

IPW LECTURES

Paradoxes of (Forced) Migration Policy

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Thursday, 25th May 2023, 1:15pm
Ort: Hörsaal 2, NIG, 2. Stock

Abstract

The lecture will discuss frequent paradoxes in the realm of migration policy and management, which are often so naturalized that they remain unrecognized. Yet, they are symbolically and morally charged and serve to uphold the legitimation of the status quo. A particularly pertinent example is the “asylum paradox”, which describes the impossibility of legal access to (the right to) asylum. Given the impossibility of applying for asylum from abroad due to a general lack of legal pathways, refugees have to “break the law” to access their rights – they have to enter a state “illegally”, i.e. without an asylum title, to apply for it within the borders of that state. We will unearth the consequences of this and similar paradoxes for refugee reception, settlement and integration policy in European host countries and discuss how – if at all – they can be resolved.

Judith Kohlenberger holds a PhD in Cultural Science. She is a researcher on migration with a focus on forced migration and integration. Among others she has worked within projects such as the Displaced Persons in Austria Survey (DiPAS). DiPAS was one of the first Europe-wide studies on the refugee movement of 2015 and was awarded the Kurt-Rothschild-Preis 2019. Her research was published in international Journals such as PLOS One, Refugee Survey Quarterly und Health Policy. She is affiliated to the *Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital* and currently teaches at *WU Wien* and *FH Wien*.