



V4 Net

Call for Papers

Migration and the generational experience

Presently, there are a vast array of tools for disseminating information originating from different locations and times. Everything from text and interpretations, to images, as well as entire sequences of events captured by cameras or mobile phones can be transmitted quickly through time and space. It appears the need to communicate past and present events is so great that many people focus more on capturing an event to transferable mediums than on experiencing it. Teams of professionals, as well as millions of amateurs are working on transferring information globally using increasingly technologically advanced tools. Despite this, the work of ethnographers shows that these mediated perceptions and avalanches of information only partially influence the personal experience embodied at a certain time and particular place connected with specific peoples and contexts. While the influences of the social, geographical, and cultural environments have been permanently a part of the sociological and social anthropological discourse, the generational experience less so. The works of Mauss' *Les Techniques du Corps* (1935) or the anthropology of experiences of Victor Turner and Edward M. Bruner being exceptions.

While the main directions of sociology and anthropology have paid little attention to generational experience, for theorists of migration and adaptation strategies to new environments, generational optics has long been an important instrument. Often, generational breakdowns were used to examine adaptation and integration mechanisms, and it was assumed that second and third generation migrants had different prerequisites for integration into the new environment than the first generation. The generational experience has also proven important in studying the relationship of migrants to their countries of origin. For example, in *Diasporic Generations of 2011*, Louisa Berg of the Cubans in Spain shows that individual generations of refugees from Cuba to Spain perceive the homeland differently and have a different experience with it.



Minor examples of generational experiences open up many issues such as:

- generational differences in experiencing the new environment
- generational experience with the place of origin
- generational differences in distance perception
- generational perception of social and cultural differences
- generational experience with states appropriate and inappropriate for migration
- generational differences in perception of changes in identity, nationality, citizenship, otherness, and cosmopolitanism
- generational difference in media usage for remote communication and migration without migrating
- generational differences in discussions of what “kind” of migration is appropriate in receiving countries

Often, a generational view of migration issues makes sense only if embedded in a broader professional or social context. Of course, combinations of approaches to the generational experience are welcomed.

Your suggestions for contributions, titles and abstracts (250 words) should be sent by June 25, 2019, at email address: zdenek.uherek@fsv.cuni.cz and lucie.vonavkova@fsv.cuni.cz (use both addresses, please). The Conference Committee will make its selection by July 15, 2019.

Conference term:

September 24 - 25, 2019

The travel and accommodation costs of all presenters will be covered by the organizers (arrival day: 23rd September; departure: 26th September).

Information about V4Net can be found under the following address:
https://www.eth.mpg.de/4607479/news_2017_10_13_01