

The coloniality of movement: Mobilities, migration and empire

Wednesday, 5 June 2024 09:00 (1h 30m)

The coloniality of contemporary migration regimes is widely acknowledged in critical work on global politics and mobilities. This panel explores, on the one hand, how attentiveness to colonial histories and present-day realities can inform understandings of people in movement. And, on the other hand, it explores how colonial and racialised notions of movement have been uncritically introduced into current theorisations of International Relations (IR) and Migration and Border Studies, reinforcing IR's colonial and white locus of enunciation. In so doing, the panel: 1) interrogates how the control and governance of movement shape international politics, producing and reinforcing racial hierarchies and undergirding persistent colonial forms of colonial and imperial subjection, violence, and (dis)possession; 2) uncovers the multiple ways in which the study of people in movement speaks to theory-building work on race, racialised internationalism, empire, and postcolonial politics; and 3) challenges current theorisations of movement in International Relations.

Track Classification: Colonial, Postcolonial and Decolonial Working Group