

Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS)

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Call for Papers

TITLE: The Diasporean

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Expected publication date: June 2022

Background

The UN International Organisation on Migration (IOM) regularly provides snapshots of global statistics on migration trends. According to IOM, in 2017 there were 258 million migrants globally - people residing in a country other than their country of birth, representing 3.4% of the world's total population. Of these, 14% were children and 48.8% women. There were also another 50 million illegal immigrants worldwide in 2009. This is in addition to 2.5 million migrants who were smuggled for an economic return of USD 5.5-7 billion in 2016. Within OECD regions alone, 5 million people were reported to be foreign born persons in 2016. The same year, there were 4.8 million international students across the world. Moreover, there were about 150.3 million migrant workers globally in 2015. The same year, 66 million adults or 1.3% of the world's adult population, had plans to move permanently to another country in the next 12 months.

With regard to finance outflows, \$466 billion remittances were sent to low- and middle-income countries in 2017, more than the official development assistance provided to those countries. Comparatively, in 2015 alone, migrants contributed \$6.7 trillion US dollars to global GDP – a share of 9.4% of the total global GDP that year. It is also documented that 68.5 million individuals were forcibly displaced worldwide from their homes due to persecution, conflict, generalised violence, human rights violations, disasters, or other reasons by the end of 2017. Another 25.4 million of the migrants were refugees in the same year. In 2016, 6,163 individuals lost their lives during migration. Additionally, that same year, there were 25 million victims of forced labour worldwide. The same year, there were 72,176 migrants that were willing to be helped to voluntarily return to their home country.

Situating the Diaspora Question

The above statistics demonstrate that international migration continues to pose great challenges as well as opportunities due to many factors including globalisation. It is clear though that due to its multi-dimensional nature and complexity, it requires robust policy and practical interventions to manage the Diaspora phenomenon in both humane and profitable manners for the common global public good.

With reference to employment opportunities, there is need to develop pragmatic, forward-looking strategies to ensure that the global community of nations reposition themselves strategically to attract and retain productive human capital in professional and technical fields. This will help leverage the collective value of the Diaspora for the greater international good. For the purposes of the upcoming book with two volumes, Diaspora means the dispersion or spread of any people from their country of origin for various reasons including but not limited to: education, job opportunities, persecutions, diplomatic postings, nature and social disasters, amongst others.

The book is divided into two volumes:

Vol 1- The Diasporean: International Perspectives

Vol 2- The Diasporean: South African Perspectives

The two volumes are conceived from an inter/multi/trans/cross disciplinary perspective. Both theoretical and empirical papers are welcome. Chapters that particularly provide a narrative of lived experiences using phenomenological paradigms are especially welcome.

Structured abstracts of 150 – 300 but not more than 1000 words, to include: author and affiliation (including email), Context; Objectives; Statement of the problem; Theories; Literature review; Research methodology; Results; Contribution to relevant body of knowledge; Recommendations and five key words are welcome.

The abstract will be previewed and accepted before authors are invited to commence the writing of the chapter. Authors are advised to work within the timelines provided below under ‘suggested timeframes’.

The idea to write a book on Diaspora experiences was conceived by the late Katie Musungu Mutula who was pursuing a doctoral degree in international economics in the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa.

Conceptual Framing

The thematic focus on Diaspora is conceptually framed from inter/multi/trans/cross disciplinary context perspectival lenses. including theories of Diaspora cultural identities, theories of globalisation, global social theory, critical race theory, phenomenological models, the Balassa model, and Superdiversity, among others. This is because, not all the intractable problems on international mobility and migration associated with the Diaspora are amenable to single disciplinary perspectives. The book chapters are to be written from either theoretical, empirical and lived experiences perspectives to contribute to the co-creation of knowledge on Diaspora while bridging the gap between research and practice. The book is aimed at scholars,

the academe, students, international partners, business, civil society, government, industry and also non-professionals who wish to relate their personal experiences in the Diaspora.

Topics and themes for articles of between 6000 and 8000 words for this volume can be drawn from but are not limited to:

Cultural identities, Diaspora integration/reintegration, multicultural justice, diversity, human capital development, global migration trends, international economic policies, immigration policies, brain drain/rain, technology and skills transfer, trans-border data flow, transnationalism, gender and religion, education, social justice, Diaspora remittances, trans-border finance flows, cybersecurity in Diasporic activities, regional and global development policies for migration, North-South cooperation/collaboration, labour/employment relations, migration and the international division of labour, human rights, conflicts, cross-border social and business networks, ethnicity, languages, migration of indigenous knowledge systems, international trade and investments, internationalisation, diplomacy, global ethics, Diaspora communities, fourth industrial revolution impact on Diaspora, access to credit and social amenities, refugees, racism/xenophobia, African Diaspora, new theories from global South, social and public policies, international relations, globalisation, regionalisation, impact of university ranking on students and faculty mobility, decolonisation and indigenisation, cross-border crime, digital divide, economic integration, knowledge economy, impact of models of industrialisation and education on Diaspora, impact of migration and immigration on the natural environment, food security, Diaspora safety and security, displacement, trafficking and modern slavery, youth and children in the Diaspora, cross-border and national migration governance, governance of global value chains, Diasporic spiritual realities and epistemologies, impact of migration on urbanisation, impact of migration on rural development and governance.

Topics and abstracts, and full articles should be sent to our contacts below:

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Dr. Rose Mboya: mujilarose@yahoo.com

Suggested Timeframes:

- 30 August 2021 Deadline for submission of topic and provisional abstract
- 15 September 2021 Final date for acceptance of topics and abstracts
- 30 December 2021 Submission of accepted chapters
- 28 February 2022 Return of peer reviewed chapters
- 30 April 2022 Submission of final versions of all chapters
- 30 May 2022 Final proof reading and desk copy editing, phase
- 30 June 2022 Publication

ALTERNATION AFRICAN SCHOLARSHIP BOOK SERIES (AASBS)

The *Alternation African Scholarship Book series*, is a fully accredited, peer-reviewed inter- and trans-disciplinary South African Department of Higher Education and Training series.

Its editor-in-chief is Prof J.A. Smit, former Dean and Head of School, School of Religion, Philosophy and Classics, and School of Arts (Acting), and Prof Nobuhle Ndimande-Hlongwa,

Dean of Arts, and former Dean (Teaching and Learning), UKZN, and published at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, on the College of Humanities Open Access platform.

All chapters are subject to peer-review by at least two independent peer reviewers. The full book volume, as well as individual chapters, that pass the review process, and that are accepted for publication, will be published online, at:

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For any queries about the AASBS, please do not hesitate to contact Prof. J.A. Smit smitj@ukzn.ac.za, or Prof. Nobuhle Ndimande-Hlongwa, Hlongwan1@ukzn.ac.za

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