

*Immigrants welcome?*

NIAS symposium, Thursday April 20, 2023

*How to understand differences in welcoming cultures regarding various groups of immigrants in European countries and in the US.*

For the first time in its history, the EU has invoked the Temporary Protection Directive in response to the large-scale arrival of Ukrainian refugees. The Directive is an exceptional measure that creates a legal regime that significantly differs from the regular asylum system and carries different consequences in terms of rights, welfare and integration. The invocation of the Temporary Protection Directive takes place in a discursive landscape that, first, tests the common idea that large numbers of refugees stretch the resilience of European destination societies to a breaking point. And, second, departs from the decade-long narrative that has predominantly cast refugees as a burden. As a result, conceptual, normative and practical distinctions between European refugees and non-European refugees are being reinforced.

The recent treatment of Ukrainian refugees is just one example of the various, contrasting ways in which immigrants (including refugees) have been welcomed over the past decades, not only in Europe but in the US as well.

What factors and processes explain the different perceptions of distinct categories of immigrants? Which perceptions and representations reinforce the idea of immigrants as a burden that encourages exclusionary responses? Which perceptions and representations might increase and improve resilience and inclusionary responses?

During a one-day symposium, we will investigate this vast and complex problematic by looking into:

- Whether and how various groups of immigrants are treated differently in specific countries within a certain timeframe;
- Whether and how specific countries have changed their approaches over time;
- Whether cities within specific countries differ in how they welcome immigrants;
- Whether and if so how the USA and Europe differ in their approaches towards immigrants.

# NIAS



Netherlands Institute  
for Advanced Study  
in the Humanities and  
Social Sciences

*Provisional Program*

9:30 -10:00 Walk in, coffee, welcome

**10:00-11:00 | Panel 1 | Experiences in the US**

Shifts in the reception of and support for immigrants in the US over time

*Nancy Foner*

Differences in the reception of and support for immigrants within the US

*Els de Graauw*

Discussant: *Phil Kasinitz*

Chair: *Jan Willem Duyvendak*

11:00-11:30 | Coffee break

**11:30-12:30 | Panel 2 | Experiences in Western Europe**

Shifts in the reception of and support for asylum seekers in the Netherlands/ Western Europe

*Nanda Oudejans*

Similarities in nativist responses to newcomers in various European countries

*Josip Kesic*

Differences in the reception of and support for immigrants in the Netherlands

*Floris Vermeulen*

Discussant: *Lieselotte Blommaert*

Chair: *t.b.a.*

Lunch break | 12:30-13:45

**13:45-14:45 | Panel 3 | Differences and similarities in the welcoming cultures between Europe and the US**

Roundtable: *Nancy Foner, Jan Willem Duyvendak, Phil Kasinitz, Leo Lucassen*

Chair: *t.b.a.*

14:45-15:00 | Tea break

**15:00-17:00 | Panel 4 | The future of hospitality, the future of solidarity**

*Timothy Stacey, Irene Stengs, Peter Geschiere, Sophie Battell, Luiza Bialasiewicz (tbc)*

Chair: *t.b.a.*