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## Editorial

Jeffrey H. Cohen <sup>‡</sup>

The increasingly xenophobic tone in national dialogues around migration render human movement difficult to study and impossible to predict. Xenophobe are not interested in the challenges that movers face, they would rather emphasize fear and argue migrants will steal jobs, refugees will abuse resources and take advantage of federal support systems. For the xenophobic, migration are criminals and refugees are terrorists and both groups hide in broad daylight and chipping away at shared Western cultural traditions and values while they celebrate civilizations collapse. In response to the xenophobes of the world, there are others who argue for acceptance and tolerance. They advocate for migrants and for refugees who they often assume lack any ability to help themselves.

Migrants are not criminals, refugees are not terrorists. Yet, neither the xenophobe nor the tolerant effectively captures the realities that challenge movers.

In fact, the debates surrounding migration, refugees and asylees are not really about movers, migrations or settlement. Rather, the debates reflect the position of whomever is speaking. The authors collected in this issue of *Migration Letters* look beyond the debates that rage around which countries face the worst crises, the qualities that characterize “good” migrants and the assumption that refugees are by definition dangerous and instead embrace the facts that define migration, refugee movements and put aside the debates.

*Migration Letters* is committed to understanding migration and cutting through the bias of nationalists, xenophobes and critics who would rank migrants according to the mythical assumption that they will steal jobs, deal drugs, threaten the peace and overwhelm national harmony. Rethinking migration and driving the growth of theory, we recognize the adaptive

The diverse papers presented in this issue of *Migration Letters* continue to celebrate our goal to serve as both a destination for, and inspiration to research in migration. The international scholars gathered in these papers are focused on refugees; the value and meaning of social networks for movers and the second-generation; the challenges of the border to status, work and belonging; remittance practices and entrepreneurship, as well as concerns for methods and the presentation of data.

Omata, Bauhn, Ellis, Hyokki, and Sert detail the challenges facing refugees as they negotiate their status vis-à-vis their destination communities (Bauhn, Ellis); establish new livelihoods (Omata) belonging (Hyokki) and property rights (Sert). A second set of articles bring a critical eye to the role social networks play in the negotiation of daily life and around health (Munoz and

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<sup>‡</sup> Professor Jeffrey H. Cohen, Department of Anthropology, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, United States. E-mail: [cohen.319@osu.edu](mailto:cohen.319@osu.edu).



Collazo); schooling (Ivashinenko); citizenship (Privara), and the second-generation (Tewolde and Freyer). An emphasis on the challenges of internal as well as international borders and crossing is followed through the articles by Koca (EU policy), Cangià (immigrants to Switzerland), To and Qi (working in China). Focused on remittances, labour and entrepreneurship are the articles by Petreski (working in Macedonia) and Linter. Methodology is a central concern to papers by Lacroix and Zufferey who rethink the use of a “life-course” approach to migration and Herda who explores how citizens perceive and more importantly misperceive immigrant populations. The volume ends with a report by Aytug and Daly on the December 2018 conference: Politics, Policies and Diplomacy of Diaspora Governance: New Directions in Theory and Research.

