

Call for Abstracts (Deadline: 13.06.2022)

## Session “Migration, Mobilities, and Displacement in the ‘Global South’”

at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) &  
1<sup>st</sup> RC33 Regional Conference Latin America: Brazil, 08–10.09.2022,  
Online-Conference hosted by the University of São Paulo (Brazil)

Dear Colleagues,

We hereby invite you to submit an abstract for the Session “Migration, Mobilities, and Displacement in the “Global South”” at the at the “2<sup>nd</sup> International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability” (“SMUS Conference”), which will simultaneously be the “1<sup>st</sup> RC33 Regional Conference Latin America: Brazil” and take place online at the University of São Paulo (Brazil) from Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, to Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### Session Organizers

Steve Tonah (University of Ghana, Legon-Accra, Ghana, stonah@ug.edu.gh)

Arne Worm (Georg-August-University Goettingen, Germany, aworm@uni-goettingen.de)

### Session Topic

This session aims to discuss potentials, challenges, and innovative approaches of doing qualitative or interpretative research on migration and mobility in contexts of the Global South. Migrations and mobilities are expressions of global, regional or local interdependencies and inequalities, as well as social actions that change or challenge established social structures, hierarchies of inequality and modes of belonging. Different regions in the “Global South” are characterized by complex interrelations between social transformation and changing patterns of migration/mobility – always in the context of global dynamics (such as climate change, economic interdependencies, etc.) and global history, but also in the context of (trans-)regional dynamics and power relations. Examples of this are refugee movements within and between societies of



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the “Global South”, urbanization processes and polarization between urban and rural areas, inequalities between mobile and immobile social milieus/groupings, as well as the re-organization of migration and border regimes. Doing research on the interrelations between migration and social transformation is challenging because of the need to address the level of global inequalities and global historical entanglements, as well as the level of (trans-)regional and local dynamics. In this session, we would like to invite empirically-oriented papers on the interrelations between migration/mobility, displacement and social transformation in and from societies in the “Global South”. We welcome contributions, which are empirically based on qualitative-interpretative research and discuss how interpretative methods and their combination contribute to a better understanding of “Global-South”-migration and mobilities. Papers may be related to the following methodological topics: (i) everyday-life-based/actor-based methodologies (such as ethnography, interview-based approaches, case studies) on changing patterns of migration and mobility in the “Global South” in their interdependence with the transformation of “communities”, social groups and belonging (e.g. change of families, local communities, transregional and transnational networks); (ii) (socio-)historical approaches (e.g. multigenerational studies) to migration, mobility and displacement in the “Global South”; (iii) challenges and potentials of combining methods in doing research on migration/mobilities; (iv) methodological challenges of doing research on forced migration/violence-induced migration/displacement in the “Global South”.

### About the Conference

The “Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability” (GCSMUS or SMUS) together with the Research Committee on “Logic and Methodology in Sociology” (RC33) of the “International Sociology Association” (ISA), and the Research Network “Quantitative Methods” (RN21) of the “European Sociology Association” (ESA) will organize the **“2<sup>nd</sup> International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability” (“SMUS Conference”)**, which will simultaneously be the **“1<sup>st</sup> RC33 Regional Conference Latin America: Brazil”**, and take place **online at the University of São Paulo (Brazil) from Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, to Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022**. The three-day conference aims at continuing a global dialogue on methods and should attract methodologists from all over the world and all social and spatial sciences (e. g. anthropology, area studies, architecture, communication studies, computational sciences, digital humanities, educational sciences, geography, historical sciences, humanities, landscape planning, philosophy, psychology, sociology, urban design, urban planning, traffic planning and environmental planning). The online conference programme will include keynotes, sessions and advanced methodological training courses. With this intention, we invite scholars of all social and spatial sciences and other scholars who are interested in methodological discussions to suggest an abstract to any sessions of the conference. All papers have to address a methodological problem.

Please find more information on the **SMUS Brazil 2022 Conference** on:  
<https://gcsmus.org/conferences/brazil/>

Information about the above institutions may be found on the following websites:

- Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (GCSMUS): <https://gcsmus.org/>
- ISA RC33: <http://rc33.org/>
- ESA RN21: [www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn21-quantitative-methods](http://www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn21-quantitative-methods)
- University of São Paulo: <https://www5.usp.br>

If you are interested in getting **further information on the conference** and other GCSMUS activities, please **subscribe to the SMUS newsletter** by registering via the following website: <https://lists.tu-berlin.de/mailman/listinfo/mes-smusnews>

### Submission of Abstracts

If you are interested in **presenting a paper at this session**, please **submit an English-language abstract** containing the following information to SMUS Brazil 2022 via <https://smusbrazil2022.sinteseeventos.com.br/> between 01.04.2022 and 13.06.2022:

- Title of (at maximum two) preferred session(s)
- Paper title
- Author(s) (= name(s), gender(s), institutional affiliation(s), position(s), country(ies), email address(es))
- 300- to 500-Word Abstract (= short description of the proposed paper. The abstract should make explicit (i) the methodological problem addressed, (ii) why this is relevant, (iii) how the paper relates to the session, and (iv) what the general line of argument will be.)

Please note that all sessions must adhere to the **rules of session organization** comprised in the RC33 statutes and GCSMUS Objectives (**see below**). Please note that you can give a **maximum of two papers** at the conference, including joint papers. The conference organizers will inform you by **31.07.2022** whether the proposed paper has been accepted for presentation at the conference. For further information please see the SMUS Brazil 2022 conference website or contact the session organizers.

Please also kindly **forward this call to anybody to whom it might be of interest**.

Best wishes,

Steve Tonahand Arne Worm



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## Rules for Session Organization (According to GCSMUS Objectives and RC 33 Statutes)

1. There will be no conference fees.
2. The conference language is English, although some of the activities are going to be simultaneously translated into Portuguese. All papers therefore need to be presented in English.
3. All sessions have to be international: Each session should have speakers from at least two countries (exceptions will need good reasons).
4. Each paper must contain a methodological problem (any area, qualitative or quantitative).
5. There will be several calls for abstracts via the GCSMUS, RC33 and RN21 Newsletters. To begin with, session organizers can prepare a call for abstracts on their own initiative, then at a different time, there will be a common call for abstracts, and session organizers can ask anybody to submit a paper.
6. GCSMUS, RC33 and RN21 members may distribute these calls via other channels. GCSMUS members and session organizers are expected to actively advertise their session in their respective scientific communities.
7. Speakers can only have one talk per session. This also applies for joint papers. It will not be possible for A and B to present at the same time one paper as B and A during the same session. This would just extend the time allocated to these speakers.
8. Session organizers may present a paper in their own session.
9. Sessions will have a length of 90 minutes with a maximum of 4 papers or a length of 120 minutes with a maximum of 6 papers. Session organizers can invite as many speakers as they like. The number of sessions depends on the number of papers submitted to each session: for example, if 12 good papers are submitted to a session, there will be two sessions with a length of 90 minutes each with 6 papers in each session.
10. Papers may only be rejected for the conference if they do not present a methodological problem (as stated above), are not in English or are somehow considered by session organizers as not being appropriate or relevant for the conference. Session organizers may ask authors to revise and resubmit their paper so that it fits these requirements. If session organizers do not wish to consider a paper submitted to their session, they should inform the author and forward the paper to the local organizing team who will find a session where the paper fits for presentation.
11. Papers directly addressed to the conference organising committee, suggesting a session. The conference organizers will check the formal rules and then offer the paper to the session organizer of the most appropriate session. The session organizers will have to decide on whether or not the paper can be included in their session(s). If the session organizers think that the paper does not fit into their session(s), the papers has to be sent back to the conference organizing committee as soon as possible so that the committee can offer the papers to another session organizer.