobilizations Concerning Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Anti-Migrant Times in Greece*  
**Theodoros FOUSKAS (University of West Attica)**

15.20/16.00 *Debate with the audience*

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16.00/16.30 *Coffee break*

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16.30/17.30 **KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

Refuge beyond Reach: How Rich Democracies Repel Asylum Seekers  
**David FITZGERALD (University of California San Diego)**

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17.30 *Cocktail*

## DAY 2

Friday 25 October 2019

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09.00/09.30 **Introduction**

Andrea REA (ULB)

Marco MARTINIELLO (FRS- FNRS, ULiège, CEDEM)

Bart MEULEMAN (KULeuven, CeSo)

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09.30/10.00 *Coffee break*

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10.00/12.00 **ROUNDTABLE 1: Civil society organizations and citizens' initiatives**

*Speakers' discussion 1h30m + 30m debate with the audience*

Moderator: Koen DEWULF (Myria)

**France ARETS (CRACPE)**

**Adriana COSTA SANTOS (BXLRefugee)**

**Marie-Dominique DREYSSE (ANVITA)**

**Eef HEYLIGHEN (Vluchtelingenwerk VL)**

**Carine THIBAUT (CNCD 11.11.11)**

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12.00/13.30 *Lunch break*

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13.30/15.30 **ROUNDTABLE 2: Political authorities and institutions**

*Speakers' discussion 1h30m + 30m debate with the audience*

Moderator: Andrea REA (ULB)

**Lieven DEHANDSCHUTTER (City of St-Niklaas)**

**Julie FERNANDEZ FERNANDEZ (City of Liège)**

**Lefteris PAPAGIANNAKIS (City of Athens)**

**Nathalie PERRIN-GILBERT (City of Lyon)**

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15.30/16.00 *Coffee break*

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16.00/18.00 **ROUNDTABLE 3: EU actors and organizations**

*Speakers' discussion 1h30m + 30m debate with the audience*

Moderator: Tom NAEGELS (journalist)

**Geertrui LANNEAU (IOM)**

**Bernhard PERCHINIG (ICMPD)**

**Shannon PFOHMAN (CARITAS Europa)**

**Pierre VERBEEREN (Médecins du Monde)**

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18.00 *End*

# Venue, Accessibility and Contacts

## Royal Academy of Science, Letters and Fine Arts of Belgium



*Royal stables of Brussels*  
4, Place du Trône  
1000 Brussels  
Belgium



*The Royal stables of Brussels main entrance is located 50 mt from Trône/Troon Stib Metro station*

## Contacts & numbers

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