

SEMINARIO "Reclaiming Migration: Testimonies Beyond Crisis"



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This talk will reflect on the research findings of Dr Squire's recent large-scale qualitative research project with people on the move across the Mediterranean in 2015-2016, Crossing the Mediterranean Sea by Boat: Mapping and Documenting Migratory Journeys and Experiences. The primary aim of this project has been to undertake an analysis of European migration and border management policies from the perspective of those whom they most directly impact: people on the move themselves. The talk provides an overview of the ways in which the testimonies of people on the move raise fundamental questions about the limits of Europe's contemporary agenda on migration and the vulnerabilities that it produces. In so doing, it also provides an overview of the distinctive methodological approach developed by the project, making the case for an approach that does not simply analyse the impacts of migration and migration policies on those migrating, but that also analyses the claims and demands to which migratory journeys and experiences give rise. Producing a 'counter-archive' of the so-called 'European migration crisis' is important, Dr Squire argues, because it challenges misplaced assumptions about migration and about the effects of policy initiatives, which otherwise become accepted as uncontested forms of 'common sense'.

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