

Prejudice and the Role of Different Actors in the Spiralling of the Securitization of Migration

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This year has witnessed different exceptional situations, but possibly all bound by some attitudinal reticence to combining the idea of inclusion, solidarity and care when dealing with novelty or alterity. This attitude can easily be referred to the idea of prejudice, a self-referent cognition or mind-set that tends to automatically exclude others from enjoying the same human conditions, rights and benefits that the prejudicial Self reserves to its kin. More generally, it is possible to consider that prejudice is often one of the root causes of many escalation of tensions, and the impossibility to resolve some common challenges for blinding ideas anchored to a cognition of the nation that tends to exclude rather than include different components. A cognition alike is also to be disentangled in the securitization of migration. By addressing the role of different actors in the spiralling of the securitization of migration, this roundtable wishes to examine how and why they contribute to the spiralling process of the securitization of migration.

The participants will engage in a discussion for the whys the securitization of migration is not a linear process but a spiralling phenomenon, which involves different actors in a spiralling progression that both self-fulfils and reinforces migration-security nexus' dynamics. We propose to analyze a variety of categories to clarify which ontological and epistemological stances can contribute to widening our understanding of such a process. In particular, we will address the intelligible position that prejudice takes in this spiralling process, for which a variety of actors enact policies, practices, techniques and narratives that contribute to both securitizing migration and reinforcing its nexus with crime, and the consequent necessity of a management of "migration crises".

Track Classification: International Politics of Migration, Refugees and Diaspora Working Group