

Two major demographic developments are setting the trend in European cities: (a) they are becoming “majority minority”-cities, i.e. no single “ethnic group” – including the old “Natives” – will represent the “mainstream” or the “majority society” anymore; (b) native-born children and grandchildren of immigrants are more and more present and visible in influential positions in society, they are becoming (part of) the “new mainstream”. The wider political and societal discourse, however, is still mainly concerned with “integration problems”.

The conference will compare these developments from the perspective of members of this “new mainstream” in several countries. “Pathways to Success” is a consortium of research projects at university institutes in seven European countries that in 2012 has begun to explore career paths of the children of the first generation labour immigrants to Europe in the 1960s – a very large portion from families with low educational and economic capital. The consortium has therefore been particularly interested in the second generation experience of steep upward social mobility: successful entrepreneurs, people in high-skilled jobs and leadership positions or being on their way of getting there.

The comparative focus of the conference – across cities and second generation groups in one country, but also internationally – will put a special emphasis on the role of social and institutional contexts as facilitators or barriers for intergenerational social mobility, and on the interaction between individual trajectories and institutional arrangements in educational systems and the transition to selected professions. Renowned European and North-American scholars will discuss to what extent the new upcoming elites of immigrant background and their innovative powers are likely to participate in and contribute to current and future transformations of these contexts. This is not only relevant for the society at large, but also for the orientation of future research and theory building in the field of Migration Studies.

WEDNESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER, PHILHARMONIE ESSEN

- 1.30 p.m.** **Welcome to the Conference**
Felix Streiter (Mercator Foundation)
Welcome and introduction to the Pathways to Success-Project
Andreas Pott & Jens Schneider, Osnabrück
„New Pott“ by Mischa Kuball – an introduction to the exhibition
Claudia Rinke, Bochum
- 2.15 p.m.** **Disentangling pathways to success. Socioeconomic achievements by the Turkish second generation in four Western European countries**
Philipp Schnell, Wien & Yaël Brinbaum, Paris (Presentation + Discussion)
- 3.15 p.m.** **Becoming successful – Interactions of structures and individual resources I: lawyers and business people**
Elif Keskiner, Rotterdam & Christine Lang, Osnabrück (Presentation + Discussion)
- 4.15 p.m.** **Becoming successful – Interactions of structures and individual resources II: teachers and social work**
Rosa Aparicio Gómez, Madrid & Rosita Fibbi, Neuchâtel (Presentation + Discussion)
- 5.30 p.m.** **Keynote Lecture: Reframing success: Second-generation Mexicans and Chinese in Los Angeles**
Jennifer Lee (University of California Irvine)

THURSDAY, 6 NOVEMBER, PHILHARMONIE ESSEN

- 9.30 a.m.** **Shortfilm portraits: second generation personalities in five European cities**
Introduction: Frans Lelie, Amsterdam
- 10.00 a.m.** **Being successful: Professional and social identities**
Jens Schneider, Osnabrück & Ali Konyali, Rotterdam (Presentation + Discussion)
- 11.30 a.m.** **Keynote Lecture: Migration in focus? Plea for reflexive migration research**
Janine Dahinden (Université de Neuchâtel)
- 12.30 a.m.** **Final Discussion & Conclusions: The Second Generation as Agents of Change**
with: Mary Tupan (ECHO, NL), Ali Aslan Gümüşay (Oxford University, ex-Zahn-räder, D), Jennifer Lee (UC Irvine, USA), Maurice Crul (Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, NL)
- 2.00 p.m.** **End of Conference**

PARTICIPATING RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

Universität Osnabrück · Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam · Institut National d'Études Démographiques, Paris · Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Lyon · Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies, Neuchâtel · Instituto Ortega y Gasset, Madrid · Università degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale, Turin

THE PROJECT

PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Children of immigrants and their successful trajectories in urban and international comparison

The research project looks at the new emerging elite with migrant background in Germany and several other European countries. In Germany, the project focuses the educational and professional trajectories and social mobility careers of descendants of immigrants from Turkey in the urban agglomerations Berlin, Frankfurt/Main and the Ruhr area. Our aim is to identify main factors – e.g. personal, social but also institutional – influencing educational trajectories as well as professional careers and professional success in different areas of the labour market.

In a first step, the project looks at quantitative data gathered in the research project “The integration of the European Second Generation (TIES)”. The main part of the study in Germany consists of 90 qualitative in-depth interviews with people of Turkish origin and a comparison group of native, working-class background who are working in different professional sectors (business, law, teaching, public administration). Local case studies and contextual analyses of the selected cities and metropolitan areas will accompany the qualitative field-work. A particular focus in the analyses of the empirical data will be put on the potential influence of urban contexts on successful careers and social mobility of people of immigrant and non-academic background.

The project is funded by the Stiftung Mercator, Essen, Germany.

REGISTRATION

Registration is possible until October 20, 2014.
To register, please send an e-mail or fax to:

**Institute for Migration Research
and Intercultural Studies (IMIS)**
Universität Osnabrück
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Fax: +49 541 969 4380
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There is no registration fee.

ORGANISERS

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Prof. Dr Andreas Pott (project leader)
Dr Jens Schneider (coordinator)

www.elitesproject.eu
www.imis.uni-osnabrueck.de

VENUE

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The venue is in 5 minutes walking distance
from the Central Station (Essen Hbf.)

INVITATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Pathways to Success Social Mobility and Change in Migration Societies

Essen, 5–6 November 2014

