

## Virtual Launch of the Mixed Migration Review 2021

“Reframing human mobility  
in a changing world”

**Tuesday, 30 November  
14:00-15:30 (CET)**

[Register here to join us!](#)

The global context is rapidly changing and with new conflicts, new public health threats, new levels of environmental stress, and changing trends and perceptions around human mobility, now is the time to reframe mixed migration through the lens of different themes in one volume.

How does the Covid-19 pandemic change migrant decision making, migration governance, urbanisation trends and public sentiment towards migration? How is the climate emergency affecting mobility and displacement? Why do most people in the world not migrate, and to what extent do different forms of immobility affect individuals, communities, and regions? What are the trends and realities around returns, many of which are forced? What are the experiences of people on the world's overlooked mixed migration routes? Should internal migration and displacement be viewed through a mixed migration lens too? What extraordinary actions and policies towards refugees and migrants were witnessed this past year – both negative and positive?

All this and more is explored in the 2021 edition of MMC's annual flagship report, the Mixed Migration Review (MMR), offering a comprehensive annual analysis of mixed migration, through the overarching lens of “reframing mixed migration”. The MMR2021 contains the year's regional mixed migration overviews, as well as essays and interviews with experts and thought leaders. A section on 4Mi data is complemented by a series of in-depth interviews with refugees and migrants. New features include a section outlining positive and progressive developments in the realm of mixed migration, called “Resisting the Extreme” and contrasting its sister section, the “Normalising the Extreme”, already included in previous editions of the MMR. Additionally, this year's review also showcases the five winning essays from the first MMC essay competition, inviting young researchers and writers from and based in the global south to share their insights and reflections.

The launch of the MMR2021 will consist of an armchair discussion, bringing together migration experts from different fields, including academics, practitioners, and policy makers. It will focus on two overarching themes that feature throughout the review: 1) Mixed migration as a lens to look at contemporary patterns of forced and voluntary human mobility and immobility, within and across borders 2) Mixed migration politics and policies.

## Agenda

14:00 -  
14:15

### Welcome and Opening Remarks

**Charlotte Slente**, Secretary-General of the Danish Refugee Council

**Odile Inauen**, Head of the Migration and Forced Displacement Section, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

**Bram Frouws**, Director of the Mixed Migration Centre

14:15 -  
15:30

### Armchair discussion, zooming in on selected topics and Q&A

Moderator **Paddy Siyanga Knudsen**, Migration Governance Expert

#### Panellists

**Alexandra Bilak**, Director of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

**Raphaela Schweiger**, Program Director Migration, Robert Bosch Foundation

**Chris Horwood**, Migration Specialist and Co-Director at Ravenstone Consult

**Ottilia Maunganidze**, Head of Special Projects, Institute for Security Studies

**Kamal Amakrane**, Director Africa Climate Mobility Initiative and Adjunct Professor Columbia University

#### Topics

##### From mixed immobility to international mixed migration – points on a spectrum of human mobility?

Hundreds of millions of people across the world choose not to migrate or are unable to migrate despite being faced with compelling reasons to leave, such as socioeconomic insecurity, environmental stressors, and conflict. How can a better knowledge of the different forms of immobility, including in the context of climate change, add to our understanding of mixed migration? And what about internal migration and displacement? To avoid siloed thinking, policies and responses, can and should the mixed migration lens be applied to the full spectrum of human (im)mobility, ranging from voluntary and involuntary immobility to internal migration and displacement, to voluntary or involuntary cross-border movement?

##### Mixed migration politics and policies: opposing trends of extreme and restrictive policies versus progressive approaches

Many policies, actions, and attitudes related to mixed migration – especially irregular migration – that were considered unacceptable a few years ago are now becoming normalised. However, while there might be a trend towards more restrictive migration policies, there are exceptions, and against the backdrop of the ongoing health, economic and protection crises as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, many states have also implemented positive and progressive policy measures towards refugees and migrants. What is the role of politics in defining the direction of migration policies? To what extent are anti-migration positions mainstreamed in the political agendas of centrist parties? What is the role of the defence industry in the ever-increasing securitisation and use of technology in migration and border management?

## Panellists



**Alexandra Bilak**  
**Director of the Internal  
Displacement Monitoring Centre**

Alexandra Bilak is the Director of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). She was appointed in December 2019 as a member of the Expert Advisory

Group for the United Nations Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement. Alexandra has experience in the international non-profit sector with a focus on research and policy development on displacement in the context of armed conflict, violence, disasters and climate change. After a decade working in Africa, she joined the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) in Geneva as Head of Policy and Research in 2014, becoming its Director in August 2016.



**Otilia Maunganidze**  
**Head of Special Projects, Institute  
for Security Studies**

Otilia Anna Maunganidze joined the ISS in 2009 and is currently Head of Special Projects in the office of the Executive Director. Before joining the ISS, Otilia

was a Junior Legal Advisor and Human Rights Education Officer. She explores new areas of work for the ISS and helps to inform institutional strategy. Otilia's areas of interest are international criminal justice, international human rights law, and migration trends and policy. She has a Master of Laws degree in Fundamental Rights Litigation and International Human Rights Law from the University of South Africa.



**Raphaela Schweiger**  
**Program Director Migration, Robert  
Bosch Foundation**

Raphaela Schweiger is the Program Director of the Migration Program at the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Her thematic work and expertise include, regional and

global migration policy processes as well as stakeholder participation and engagement in national and international migration policy, climate change and migration, the protection of migrants and refugees, the role of technological change as well as migrant integration and inclusion. Prior to her current role, she was a Senior Expert and Senior Project Manager, working on migration, integration and inclusion of refugees and migrants in different departments of the Foundation. Before joining the Foundation, Raphaela Schweiger worked for several NGOs and foundations. She studied Political Science and International Studies/Peace and Conflict Studies in Munich, Frankfurt am Main and Madrid.



**Kamal Amakrane**  
**Director Africa Climate Mobility  
Initiative and Adjunct Professor  
Columbia University**

Kamal is Adjunct Professor of International Relations at Columbia University, veteran senior UN diplomat, and non-profit

leader with over 20 years of accomplishments in multilateral diplomacy, peacekeeping, technology innovation, migration and climate action. Kamal currently leads the Africa Climate Mobility Initiative, a joint effort by the AUC, the UN and the World Bank to support efforts for harnessing mobility amidst the climate crisis while pressing forward solutions to address climate-forced migration and displacement in the African continent. He also spearheads the Rising Nations Initiative, a UN Member States-led initiative focused on protecting the statehood of small atoll island nations facing existential threats from the rise of sea level, preserving the sovereignty, rights and heritage of affected nations and their populations. Kamal held various senior positions in the UN, serving as Political Director to several Presidents of the UN General Assembly and in senior assignments at UN Headquarters and political and peacekeeping missions, including in Cote d'Ivoire, Darfur, Myanmar and Iraq. He led efforts resulting in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration, as well as the establishment of the first UN Innovation and Technology Accelerator for Cities.



**Chris Horwood**  
**Migration Specialist and  
Co-Director at Ravenstone Consult**

Chris is co-director of Ravenstone Consult, a consulting organisation focusing on issues around mixed migration, displacement, human smuggling as well

as issues related to climate change and migration. He has managed and contributed to the Mixed Migration Review for the last 4 years and was previously the founding director of the Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS) in Nairobi which then became the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC). During his time with the RMMS he established the 4Mi primary data gathering network, now working in six regions of the world. Chris is the author of numerous published articles, studies and briefing papers as well as short films on mixed migration. He has led and supervised research, studies and round tables related to mixed migration.