



Laboratory for the course: “International migration and immigration policies”

Title: Civil society, associationism and solidarity practices in the migration and refugee field: perspectives, criticisms and experiences.

Lecturers: Maurizio Artero; Samuele Molli

Number of participants: max. 30

Programme and aim:

In the last few years, civil society actors (e.g., voluntary organizations, churches, trade unions, social movements, anti-discrimination coalitions, and even private citizens) have become central to the governance of migrations and refugees. In various national contexts, they have played different roles by intermediating needs and providing services as well as by challenging unfavorable public policies. Based on case studies and theoretical discussions, the laboratory will introduce major themes characterizing this evolving panorama. It will present key factors that make civil society and solidarity associations important actors for migrants and refugees, but also consider elements of the critical debate surrounding their activities. In particular, the laboratory will address questions such as the definition of civil society; the types of debordering actions of civil society; the evolution of solidarity practices in the face of recent crises; the impact of antidiscrimination juridical advocacy; the politicization of pro-migrant volunteering; the role of religious purposes and of new faith-based communities as supportive intermediaries in cities; and the improvised initiatives of private citizens during the ‘refugee crisis’.

Practical Info: The Lab will take place every Friday between 26/1/2024 and 15/3/2024 (with the exception of 16/2/2023; 7 lessons in total), from 9:30 to 12:30 a.m., at "Aula Seminario Passione", via Conservatorio 7. It is open to the attending students of Prof. Ambrosini's courses "Immigration Policies" and "International Migration and Immigration Policies". To enroll, drop an email with your name and the name of your graduate program to maurizio.artero@unimi.it and samuele.molli@unimi.it. The time window for the application runs from 15/1/2024 to 25/1/2024. Only the first 30 requests will be accepted.

Evaluation: In order to successfully complete the laboratory, students are required to be present in class. A single absence is approved. The lab will assign students individual grades on the basis of 3,000-word essays they compose independently. Interactions that occur during courses will also be factored into the individual grade. Students will be accompanied during the essay-writing process; they will receive guidance and support throughout the writing process. The lab score will be incorporated into the final evaluation of Prof. Ambrosini's standard exam