

Transnational Social Protection: Setting an Agenda

by Professor Peggy Levitt

Date: 13 Jan 2016 (Wednesday)

Time: 3pm – 4:30pm

Venue: FASS Research Division Seminar Room, AS7 06-42, The Shaw Foundation Building, NUS Kent Ridge Campus

Chair: A/P Elaine Ho, Geography Department, National University of Singapore

Organized by the FASS Migration Research Cluster, National University of Singapore.

Abstract

In today's world, more than 220 million people live in a country that is not their own. Nevertheless, the provision of social protection, and the policy-making that undergirds it, is primarily carried out by nations. How are people on the move protected and provided for in the contemporary global context? Have institutional sources of social welfare begun to cross borders to meet the needs of individuals who live transnational lives? In this talk, I will propose a transnational social protection (TSP) research agenda designed to map the kinds of protections that exist for people on the move, the protections that travel across borders, and who they actually protect and who gets left out.

About the speaker

Peggy Levitt is Professor and Chair of the sociology department at Wellesley College and co-Director of Harvard University's Transnational Studies Initiative. Her new book, *Artifacts and Allegiances: How Museums Put the Nation and the World on Display*, as published by the University of California Press in July 2015. Peggy was the CMRS Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the American University of Cairo in March 2015 and a Robert Schuman Fellow at the European University Institute in Summer 2015. In 2014, she received an Honorary Doctoral Degree from Maastricht University, held the Astor Visiting Professorship at Oxford University, and was a guest professor at the University of Vienna. She was the Visiting International Fellow at the Vrije University in Amsterdam from 2010-2012 and the Willie Brandt Guest Professor at the University of Malmö in 2009. Her books include *Religion on the Edge* (Oxford University Press, 2012), *God Needs No Passport* (New Press 2007), *The Transnational Studies Reader* (Routledge 2007), *The Changing Face of Home* (Russell Sage 2002), and *The Transnational Villagers* (UC Press, 2001). She has edited special volumes of *Racial and Ethnic Studies*, *International Migration Review*, *Global*

Networks, Mobilities, and the Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies. A film based on her work, *Art Across Borders*, came out in 2009.

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www.wcfia.harvard.edu/seminars/tsi

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