

Colloquium Series Sociology of Transnationalization "Environmental Degradation and Climate Change: Voice, Exit or Quiescence"

"Towards climate nomadism? Displacement and escape in the face of planetary crises"

Giovanni Bettini*
Lancaster University (CeMoRe) UK

How will climate change intersect with human migration? This question has gained significant traction in recent years, gesturing towards fundamental issues concerning sovereignty, habitability, mobilities, and ultimately justice. However, most often the question has been answered by extending into the future today's forms of migration. Instead of re-imagining how (im)mobility might or should look like once climate change really kicks in, the figure of the climate migrant / refugee has been mobilised as presage of the 'migration crises' to come. Thereby, today's unequal socio-ecological constellations and constrained geographies of mobility, displacement and immobilisation, are projected into an even direr future. Drawing on nomadic theory (as introduced by Deleuze and others), this intervention problematises two key tenets of this deadlock, i.e. the biopolitical nexus State-territory-citizenship and the reification of the figure of the migrant, which I argue are underlying ingredients of mainstream framings. Working with the figuration of 'climate nomadism', this intervention suggests a de- and reterritorialization of discourses on mobility, as well as a shift towards the political subjectivity of those (not) on the move. The provocation of 'climate nomadism' aims to contribute untangling how future mobilities are imagined from the deadlock of currently dominant discourses.

Wednesday, 19th June 2024 16:15 – 17:45 Uhr CET (3.15-4.45 p.m. GMT) ONLINE via ZOOM
(Registration open until 14th June)
madita.michaelis@uni-bielefeld.de

*Giovanni Bettini is Senior Lecturer at Lancaster University, UK. In his research Giovanni has been investigating how environmental change — in its planetary but uneven character, and entangled with contemporary crises and historical legacies — is generating new spaces, modes of governance, inequalities, and forms of resistance. He has published extensively on

the links between climate change and human mobility. Giovanni coordinates the Leverhulme Trust-funded project <u>Digital Climate Futures: a decolonial and justice perspective on digitalised climate change adaptation</u>. He also serves as Associate Director at the <u>Centre for Mobilities Research</u> (CeMoRe), at Lancaster University.