

**FINAL Conference Program**

**Making Rights Reality:**

**The Human Rights of Undocumented Migrant Workers**

17-19 June 2024, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam



**Monday, 17 June, 19:00-22:00**

Location: [Pakhuis de Zwijger](#), Piet Heinkade 179, 1019 HC Amsterdam

**Opening Roundtable Sessions**

19:00 Doors open, registration, coffee and tea

19:30-20:30 Roundtable sessions in the Grote Zaal, Facilitator: Natalia Robledo Contreras

20:30-21.00 Plenary discussion, Facilitator: Dr. Fatima Diallo, Chair UN Committee on Migrant Workers

21.00-22.00 Snacks (*Borrel hapjes*) and drinks

For this opening of this conference, we will engage in roundtable discussions around particular issues regarding the theme of the conference. Activists, undocumented workers, academics, international organizations, and others are invited to share experiences and perspectives around selected themes. The goal of this event is to begin the discussions of the conference outside of the university, in the community, and to get to know each other.

There will be 10 tables, each with a table host who has proposed the table's question. We will have four sessions of 12-15 minutes. During each session, all of the table participants (including the host) will discuss the question for the table. The facilitators announce when it is time to switch tables. After 60 minutes of roundtables, we will have a short plenary discussion and then close with snacks and drinks

This session is inspired by a similar roundtable discussions that occurred in 2018 between the municipality of Amsterdam and the undocumented community regarding improving a shelter system for undocumented people in Amsterdam.

*Pakhuis de Zwijger is a unique cultural organisation which opened its doors in 2006 and has grown to be an independent platform for and by the city of Amsterdam and its inhabitants.*

**Tuesday, 18 June**

Location: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, NU Building

De Boelelaan 1111, 1081 HV Amsterdam

8:30-9:00	<p>Registration and Coffee</p> <p><i>Throughout the conference, there will be a space to gather outside of Theatre 3, on the second floor of the NU building. We call this area the ‘<b>Global Migration Café</b>’. There will be a few tables set up by organizations to share information about their work, as well as posters. Feel free to grab a cup of coffee or tea during any of the breaks and chat in this common space.</i></p>	Global Migration Café
9:00-10:30	<p>Preliminary Remarks</p> <p><b>Keynote: Dr. Alan Desmond, Leicester University</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>‘The Inclusion of Undocumented Migrants in the UN Migrant Workers Convention: Springboard or Stumbling Block to Their Protection?’</i></li> </ul> <p>Discussant: Vassiliy Yuzhanin (IOM Geneva, International Law Unit) Moderators: Jordan Dez &amp; Younous Arbaoui</p>	Theatre 3
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break	
10:45-12:15	<b>Round 1</b> (Parallel Sessions 1-4)	
Session 1	<b>Panel- Migration Status Precarity: The Power and Limits of Regularization</b>	Room: 5A-27 <b>Hybrid</b>

	<p>Chair: Martijn Stronks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mieke Kox, <i>The limits of the law: Unraveling unauthorized migrants' legal consciousness processes</i></li> <li>• Cristiano d'Orsi, <i>When the deprivation of rights seems to be normal when you are an undocumented migrant: the case of Equatorial Guinea (on-line)</i></li> <li>• Delphine Nakache, <i>Temporary migrants' complex regularization trajectories: the Canadian context</i></li> </ul>	
Session 2	<b>Workshop- ASYLEX/CILD, Complementary protection mechanisms: successes and challenges of collaboratively using diverse international human rights</b>	Room: 6A-52
	<p>Coordinators: Fabi Fugazza, Coalizione Italiana Libert� e Diritti civil (CILD); Jo�lle Spahni, AsyLex; Daria Sartori, Executive Director NYU Public Interest and Human Rights Clinic</p> <p><i>This interactive workshop will discuss the complementary aspect of different mechanisms for the protection of the rights of people on the move (including, for example, Rule 39 requests for interim measures and individual applications at the European Court of Human Rights, collective complaints and immediate measures at the European Committee of Social Rights, amicus curiae and request for provisional measures to UN committees) and the success and challenges of each measure for the protection of human rights of migrants.</i></p>	
Session 3	<b>Panel- Invisible, undervalued and un(der)protected: reflecting on worker rights for (undocumented) migrants working in (platformized) paid domestic work in the UK</b>	Room: 6A-45
	<p>Chair: Jing Hiah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura Berro Yoldi, <i>Au Pairs: from cultural exchange to recognized workers in the UK</i></li> <li>• The Voice of Domestic Workers (VODW), <i>Recognizing paid care and domestic workers</i></li> <li>• The Nanny Solidarity Project (NS), <i>On realizing rights and good working conditions for (undocumented) migrant childcare workers in the platform economy.</i></li> </ul>	
Session 4	<b>Panel- Legal Limitations on Access to Socio-Economic Rights</b>	Room: 4B-17

	<p>Chair: Nina Fokkink</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sabia Bouzambou, <i>Dignity Denied: Examining the Human Rights Challenges Faced by Undocumented Migrant Workers in Morocco</i></li> <li>• Sergeja Hrvatič, <i>The (im)possibility of Effectively Protecting the Economic and Social Rights of Migrant Workers in Irregular Situation before Council of Europe Tribunals</i></li> <li>• Ronald Serwanga, <i>Assessing Uganda's Emigration Legal Framework Against International Socio-economic rights standards for Migrant Workers</i></li> <li>• Ayesha Riaz, <i>Legal Aid or an Illusion: The (Near) Exclusion of Asylum Seekers and Undocumented Migrants from Accessing Legal Aid</i></li> </ul>	
12:15 – 13:15	<p><b>Lunch &amp; Poster Market</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jonathan Presley, <i>ILO C-189 Ratification Process in Kenya: a Domestic Worker Labor Exporter Perspective</i></li> <li>• Anna Kompatscher, <i>The right to healthcare for Undocumented Workers in Germany, France, Italy</i></li> </ul>	Global Migration Café
13:15-14:45	<b>Round 2 (Parallel Sessions 5-8)</b>	
Session 5	<b>Panel- Making Access to Socio-economic Rights</b>	Room: 5A-47
	<p>Chair: Lieneke Slingenberg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pedro Sanz Díaz, <i>Advancing undocumented migrants' access to socioeconomic rights: vulnerability as a negotiating tool</i></li> <li>• Pamela Ijeoma, <i>Mobile Technology Adoption Among Nigerian and Ghanaian Self-employed Entrepreneurs in the Netherlands</i></li> <li>• Maeve Powlick &amp; Pedro Oliveira, <i>Exploring Intergenerational Collaborative Space with Undocumented Youth: The Youth Leadership and Resilience Project</i></li> <li>• Saeede Mokhtarzade, <i>In the Margins: Upholding Rights and Human Dignity for Undocumented Afghan Migrants in Iran</i></li> </ul>	
Session 6	<b>Workshop - The road toward HUSHU House, the outcome of a dynamic cooperation of grassroots organizations, NGOs, and the municipality.</b>	Room: 4A-54

	<p>Coordinators: HUSHU House Coalition</p> <p><i>The HUSHU House project is a new initiative by and for undocumented migrants in de Bijlmer neighborhood in Amsterdam. In this workshop, 6 grassroots organizations who are participants in the HUSHU House project will bring their on-going discussion of how to build a coalition between small and large organizations. Of particular interest here is why service provision thrives while advocacy remains behind.</i></p>	
Session 7	<b>Panel- New Perspectives on Existing Rights Systems</b>	Room: 4A-45
	<p>Chair: Jessica Klüger</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ben Mokhtar Yassine, <i>Envisioning multilevel governance in Africa: Human Rights within the African regime of migration governance</i></li> <li>• Barbara von Rütte, <i>Citizenship for Undocumented Migrants: The Uncharted Potential of the Right to Nationality</i></li> <li>• Bahija Aaraas, <i>Regularization through within a human rights framework. Transnational ties and the right to respect for private life of irregular migrants</i></li> <li>• Jan-Hendrik Seelow, <i>Why not talk about “one’s own country”?: How Article 12(4) of the ICCPR can be utilised to protect the right to remain</i></li> </ul>	
Session 8	<b>Panel- Collective Organizing</b>	Room: 2B-18
	<p>Chair: Anja Eleveld</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bernsten, de Lange &amp; Robledo Contreras, <i>Collectivisation of undocumented latino workers in the Netherlands during the Covid-19 pandemic</i></li> <li>• Diekmann, Oehm &amp; Schmitz, <i>Potentials and limits of the German Supply Chain Act for Migrant Workers: Lessons from the lorry strike of Gräfenhausen</i></li> <li>• Lalaine Siruno, <i>The rights-claiming of irregular Filipino migrant domestic workers in the Netherlands</i></li> </ul>	
14:45-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	<b>Round 3 (Parallel Sessions 9-12)</b>	
Session 9	<b>Workshop - Integrating Indigenous Perspectives: An Intersectional Approach to Claiming Rights of Women Migrant Workers</b>	Room: 4A-45

	<p>Coordinators: Myra Colis, MABIKAs Foundation-The Netherlands</p> <p><i>In today's globalised world, the labor rights of migrant women are often neglected, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation and marginalisation. Within the Netherlands, a diverse array of women migrants face unique challenges, ranging from precarious work conditions to legal exclusion. This workshop aims to illuminate these multifaceted issues, with a particular emphasis on the struggles faced by three distinct groups: Filipino au pairs turned domestic helpers, migrant mothers, and undocumented workers. By tapping on actionable steps, this workshop entails a commitment to incorporate indigenous and collectivist perspectives in efforts to empower women migrant workers through an intersectional Lens.</i></p>	
Session 10	<b>Panel - Migration Status Possibilities</b>	Room: 2B-18 Hybrid
	<p>Chair: Greta Albertari</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kevin Fredy Hinterberger &amp; Johannes Peyrl, <i>Enforcing the rights of undocumented migrant workers – right to remuneration and right to stay</i></li> <li>• Bilal Zahoor, <i>Economic migrants and Convention refugees are all refugees: Restrictive Convention definition as contributory factors for precarious and desperate journeys undertaken by economic migrants</i> (on-line)</li> <li>• Oluwaseyi Olawuyi, <i>Advocating for Rights and Dignity of Undocumented Migrants: I4Safe Migration Hub as a Case Study</i></li> </ul>	
Session 11	<b>Panel – Advancing Complementary Implementation of Global Migration Law Instruments</b>	Room: 5A-47
	<p>Chair: Alan Desmond (Leicester University)</p> <p><i>This Panel will be dedicated to the upcoming General Comment no. 6 of the UN Committee on Migrant Workers on the convergence between the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fatima Diallo (Chair, UN Committee on Migrant Workers): 'Importance of GC 6 for states which ratified the ICRMW: how can governments use GC 6 to advance complementary implementation of the GCM and the ICRMW?'</li> <li>• Edgar Corzo Sosa (Expert Member and Former Chair of the UN Committee on Migrant Workers): 'Conclusions of the Convergence between the GCM and the ICRMW'</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vassiliy Yuzhanin (Head of the International Law Unit, IOM Geneva): ‘Importance of GC 6 in the context of wide acceptance of the GCM and its implementing mechanism. How can GC 6 advance better understanding and acceptance of the Convention’</li> <li>• Younous Arbaoui (Assistant professor, VU University Amsterdam): ‘Global Migration Law in Morocco and Egypt: How can governments and civil society increase the cross-fertilization between the GCM and the ICRMW?’</li> </ul>	
Session 12	<b>Panel - Zero-sum game of economic migration: Reconceptualising ‘Integration through Rights’ for Undocumented and Precarious Migrant Workers</b>	Room: 4A-54, Hybrid
	<p>Chair: Sonia Morano-Foadi, Discussant: Moritz Jesse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alezini Loxa, <i>Irregular migration and the internal market: a tale of uneasy bedfellows?</i></li> <li>• Matilde Ventrella, <i>Preventing labour exploitation of undocumented migrants in the UK by adopting a tolerating policy</i></li> <li>• Tamsin Barber &amp; Sonia Morano-Foadi, <i>Shifting Power Dynamics for Vulnerable EU and Asian Citizens Working in the UK – The Struggle Between Rights and Exploitation</i></li> </ul>	
16:45-17:30	<b>Closing Remarks:</b> Mr. Edgar Corzo Sosa, Expert Member and Former Chair of the UN Committee on Migrant Workers	Theatre 3
17:45-21:00	<p>Drinks &amp; Dinner: Botanische Tuin Zuidas <a href="https://botanischetuinzuidas.nl/">https://botanischetuinzuidas.nl/</a> Van der Boechorststraat 8, 1081 BT Amsterdam</p> <p>Location is walking distance from the VU NU Building,</p> <p>Catering by Hart van Syrie, <a href="https://hartvansyrie.nl/">https://hartvansyrie.nl/</a> Halal, vegetarian and vegan options available. Please inform caterers directly of allergies.</p>	Botanische Tuin Zuidas



**Wednesday, 19 June**

Location: Vrije Universiteit, NU Building

9:00-10:30	<p><b>Keynote: Prof. Adelle Blackett, McGill University</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Domestic Workers' Rights Making Through Convention No. 189: Challenging the Transnational to Make Rights a Reality</i></li> </ul> <p>Discussant: Dr. Fatima Diallo, Chair UN Committee on Migrant Workers Moderators: Younous Arbaoui &amp; Jordan Dez</p>	Theatre 3
<i>All-day Workshop</i>	<p><b>Printing Workshop</b></p> <p>Join the BAM Collective and the Right to Create initiative and get your message out! The BAM Collective is a collective of craftsmen and artists without and with the right documents. Through their collective work they draw attention to their situation. Right to Create is a network of activists, thinkers, creatives, content creators without and with the right documents that co-create projects. Bring an old t-shirt and the team will help you put a message on it. The makers will be gathering ideas from the morning keynote and workshops and printing in the afternoon.</p> <p><a href="https://www.instagram.com/the_bam_collective/">https://www.instagram.com/the_bam_collective/</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/righttocreateproductions/">https://www.instagram.com/righttocreateproductions/</a></p>	Global Migration Café
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break	
10:45-12:15	<b>Round 4</b> (Parallel Sessions 13-15)	
Session 13	<p><b>Theater Presentation: FNV Migrant Domestic Workers Theatre Collective: Second-class Citizens in a Globalized World</b></p>	Theatre 3
	<p><i>The programme will consist of a theater play performed by members of the FNV Migrant Domestic Workers Union that will portray the exclusion faced by undocumented migrants, particularly undocumented migrant domestic workers, to be followed by a panel discussion and Q&amp;A between the panel and the audience for policy changes that are needed to rectify this unjust situation.</i></p> <p><i>Panel Discussion:</i> <i>Moderator: Dan Borjal</i> <i>Panel members: Lita Octavia, Joann Reyes and Joy Escano.</i></p>	

Session 14	<b>Panel - Business as usual? Employers' part in protecting the human rights of migrant workers</b>	Room: 6A-52 Hybrid
	<p>Coordinator: Dutch Association for Migration Research (DAMR)  Chair: Tesseltje de Lange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lilana Keith, PICUM, <i>Undocumented workers' rights and complaints mechanisms</i></li> <li>• Bridget Anderson &amp; Eda Yazici, <i>Imagining the employer: new finance capital, migrant workers and employers</i></li> <li>• Iris Goldner Lang &amp; Tesseltje de Lange, <i>Banning products or banning migrant workers: Consumer protection at what cost?</i></li> <li>• Colleen Boland, <i>Navigating digital (hybrid) marketplace labor platforms: Migrant employers and care work in Amsterdam</i></li> </ul>	
Session 15	<b>Workshop – The Role of Municipalities in Making Rights a Reality</b>	Room: 4B-17
	<p>Coordinated by the municipalities of Amsterdam (Anouk van Nuland) &amp; Utrecht (Jan Braat and Niene Oepkes)</p> <p><i>The city of Amsterdam and Utrecht distinguish between two different groups of people without official documents that reside, live and work in the city. This workshop will outline the different schemes and programmes that the cities offer for these two different groups, and will take a look at the position of the local government within the larger framework of stakeholders, and the possibilities and limitations of law and regulations. It will also address challenges encountered and, together with the participants, take a look at what the national developments mean for cities and these groups in the future.</i></p>	
12:15 – 13:15	<p>Lunch</p> <p><b>Working Group on Next Steps: Making Rights Reality Network</b></p> <p>At the conference, we would like to take a decision about the creation of a 'rights-making network'. This would be an international network that could support the work of the UN Committee on Migrant Workers and also support each other with initiatives to make rights a reality. Possible examples of the work of such a network could be connecting researchers to collaborate with organizations, or to collaborate on the submission of shadow reports to national reporting to the Global Compact on Migration. The form, use and purpose of such a network is open for discussion during this working group. Meet in Theatre 3.</p>	Global Migration Café

13:15-14:45	<b>Round 5 (Parallel Sessions 16-19)</b>	
Session 16	<b>Workshop - Negotiating Tricky Situations in Paid Domestic Work</b>	Room: 4A-54
	<p>Coordinators: Jing Hiah &amp; the Nanny Solidarity Network</p> <p><i>Paid domestic work is said to be the fastest growing sector in the platform economy in industrialized countries. However, work in the platform economy is often poorly paid, and lacks legal protection and job security. At the same time, platforms have created new avenues for work and income for (undocumented) migrant workers as well. This brings to the fore various challenges for both workers and their service recipients in negotiating fair working relations and conditions. Ever thought about how to fairly negotiate working relations and conditions in receiving or providing services in cleaning/caring? This workshop addresses various tricky situations that both workers and employers/families encounter while they navigate the digitalized labor market.</i></p>	
Session 17	<b>Panel - The impact of micro-social realities of labour migration for the construction of new international strategies of working together for NGOs</b>	Room: 5A-47, <b>Hybrid</b> Bi-lingual Spanish/English Panel
	<p>Coordinators: <a href="#">Siempre NGO</a> Translation: Irene Manganini, Mónica Ávila Cúrras</p> <p><i>This panel proposes to establish a dialogue and exchange of experiences between the participants based on their experiences as migrants and as scholars of the subject.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rosa Denis and Thamara Cruz, <i>The Resilience of Migrant Women Who Work in Essential Jobs and the Inequalities They Face</i></li> <li>• Elia Catalina Cruz Barajas, <i>Work visas for humanitarian reasons do not stop migrant caravans</i></li> <li>• In memory of the late Dr. Jean Cadet Odimba OnEtambalako Wetshokonda, his paper <i>The Role of NGOs in Compliance with Labor Rights of Undocumented Migrant Workers</i>, will be presented on-line by his colleague, Dr. Víctor Alfonso Zertuche Cobos</li> </ul>	
Session 18	<b>Presentation from IDWF in Organizing MDWs Worldwide: Experiences in Asia, Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and North America</b>	Room: 2B-18, <b>Hybrid</b>

	<p>Coordinator: Bariyah, International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF)  Chair: Lalaine Siruno (in-person)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Reports from the IDWF Sister Organizations in Asia, Latin America and Africa (on-line)</li> </ul>	
Session 19	<b>Panel – Civil Society in Labour Organizing</b>	Room: 4A-45 Bi-lingual French/English
	<p>Chair &amp; Translation: Thomas Spijkerboer, Laura-Camille Cyr</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fatma Raach, <i>Analysis of the institutionalized and informal solidarities towards migrants in Tunisia: The solidarity a way out of humiliation</i></li> <li>Ilse van Liempt, Minke Hajer, Anna Ensing &amp; Maria Brugueta (FAIRWORK), <i>Exclusion as Default: The legal and policy dynamics around the production of irregular migration in the Netherlands</i></li> <li>Franck Iyanga, <i>The Experience and Role of a Migrant Union in the Defense and Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers: Case of Morocco (l'Experience et Role d'un Syndicat Des Migrants Dans la Defense et la Protection Des Droits Des Travailleurs Migrants: Cas du Maroc)</i></li> </ul>	
14:45-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	<b>Round 6 (Parallel Sessions 20-23)</b>	
Session 20	<b>Panel - Making Access to Healthcare</b>	Room: 4A-45
	<p>Chair: Michel Klein</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marijke Bijl, The importance and possibilities of embedding in regular care and (public) responsibility</li> <li>Morgan, Andrzej, Saidi &amp; Michel, <i>Breaking Barriers! An AI-powered chatbot for Inclusive Healthcare for Undocumented Migrant Communities</i></li> <li>Anna Kompatscher, <i>The right to healthcare for Undocumented Workers in Germany, France, Italy</i></li> </ul>	
Session 21	<b>Panel – Intersecting Struggles, Intersecting Movements</b>	Room: 4A-54

	<p>Chair: Yasmina Yatti</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dionysia Kang, <i>Bordered by Integration: A contextualisation of precarious labour, punishment, governance of the racially othered in Finland</i>"</li> <li>• Khadija Elmadmad, <i>Undocumented Women, Children and Disabled Migrant Workers Multiple Vulnerabilities and the Need for Several Protections: The Case of Morocco</i></li> <li>• Kamal Kithsiri Karunadasa Hewawasam Revulge, <i>Explanatory historical analysis of Australian oppression of Aboriginals that links to their current migration laws</i></li> <li>• Jelle Klaas, PILP (formerly, the Public Interest Litigation Project), <i>Movement Lawyering</i></li> </ul>	
Session 22	<b>Panel – Refusing Undocumented Migrant’s Labour Devaluation</b>	Room: 2B-18
	<p>Chair: Liberty Chee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jasmin Lilian Diab, <i>Echoes of (In)justice in a Culture of Impunity: Barriers to Legal Access for Ethiopian Migrant Workers in Lebanon</i></li> <li>• Jordan Dez, <i>Domestic Worker Rights-making Between Migrant Associations and Trade Union</i></li> <li>• Leila Faghfour Azar, <i>Resisting the Neo-Colonial Politics of Labour Dispossession: Unionisation of Illegalised Migrant Workers in Europe</i></li> </ul>	
Session 23	<b>Workshop - Worker-driven Social Responsibility: An Effective Mechanism for Protecting Migrant Workers’ Rights</b>	Room: 5A-47 <b>Hybrid</b> Bi-lingual Spanish/English
	<p>Coordinators: Rafaela Rodriguez, the Worker-driven Social Responsibility Network; Migrant Justice/Justicia Migrante</p> <p><i>The Worker-driven Social Responsibility model is based on six interconnected principles, bringing together worker-driven codes of conduct, binding agreements between brands at the top of supply chains, and worker-driven enforcement. A holistic combination of worker education coupled with a 24/7 complaint support line and comprehensive independent monitoring results in a mechanism that is trusted by workers – and aligned with the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights. Together, these mechanisms underpin programs that are gaining global recognition as a powerful new paradigm for protecting workers’ fundamental human rights in corporate supply chains. The first iteration of the WSR model was the Fair Food</i></p>	

	<i>Program, which was forged by the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and protects tens of thousands of farmworkers across the US, Chile, and South Africa. As we think collectively about effective instruments to protect migrant workers, we must look to the WSR model as a way to use the power of businesses and employers to protect this precarious workforce.</i>	
16:45-17:30	<b>Drinks &amp; Snacks</b> <b>Closing Remarks:</b> Younous Arbaoui & Jordan Dez on Next Steps Niels Tubbing, Senior Advisor to the Mayor of Amsterdam on European & International Social Affairs	Global Migration Café/Theatre 3

