

Third Civilizations Forum

Global Mobilities: Civility, Multiple Narratives and Contentious Politics



27-29 OCTOBER 2023

**Alliance of Civilizations Institute, Ibn Haldun University
Suleymaniye, Istanbul**

Mobility studies research has witnessed a rise in the last decades, expanding the examination of the movements of people, objects, and information and their complex relational dynamics. At the heart of this research lies the question of civility, the relation between local and global dynamics, and questions of representation, contentious politics, social mobility, and violence.

In our new round of Civilizations Forum 2023, we will discuss not only physical movement but also blocked movement, mobilization, immobilization, dwelling and place-making, political change and tensions that lead to violence, and the negotiation of new paradigms of thought across place. Through the lens of (im)mobility, mobility studies can address the evolution of social hierarchies, dominant ideas, hegemonic cultural regimes, and the devolution of social orders—from violence to chaos. A nuanced understanding of mobility is integral to recognizing the changing role of the state in effective sovereignty, hegemonic practices, war-making and establishing new borders, changing economic regimes, knowledge exchange, and the struggles for global justice.

A political theory of movement is also in the making. In light of mobility studies' empirical research, researchers can examine movement as a constitutive political relation. Kinetic politics is a significant conceptual development for this research area, as kinetic politics are linked to traffic infrastructure and urban planning. Kinetic politics are also connected to critical security studies, which raises the possibility of a fuller understanding of movement on national and global levels.

The relationship between mobility studies and critical security studies not only provides a holistic, interdisciplinary framework to better grasp global changes, but also allows us to see that we should examine different patterns of migration, such as forced displacement, repatriation, and travel for work and leisure across history and civilizations.

Diverse mobility networks, infrastructures, and circulations shape lived environments' geography and materiality. New civic virtues— as well as vices—emerge.

This forum will give special attention to the MENA region and its prolonged conflicts, contentious politics, and transformations of the urban space.

The Alliance of Civilizations Institute invites scholars and early career researchers interested in studying the different civic aspects of global mobility to a two-day conference in Istanbul. We specifically welcome contributions that draw the connections between civilization and mobility broadly. Contributors are invited to submit proposals around the following intersecting lines of investigation:

- Framing global mobilities (comparative studies)
- Comparative history of mobilities
- Borders, mobility, and technology (visa regimes, securitization of borders)
- Mobility of ideas (genealogy of concepts, terms, modern disciplines, translation)
- De/reterritorialization of regulative and/or sovereign power (conflicts and remapping of land)
- Forced displacement and politics of settlement: between hospitality and hate speech

- From center to periphery: migrating to nature and the noble savage.
- Territories of contested sovereignty: governing mobilities
- Sovereignty, security, and (im)mobility
- Mobility, mobilization, and collective action
- Mobility and politics of representation in cinema and literature • The city: connectedness, circulation and contention
- Mobility, national interests, and the global labor market • The economy of time
- Narratives of mobility in literature and visual arts
- Multiple Diasporas
- Digital platforms and mobility of knowledge
- Networks of knowledge production, and academic mobility
- Economies of mobility, high finance and global development

Scientific Committee:

Armando Salvatore: *McGill University (Canada).*

Sari Hanafi: *American University of Beirut (Lebanon).*

Jan Art Scholte: *Leiden University (Netherlands).*

Vahdettin Isik: *Alliance of Civilizations Institute, Ibn Haldun University.*

Ramazan Aras: *Ibn Haldun University.*

Ercument Asil: *Ibn Haldun University.*

Coordinator: Heba Raouf Ezzat, Ph.D.

Dates:

July 15, 2023: Submission deadline for abstract (300 words)

July 25, 2023: Selected abstracts announced

September 30, 2023: First draft submission (3500-4000 words)

Email: civ2023@ihu.edu.tr

The Forum is organized in conjunction with a workshop hosted by MEDIT on 'The Urban and Local Dimensions of Political Violence in Syria and the Middle East' in coordination with:

- Syria Urban Research Project (SUR Project),
- Beirlyut Urban Lab/ The American University in Beirut

The overlapping topics will be contentious politics/political violence, dataset-based mapping and spatial analysis, and urban connectivity infrastructures.

* A limited budget is allocated for travel and accommodation costs for international participants. Once an outline is accepted, an application can be submitted for budget allocation purposes.



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