

Abstract:

Irregular migration has increasingly become a flashpoint in the media and political discourse, with policy measures multiplying across the world in efforts to improve management of the phenomenon. As these measures multiply, so does the perceived need for additional policies to stop up gaps in migration management approaches. The development process for these migration policies, however, are complex and layered. As of yet, it is unclear what impact factors such as crises and forms of ambiguity (such as “non-knowledge) have on this development process. This research project aims to interrogate the ways conditions of uncertainty may drive the development of such migration policies aiming at addressing irregular migration, as well as their outcomes. While dependent on and emergent from the specific contexts, common approaches or triggering events may be identifiable factors in the policy evolution process. Moreover, tracking an individual policy development process (e.g. the EU’s upcoming Entry-Exit system) can elucidate why certain policies may develop in the way that they do.