

**NIAS** 

Netherlands Institute  
for Advanced Study  
in the Humanities and  
Social Sciences

# Conference on Studies of Belonging



# Programme Booklet



# “Mapping Belonging as a field of study and establishing future networks.”

We invite you to join us during this three day interdisciplinary working conference, where we will collaboratively sketch the landscape of Belonging as an academic and artistic field, with the aim to set up a research agenda and future interdisciplinary and international collaborations on this topic.

The overarching theme of Belonging will be divided into four topical threads. Each topical thread will have interdisciplinary panels consisting of scholarly and artistic presentations.

- Borders and Mobility** [Read more](#)
- Community and the Individual** [Read more](#)
- Identity, Inequity and Politics** [Read more](#)
- Practices of Belonging** [Read more](#)
- Open Spaces** [Read more](#)

## Conference fees and Participation

A tiered fee structure will apply according to country of residence. We are committed to engaging scholars, artists, journalists and writers from underrepresented communities especially from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

For tickets and the definitive programme please visit the conference website [www.niasconference.nl](http://www.niasconference.nl).

[Register now](#)

Thread

# **Borders and Mobility**

**This thread deals with the relation between idea(l)s of the nation-state, (up)rootedness, borders, finding refuge, cultural boundaries and (trans)national institutions in regards to issues of belonging.**

Thread Coordinator

**Koen Leurs**

**- Wednesday 9 June -**

**Histories of Belonging and Non-Belonging**

14.30 - 15.55h CEST

**Arts, Culture and Belongingness**

16.00 - 17.25h CEST

**- Thursday 10 June -**

**Infrastructures and Belonging**

11.05 - 12.30h CEST

**Homing Desires**

13.00 - 14.25h CEST

**Space-making and Belonging**

16.00 - 17.25h CEST

**- Friday 11 June -**

**Digital Migration and Belonging**

09.35 - 11.00h CEST

**Refugee Youth and Place Attachment in Public Space**

11.05 - 12.30h CEST

**Politics of Categorization**

13.10 - 14.35h CEST

**Boundaries & Borders of Belonging**

14.40-16.05h CEST

# Histories of Belonging and Non-Belonging

Wednesday 9 June, 14.30 – 15.55h CEST

Panel Chair: **Markha Valenta**

The panellists here explore historiographies of belonging and non-belonging. Histories covered range from case-studies addressing specific situatedness of Karelia bordering, Iranian cinema, slave resistance, Turkish nation-building and India's NorthEastern Edge.

## Papers

**O. Ermolaeva**

'B/orderization, Environment, and Transborder Encounters in Divided Karelia,  
end of the XVIII- beginning of the XX centuries'

**H. Heidari**

'Non-belonging as de-construction of institutional belonging'

**M. Kars**

"Motley Passages: Movement and Metamorphosis in Atlantic Slavery and Freedom"

**T. Lüdke**

"Defeating the People": The Creation of the Turkish Nation

**M. Rahman and E. Boyle**

'Borders of Memory at India's Northeastern Edge'

# Arts, Culture and Belongingness

Wednesday 9 June, 16.00 - 17.25h CEST

Panel Chair: Sagarika Naik

This panel collectively addresses, questions and rethinks belongingness through artistic interventions and cultural reflections. Papers range from a reflection on 'the language of Shakespeare' as a lingua franca and scrutiny of refugeeness through a critical reading of Shakespeare, video installations, and poetry.

## Papers

S. Battell

'Denying Refuge in Shakespeare;

N. Bayraktar

'Perpetual Crisis: Post-apocalyptic Refugee Timescapes in  
Richard Mosse's *Incoming* (2014–2017)'

C. Marchi

'Doing & Undoing'

# Infrastructures and Belonging

**Thursday 10 June, 11.05 – 12.30h CEST**

Panel Chair: **Marieke de Goede**

The presentations in this panel seek to open up the techno-politics of the often hidden and black-boxed machinery infrastructures. Infrastructures studied range from municipal identification cards, Google Earth, a parked truck used to transport irregularized migrants, and even bathrooms.

## Papers

**M. Bot**

'Neutralizing Undocumentation: On Municipal ID Cards'

**E. Morris**

'Google Earth Walkabout: Recolonization, Place Making and Access  
In the Google Earth Era'

**R. Pacsika**

'Border of Responsibility'

**I. Vrăbiescu**

'Political emotions of state violence: Operating humiliation  
while forcing the mobility of EU citizens'



# Homing Desires

**Thursday 10 June, 13.00 – 14.25h CEST**

Panel Chair: **Phil Kasinitz**

Addressing theories and lived experiences of home-making, un-homeing and homelands, this panel addresses the complexities of belonging by taking homing desires as an entry-point.

## Papers

**P. Boccagni**

'Feeling at home on the move: Place-based emotion, portable experience, or loss?'

**L. Borrelli, A. Lindberg and A. Wyss**

'State Practices of 'Un-homeing''

**S. Ghosh**

'Rootedness and Uprootedness: Home in the psyche of the East Bengali migrants'

**N. Scholz**

'At home in globalizing Germany: the ethno-cultural boundaries of West Germany's 'economic miracle''

**I. Hossu and S. Toma**

'Trans[Nationality and Formations] of Homes. Romanian citizens in Europe and at Home'

# Space-making and Belonging

## Thursday 10 June, 16.00 – 17.25h CEST

Panel Chair: **Lisa Marie Borrelli**

This panel covers the broad terrain of space-making, focusing on questions of space-making and belonging in the Covid-19 city, declining cities, rural areas, religious sites and transnational fields.

Space-making is a lens to address the relational interplay of how investments of multiple stakeholders shape, reshape, contest and police space.

### Papers

**A. Afaki**

'Space-making / religion / Hagia Sophia'

**P. Kasinitz**

'Social Inclusion in the Covid City'

**C. Pluss**

'Recasting Socialities: Diversity in the Transnational (Non)belonging  
of Chinese Singaporean Migrants in New York City'

**P. Watt**

'Home, block and neighbourhood'

**J. Seizer**

'Finding Their Place – How Declining Cities Envision a Politics  
of Belonging for The Forcibly Displaced'

**T. Olmos**

'The Im/Possibility of the Queer Rural: Belonging, Rural-Urban Boundaries,  
and the Queer Subject in Queer Eye'

# Digital Migration and Belonging

**Friday 11 June, 09.35 – 11.00h CEST**

**Panel Chair: Koen Leurs**

This panel critically interrogates experiences of digital connectivity practices of transnational migrants by taking questions of belonging as an entry-point.

## Papers

**G. Donà, M. Godin, M. Adin and A. Niroomand**

'From Calais to London: journeys of (un)belonging through the prism of visual representations.'

**A. Alencar**

'Translocality, refugees and digital spaces. An exploratory study on usage of WhatsApp with Venezuelan refugees in Brazil'

**P. Oiarzabal**

'Performing belonging and identity on Instagram. The hyperbole of symbolic identity of Basque diaspora associations'

**C. Lee**

'Temporal Dimensions of Transient Migration Studies: The case of Korean visa migrants' media practices in the US'

**M. Georgiou and K. Leurs**

'Smartphones as personal digital archives? Recentring migrant authority as curating and storytelling subjects'

# Refugee Youth and Place Attachment in Public Space

**Friday 11 June, 11.05 – 12.30h CEST**

**Panel Chair: Ilse van Liempt**

This panel session examines the roles cities and their infrastructure, rather than the state, play in relation to refugee rights and experiences in terms of place attachment. It seeks to examine the diverse urban experiences of refugee youth in public space. Arts and cultural initiatives are used as an entry point to research the personal geographies of refugee youth.

*This panel is based on the HERA-project on 'The Everyday Experiences of Refugee Youth and Asylum Seekers in Public Spaces' (2019-2022). <https://refugeeyouthinpublicspace.sites.uu.nl/>*

## Papers

**I. Liempt and M.Kox**

'Refugee youth's place attachment in the urban fabric of Amsterdam'

**M. Backer and P. Felten**

'Creative place-making and affective arrival infrastructures  
for young refugees and asylum-seekers in Brussels'

**P. Hopkins**

'Refugee Youth, Belonging and Urban Infrastructures of Reception  
and Control in Newcastle-Gateshead, UK'

**K. Horschelmann and E. Kirndörfer**

'The role of creative practices in young refugees' and asylum seekers' navigations  
and appropriations of public space in the city'

**B. van der Ent**

'Fled from Syria, found a new home in Rotterdam?'

# Politics of Categorization

Friday 11 June, 13.10 - 14.35h CEST

Panel Chair: **Michiel Bot**

The ordering of people, histories and narratives is never innocent. The identification, grouping, categorization of people has profound consequences for feelings of belonging and non-belonging.

## Papers

**N. Gallant**

'The view from inside, outside, and above: Shifting boundaries of belonging and inclusion into a national minority'

**S. Huque and M. Buland**

'Linguistic rights of refugees & International Law: Challenges and ways forward in Inclusion'

**A. Ramsari**

'Conflictual Membership Boundaries; Citizenship and Ethnic Belonging in the Kurdistan region of Iraq'

**K. Side**

'Reproducing Everyday Bordering Practices through Accommodation: Sexual and Reproductive Health among non-EU Asylum Seekers in Sweden and Ireland'

# Boundaries & Borders of Belonging

**Friday 11 June, 14.40-16.05h CEST**

Panel Chair: **Armin Langer**

This panel addresses questions of belonging by uncovering the interplay between identity formation, nation states, displacement and virtual homelands.

## Papers

**V. Konrad**

'Borders and Belonging: Mapping an Approach'

**N. Qudah**

'Mapping the Invisible - The Production of the (Virtual Homeland) in Palestinian Refugee: The Case of Al Wehdat Camp in Amman, Jordan'

**S. Naik**

'Displaced Rohingya and the stateless victim: Contested identity and sense of belongings'

**Z. Bhatti**

'Mapping Marginalisation of Borderlands in Jammu and Kashmir: A Study of the Border identity and State Politics of the Region'

**R. Symank**

'Genealogies of European Solidarity as an Issue of Belonging'



Thread

# Community and the Individual

**This thread focuses on the importance and pitfalls for individuals of belonging to a (local, imagined, virtual, religious) community. It deals with the tension between the self and community-life.**

Thread Coordinator

**Susanne Klaussen**



**- Wednesday 9 June -**

**Belonging, Mobility and Exclusion:  
Comparative Perspectives from Africa and Europe - Part I**

14.30 - 15.55h CEST

**Belonging, Mobility and Exclusion:  
Comparative Perspectives from Africa and Europe - Part II**

16.00 - 17.25h CEST

**- Thursday 10 June -**

**Performing Belonging**

09.35 - 11.00h CEST

**Isolation Between Ancient Cultures**

13.00 - 14.25h CEST

**Religious Practices of (Un)Belonging**

14.30 - 15.55h CEST

**The Politics of Displacement: Delinquency, Disavowal, Deviance**

16.00 - 17.25h CEST

**- Friday 11 June -**

**Belonging in Place? Mobility and the Search for Belonging**

09.35 - 11.00h CEST

**Networks, Acceptance and Wellbeing**

11.05 - 12.30h CEST

# Belonging, Mobility and Exclusion: Comparative Perspectives from Africa and Europe - Part I

**Wednesday 9 June, 14.30 - 15.55h CEST**

Introduction by Jan Willem Duyvendak

Panel chair: Apostolos Andrikopoulos

Discussant: P. Geschiere

## Papers

G. Meiu

'On the Rhythms of Return: Sexuality, Temporality, and Belonging among Migrants in East Africa and Eastern Europe'

P. Feldman-Savelsberg

'Perilously Reproducing Belonging: Transnational Cameroonians, Kinship, and (Dis-)Connection'

A. M'Charek

'DNA in the city: The temporalities of belonging and how to do the identity of place and people together'

# **Belonging, Mobility and Exclusion: Comparative Perspectives from Africa and Europe - Part II**

**Wednesday 9 June, 16.00 - 17.25h CEST**

Panel chair: **Basile Ndjio**

Discussant: **P. Geschiere**

## **Papers**

**N. Sharma**

'Home Rule: The Making of Postcolonial National-Natives and the Hardening of Nationalisms'

**R. Orock**

'The Politics of Complicity: Elites, Belonging and Development in Cameroon'

**F. Guadeloupe**

'Urban Blackness: Notes on the Commerce in Blackness in Populist Times'

# Performing Belonging

**Thursday 10 June, 09.35 - 11.00h CEST**

**Panel chair: Manuela Ciotti**

This panel focuses on the value of performance in assisting individuals to negotiate and make sense of experiences in a community. Presenters analyze ways that performance produced in a variety of media, namely film, novels and an art installation, can reflect and reinforce attempts to find social connection and acceptance.

## Papers

**R. Ozturk**

*"We", A Global Community of Others: A Study of İnci Eviner's Work in Venice Biennial 2019'*

**S. Zemaityte**

*'Artistic research: Love and sex addiction'*

**M. Nouwens**

*'Ecology of Cool'*

# Isolation Between Ancient Cultures

**Thursday 10 June, 13.00 - 14.25h**

**Panel chair: Babette Hellemans**

As we are currently facing aspects of social isolation during the Corona crisis, this round table explores how ancient literary examples of exile and isolation give us important insights into the mental and creative resilience of humanity. This is a roundtable panel, which showcases presentations of material and immaterial culture by scholars followed by an open discussion.

## Papers

**P. Gerbrandy**

'The Limits of Creativity in Isolation: The Case of Boethius (Ca. 480-525)'

**A. Seyed-Gohrab**

'Persian Prison Poetry: The Case of Mas'ūd Sa'd Salmān'

**B. Hellemans**

'The Dark and the Light Side of Isolation: The Monastery of the Paraclete (12th c.)'

**R. de Groot**

'Poetry as Companionship in Solitude'

# Religious Practices of (Un)Belonging

Thursday 10 June, 14.30 - 15.55h CEST

Panel chair: **Susanne Klausen**

Panelists analyze practices devised to maintain membership in a powerful religious community without losing one's identity. Though the religions discussed vary greatly in time, place and politics, the papers analyse ways in which individuals seek to sustain their identity without losing connection to a religion that has restrictive or intolerant aspects.

## Papers

**A. Diekjobst**

'Cross-sections of social circles –medieval nuns between community and self'

**S. Palekar**

'Being a Hindu in 21st Century India: Methods of Refusal and Embrace'

**B. Kalpaklioglu**

'The Female Preachers' Affective Burden'

**F. van Wijk**

'Two Sacrifices'

# **The Politics of Displacement: Delinquency, Disavowal, Deviance**

**Thursday 10 June, 16.00 - 17.25h CEST**

**Panel chair: Christophe Bertossi**

Panellists discuss individuals' experiences of the social and cultural processes that produce a sense of "fitting in" with a particular group. Humans require social recognition in order to belong and the papers investigate cases of individuals seeking to meet or else contest the terms of such recognition. In some cases the price of belonging is too high, provoking resistance against group expectations and norms.

## **Papers**

**E. Baillergeau**

'Belonging as a frustrated aspiration. Problems of recognition from the perspective of cultural studies of youth'

**J. van Amelsvoort**

'Singular Voices: Worlding Community'

**S. Klausen**

'The Invention of Afrikanerdom, the Politics of Shame and the Boundaries of Belonging'

**A. Odubajo**

'Alienation and Belonging: An Analysis of the Impact of Cultural Values on Women in the Selected Works of Flora Nwapa and Buchi Emecheta'

# Belonging in Place?

## Mobility and the Search for Belonging

**Friday 11 June, 09.35 - 11.00h CEST**

**Panel chair: Hein de Haas**

This panel explores the relationship between a strong place, identity and ontological belonging.

Panelists address the impact of mobility, whether desired or forced, on individuals' feeling of belonging, and investigate the methods and practices devised in response to the sense of displacement that often accompanies mobility in order to (re)establish a sense of self and/or connection across urban-rural and borders drawn either within or between nation-states.

### **Papers**

**R. Rahat**

**'Forced Urbanization, Identity, and a feeling of Estrangement  
across Gated Communities of Lahore'**

**M. Kusenbach**

**'People Like Me: Belonging and Exclusion Among Senior  
Mobile Home Residents in the American South'**

**J. Finke**

**Growing Communities in Dutch Rural Shrinking Areas: Collective Ways of Coping  
with Displacement resulting from Migration and Population Decline**

**S. Ponzanesi**

**'Digital Belonging: Gender, Migration and Diasporic Connectivity'**

**L. Berckmoes and M. Maagdenberg**

**'Traces of Conflict: A photo-ethnographic investigation to transgenerational  
transmission of conflict among children of refugees'**



# Networks, Acceptance and Wellbeing

**Friday 11 June, 11.05 - 12.30h CEST**

**Panel chair: E. Baillergeau**

This thread questions the assumption that membership in a social or identity network is a necessary social determinant of an individual's social health and wellbeing.

The papers question when and why belonging to a social network can have positive outcomes for members.

## **Papers**

**M. Sloodman**

'Enhancing inclusion? Three sociological dilemmas concerning identity networks as Diversity instruments'

**T. Gramsch**

'They Were Distant, Disposable, or Similar: Why Drug Users Discuss Hurtful Topics With People They Do Not Consider Close'

**A. Bosma**

'Sticking Out and Fitting In: the Performance of Dutch Rural Belonging in Weg van jou and Jij bent van mij'

**F. Lengerer and A. Steinführer**

'Participation in the local community and feelings of belonging in three European rural regions'

Thread

# Identity, Inequality and Politics

This thread explores the interplay between belonging, identity and politics based on social markers such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, (dis)ability, and class.

The notion of politics is used in the broadest sense of the word, ranging from power relations on the micro-level of everyday interactions, to more structural, institutionalized forms of power-inequalities and the struggle for belonging.

Thread Coordinator

**Irene Stengs and Markus Balkenhol**

**- Wednesday 9 June -**

-

**- Thursday 10 June -**

**The Politics of Gender and Belonging**

09.35 - 11.00h CEST

**Art, Activism and Belonging**

11.05 - 12.30h CEST

**Citizenship and Ethnicity**

14.30 - 15.55h CEST

**Comparing Identity Politics**

16.00 - 17.25h CEST

**- Friday 11 June -**

**Political Participation**

09.35 - 11.00h CEST

**The Secular Sacred**

11.05 - 12.30h CEST

**The Politics of Race and Racism in the Netherlands**

14.40 - 16.05h CEST

# The Politics of Gender and Belonging

Thursday 10 June, 09.35-11.00h CEST

Panel chair: **Zimitri Erasmus**

Gender plays a central role in questions of belonging, whether in terms of women's and gay rights, different forms of sexual nationalism, or in the intersection with other identifications (ethnic, racial, class, etc.). This panel looks at various contexts in which gender plays a role in issues of Belonging.

## Papers

**P. Chatterjee**

'Discrimination of criminal law towards transgender in India: a critical study'

**P. Egbule**

'Women working for gender parity'

**H. Schmidt**

'Suffering for Belonging'

# Art, Activism and Belonging

## Thursday 10 June, 11.05-12.30h CEST

Panel chair: **Rana Ozturk**

This panel investigates the combined potential of art and activism as a creative instrument to question processes of exclusion and othering in a wide variety of contexts. By employing insights and methods derived from literature, performative arts and game studies the contributions aim to stimulate societal discussion as well as to increase the political participation of those who 'do not belong'.

### Papers

**D. Gómez**

'Writing the self in other words'

**E. Fourie**

'Three poems'

**S. Hamzah**

'Stranded'

# Citizenship and Ethnicity

**Thursday 10 June, 14.30 - 15.55h CEST**

**Panel chair: Nancy Foner**

Taking a broader look at the culturalization of citizenship in various geographic locations, this panel discusses migration, demography, processes of othering and bureaucracy.

## Papers

**R. Alba**

'The Great Demographic Illusion'

**A. Langer**

'Struggling with Germanness'

**L. Morosanu**

'Identity Options of East and South'

**A. Varadharajan and S. de Jong**

'The Dearth and Dream of Belonging'

# Comparing Identity Politics

## Thursday 10 June, 16.00-17.25h CEST

Panel chair: **Heike Schmidt**

How are politics of belonging played out between ethnic, religious and other identities within one nation or larger region, in Nigeria and South Asia in particular?

The leitmotiv of this panel is the deeply rooted and often violent conflict that may arise in societies where on the basis of 'their identity' large sections of the population are deprived from political and economic power.

### Papers

**C. Agbedo**

'Interrogating, identity re(construction)'

**O. Omiegbe**

'Identity, Inequality, politics and persons with disabilities'

**N. Sajid**

'Narratives of un-belonging and the praxis of justice'

**E. Ojewunmi**

'Identity, Inequality, and Politics: A Study of Southern-Kaduna Crisis in Nigeria'

**S. Kamran**

'Identity Politics In and Through Art: The Case of Contemporary Pakistan'

# Political Participation

**Friday 11 June, 09.35 - 11.00h CEST**

**Panel chair: Imrat Verhoeven**

How can younger generations impact the established politics of the nation state?  
The papers in this panel bring together various cases that address the (in)possibilities of youth to overcome marginalization and exclusion to give form and content to their political rights as citizens.

## Papers

**D. Yücel-Kamadan**

'Identity and Political Participation'

**P. Khiatani**

'Understanding Protest (Non-) Participation in Hong Kong'

**T. Taralashvili**

'Understanding Youth Formation Processes'



# The Secular Sacred

**Friday 11 June, 11.05-12.30h CEST**

**Panel chair: Irene Stengs**

Building on the contributions made in *The Secular Sacred Volume* (2020), the proposition of this roundtable is that in the to-be-established field of 'studies of belonging' the processes through which feelings of belonging are intensified and amplified should be pivotal as an object of investigation. This panel discusses feelings of belonging to the nation by foregrounding the entanglements of secular and religious/theological understandings of nationalisms. The notion 'secular sacred' is suggested as an analytical tool to further investigate the emotional forces that constitute the boundaries of national belonging.

## Papers

**I. Stengs, M. Balkenhol and E. van den Hemel**

**'The Secular Sacred'**

**A. Bostani**

# The Politics of Race and Racism in the Netherlands

Friday 11 June, 14.40 - 16.05h CEST

Panel chair: **Marjoleine Kars**

This panel specifically focuses on the host country, the Netherlands, where issues of race and racism have led to recent controversies. Panellists take an in depth and diverse look at the politics of race and racism historically, in higher education, and the health system.

The thread running through these presentations is the question of how people become racialized as 'Dutch' or 'other'.

## Papers

**M. Corjanus**

'Schokker Islanders identity'

**A. Helberg-Proctor**

'Birthing the Nation'

**B. Kennedy & S. Melfor**

'Minority Student senses of (not) belonging'

**S. van der Veen**

'Senses of Belonging of the Jewish Dutch Elite (1870-1940)'



Thread

# Practices of Belonging

How do human beings bring belonging into practice?  
Also in relation to place-attachment? What tools and material  
objects do they use, develop and implement in their daily lives  
to sustain a sense of belonging or to create this anew?

Thread Coordinator

**Ulrike Kistner**

**- Wednesday 9 June -**

**Home-making Practices**

14.30 - 15.55h CEST

**The Role of Informality for Community Work**

16.00 - 17.25h CEST

**- Thursday 10 June -**

**Co-creation Practices as Conditions for Belonging**

09.35 - 11.00h CEST

**Perilous 'Belonging': Ethnicity, Nationality, Citizenship**

11.05 - 12.30h CEST

**Primary Sources in Artistic Practice**

14.30 - 15.55h CEST

**Belonging - A Matter of (Inclusive) Exclusion?**

16.00 - 17.25h CEST

**- Friday 11 June -**

**Recreating Belonging**

09.35 - 11.00h CEST

**Rites and Rights of Belonging**

11.05 - 12.30h CEST

**Reconfiguring Belonging in Amsterdam**

13.10 - 14.35h CEST

**Creating Places in Spaces**

14.40 - 16.05h CEST

# Home-making Practices

Wednesday 9 June, 14.30 - 15.55h CEST

Panel chair: **Sandra Ponzanesi**

The experience of forced migration and a sense of belonging seem to be at odds with each other.  
How can a sense of belonging be constructed in contexts of forced migration?

## Papers

**A. Albakkor**

'Phantom Limbs and New Canvas: Home-making Practices of Syrian Refugees in the Netherlands'

**B. Mahmud**

'Forced Migrants Practices of Belonging'

**J. Palomino**

'Highlighting Voice as an Ultimate Refuge of Universal Justice'

# The Role of Informality for Community Work

Wednesday 9 June, 16.00 – 17.25h CEST

Panel chair: **Marcel Spierts**

Community workers develop a wide variety of services and community building activities that aim to increase social capital, develop solidarity and enhance civic engagement among people living in precarious urban neighborhoods. In this roundtable panel we focus on the role of community work in different countries such as Belgium, The Netherlands and Sweden, to provide an in-depth perspective on its current practice.

## Papers

P. Raeymaeckers, J. Gradener, M. Spierts and P. Cools

# Co-creation Practices as Conditions for Belonging

Thursday 10 June, 09.35 - 11.00h CEST

Panel chair: **Halleh Ghorashi and Kay Mars**

The panel presents some of the projects of the Refugee Academy at the VU Amsterdam, highlighting refugees' agency through co-creative strategies.

## Papers

**E. Ponzoni**

'Just an individual story' or 'representing the whole group':  
Importance of embedded narratives of refugees in political decision-making'

**M. Arriaga**

'Loboko Ya Mama: Homemade Recipes of Belonging'

**F. Holle**

'Art for Change – Art practicing LGBTQ+ forced migrants negotiating belonging  
by challenging exclusionary Dutch hegemonies'

**A. Greene**

'Enacting a vision for education in community schools: community organizing in City Heights'

**K. Mars**



# Perilous 'Belonging': Ethnicity, Nationality, Citizenship

Thursday 10 June, 11.05 - 12.30h

Panel chair: **Peter Geschiere**

This panel explores the relationship between belonging and citizenship – in citizenship legislation, in the interaction between ethnicity and citizenship, and in politics of memory and claims to restitution.

## Papers

**R. Ganohariti**

'Citizenship in de facto States - Citizenship legislation as a nation-building tool'

**J. Kachim**

"We Are more than Settlers": Belonging, Local Politics and Konkomba Exclusion in the Nanumba District of Ghana, 1981-1994'

**U. Kistner**

'That feeling of belonging ... - The affective turn in citizenship studies?'

# Primary Sources in Artistic Practice

Thursday 10 June, 14.30 - 15.55h CEST

Panel chair: **Annelies ten Have**

Panelists: **A. Gómez Lopéz, masharu, R. Glas & J. Steffens**

This roundtable presents multiple perspectives on the role of primary source materials in contemporary artistic practices. Using artifacts, data sets, photographs, and patents (to name a few), former NIAS artists-in-residence and Rijksakademie alumni offer their outlook on confronting—and sometimes generating—primary sources in their creative and research practices.

## Papers

**R. Ganohariti**

'Citizenship in de facto States - Citizenship legislation as a nation-building tool'

**J. Kachim**

"We Are more than Settlers": Belonging, Local Politics and Konkomba Exclusion in the Nanumba District of Ghana, 1981-1994'

**U. Kistner**

'That feeling of belonging ... - The affective turn in citizenship studies?'

# Belonging – A Matter of (Inclusive) Exclusion?

Thursday 10 June, 16.00 – 17.25h CEST

Panel chair: **Anouk de Koning**

This panel tackles highly contested racialised literary and material-cultural articulations of ethnic-cultural and national belonging. Eschewing an individualist approach, this panel also looks at relational practices of exclusion and belonging, including shared loss and mourning, that make for a politics of belonging.

## Papers

**H. Silver**

'The Dialectic of Exclusion and Belonging'

**E. Vildoso**

'Considering belonging from our shared losses, building belonging through our shared mourning'

**J. Kádár**

"Tough Belonging: Marginality Contested in Southwest Mixed Heritage Fiction."

**B. Parnell-Berry and M. Kerkmeijer**

'Festive Material Cultures: ERIF Sinterklaas Brand and Product Study'

# Recreating Belonging

Friday 11 June, 09.35 - 11.00h CEST

Panel chair: **Jeff Handmaker**

This panel draws attention to the fault-lines in narratives of national identity and belonging – in China of the post-Mao era, in the history of the city of Jerusalem, and in Israeli and diasporic artscapes.

## Papers

**H. Lin**

'Recreating Belonging and Identity: Historical Memories, National Narratives, and Materiality of Ethnicity in Chinese Museums'

**M. Klein**

'Recreating Belonging, Post 1948 War Jerusalem'

**N. Stiasny**

'Traveling Landscapes and the Potential of Artscapes'

# Rites and Rights of Belonging

Friday 11 June, 11.05 – 12.30h CEST

**Panel chair: Bell-Parnell Berry**

This panel investigates gendered transnational and transgenerational rites, rights, and labours of belonging – in contexts of filial-affinal relations in India, second-generation Mozambican migrants in South Africa, and immigrants in Norway.

## Papers

**B. Chiyangwa**

'Second Generation Mozambican Migrant Youth's Identity and Sense of Belonging:  
The Case of Hluvukani village in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga – South Africa'

**A. Monda**

'The Rite of Kanakanjali and the Rights of Belonging – Indebtedness,  
Daughters and Intergenerationality in Bengal, India'

**G. Troup**

'Immigrant women's practices of affective labour and transnational belongings'

# Reconfiguring Belonging in Amsterdam

Friday 11 June, 13.10 – 14.35h CEST

Panel chair: **Bart Wallet**

How could early and modern Jews develop a sense of belonging to their European places and times? What have been key practices they adopted to create and express belonging?

These questions will be addressed from the vantage point of the city of Amsterdam as global centre of Jewish life since the seventeenth century.

## Papers

**A. Schatz**

'A City of Refuge: Historical Writing as a Practice of Belonging in Early Modern Amsterdam'

**I. Zwiép**

'A Public Jewish Presence: Practices of Belonging in a Secular Age'

**E. Schrijver**

'Practices of Belonging in the Jewish Cultural Quarter'

# Creating Places in Spaces

Friday 11 June, 14.40 – 16.05h CEST

**Panel chair: Isolde de Viliers**

This panel registers changes in the traditional division between public places and private spaces, and shows how these can be invested with different meanings, creating a sense of inhabitation.

## Papers

**B. Barabaschi**

'National sense of belonging of Italian emigrants in the digital era'

**T. Tauber-Pauzner and N. Hashimshony-Yaffe**

'A Balcony with a View – Shifting Perceptions of Public Space in Coronavirus Era'

**C. Hanser**

'Pop-up sanctuary in the public sphere: mediating a vagabond sense of belonging through a mobile tiny house encounter space'

Thread

# Open Spaces



- Wednesday 9 June -

**Refuge and Belonging**

13.00 - 14.25h CEST

**Masterclass Writing Belonging**

16.00 - 17.25h CEST

- Thursday 10 June -

-

- Friday 11 June -

**Belonging and Discipline:  
Freedom, Truth and Epistemic Diversity – Part I**

14.40 - 16.05h CEST

**Belonging and Discipline:  
Freedom, Truth and Epistemic Diversity – Part II  
(NIAS Academic Advisory Board)**

16.10 - 17.35h CEST

# Refuge and Belonging

Wednesday 9 June, 13.00 – 14.25h CEST

**Panel chair: Fenneke Wekker**

**Panelists: N. Binaisa, P. Boccagni, B. Pasveer**

**Discussant: Jan Willem Duyvendak**

In this Roundtable discussion, Fellows from the NIAS theme group 'Refuge and Belonging' discuss and open a conversation with the audience on how to critically understand and study how people go about seeking and making 'refuge' within or against spaces and notions of 'belonging'. Questions explored will be how can we make sense of the double-edge of 'refuge' and 'belonging' at once connoting flight and arrival; seeking shelter and being allowed within the 'body politic'? As 'refuge' inhabits the trope of crisis and inequality, how does it relate to practices of 'belonging'? Why and in what ways are both 'refuge' and 'belonging' marked as permanent or temporary, and how or why do these processes matter?

The session aims to be an interactive format of knowledge co-production, drawing also on the emotions, categories and lived experiences that participants associate to 'refuge' and/or 'belonging'.

# Masterclass Writing Belonging

Wednesday 9 June, 16.00 – 17.25h CEST

NIAS Writer-in-Residence 2021, **Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi** will give a Masterclass on Writing Belonging for 12 participants.

Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi is a Ugandan fiction writer. Her first novel, *Kintu*, won the Kwani? Manuscript Project in 2013. Her second book is a collection of short stories, *Manchester Happened* for the UK/Commonwealth publication and *Let's Tell This Story Properly* (for US/Canada publication) came out in Spring 2019. It was shortlisted for The Big Book prize: Harper's Bazaar. Her third book, *The First Woman* for UK/Commonwealth and *A Girl is a Body of Water* for USA/Canada publication, came out in Autumn 2020. She has a PhD from Lancaster University and is a senior lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University.

# **Belonging and Discipline: Freedom, Truth and Epistemic Diversity – Part I**

Friday 11 June, 14.40 – 16.05h CEST

Panel chair: **Fenneke Wekker**

Panelists: **Markha Valenta, Jeff Handmaker and Sandra Manickam**

This roundtable panel discusses Belonging in view of the recent attacks on academic freedom and on scholars world-wide. What is at stake? How can we understand that academic freedom has become so heavily contested in diverse national and global settings: what is driving these developments?

# **Belonging and Discipline: Freedom, Truth and Epistemic Diversity – Part II (NIAS Academic Advisory Board)**

Friday 11 June, 16.10 – 17.35h CEST

Panel chair: **Jan Willem Duyvendak**

Panelists: **Joyashree Roy, Marieke de Goede, Johan Schot,  
John R. Bowen, P. Valdivia Martin, B. Pasveer, E. Kraemer-Mbula**

Continuing the Roundtable discussion from the previous panel, the members of NIAS' Academic Advisory board discuss Belonging and Academia from their own national or institutional context. Questions explored will be how do anti-science-, racist-, xenophobic- or nativist sentiments play out in academia in different countries? What moments in history did similar threats to academia and knowledge emerge in what ways and why?

We look forward to  
**welcoming you**

to the  
**NIAS Conference on  
Studies of Belonging**

on 9 - 11 June 2021



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