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MIGR-AGE - MIGRants' strAtegies in carinG for and receiving care from their Elderly parents: Designing paths at the intersection of border, care and labour regimes

Analysts and institutions estimate that contemporary societies, especially in the Global North, face an entangled triple challenge: the ageing of the population, ensuring the sustainability of welfare state provisions, and migration. Meanwhile, anti-migration discourses have raised, resulting in migrants' increasing external and internal bordering. In this context, older migrants, and especially economic migrants' and refugees' parents and grandparents, are suspected of excessively drawing on social welfare. Consequently, their entrance to and permanence in Global North countries and their access to care benefits and programs are being limited, leading to new forms of stratification in social reproduction.

MIGR-AGE aims to understand how the intersection of care, border and labour regimes shapes the strategies of adult migrants to care for and receive care from their elderly parents. The project focuses on the experience of Colombian families in Italy and Canada, in which elderly parents are (or were until recently) living in Colombia. It combines policy analysis with in-depth interviews, participatory videos, and participatory restitution meetings that will be conducted in the country of emigration in the Global South, Colombia, and in the two countries of immigration in the Global North, Italy and Canada.

The project adopts an innovative theoretical and methodological approach that crosses disciplines (sociology, anthropology, political economy, and political sciences) and levels of analysis (at the micro, meso, and macro levels). Moreover, it follows a multi-sited and decolonial perspective that does not only focus on Global North countries but crosses analysis in the Global North/South and emigration/immigration countries to better understand migration patterns and inequalities in social reproduction at the global level.

By pursuing this objective, MIGR-AGE addresses several Sustainable Development Goals and is in line with the European Care Strategy.

UNIPD Supervisor: Francesca Alice Vianello

MSCA Fellow: Anne-Iris Romens

Department: Philosophy, Sociology, Education And Applied Psychology

Coordinator: Università degli Studi di Padova (Italy)

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