

## Book Review

**Bloch, N. & Adams, K. M. (Eds.). (2023). *Intersections of tourism, migration, and exile*. Routledge. 274 Pages**

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This edited volume is an important contribution to the studies of contemporary human mobilities. It is among the first projects that empirically explore and systematically analyze the entanglements between different forms of human mobilities, particularly tourism, migration and exile. The book consists of an introductory chapter, 11 empirical case study chapters, and a postscript chapter. The introduction by Kathleen M. Adams and Natalia Bloch questions existing conceptual frameworks that classify human mobilities by time (short-term vs. long-term), voluntariness (by choice vs. by force) and motivation (work vs. pleasure, economic vs. relaxation, production-led vs. consumption-led). Challenging the conventional separation of tourism, migration and exile studies, Bloch and Adams postulates that in reality the boundaries between these forms of mobilities are blurry and people's spatial movements are complex. They emphasize mixed and multiple motivations of mobile people as well as the entangled nature of their movements, for example, temporary stays get protracted, tourism and activism are intertwined, and refugees and economic migrants can be overlapping. They also point out the engagement of migrants in tourism entrepreneurship and the way in which tourist space constitutes a contact zone where different groups of people interact, forging relationship and leading to migration. Mobility categories are also crosscut when migrants engage in

tourism activities during temporary visits in the place they came from and when refugees and migrants—both low-and high-skills—take on the tourist subjectivity exploring and enjoying a new place they move to.

Case studies in empirical chapters are well chosen to elucidate the key message of the book with cases ranging from the intersection of migration and tourism between Denmark and Cuba, the surveillance of Vietnamese exile diaspora and their return migration, the shifting status of Sahrawee children from refugees to students to economic migrants in Spain, refugee tourism in Bethlehem, Palestine, the overlap between activism and tourism during the refugee crisis in Serbia, migrant workers in Panama's tourism sector and their own tourism activities, the intersection of tourism, cross-border marriage, and retirement migration in Thailand, empowering urban migrant community in European cities through tourism, the martial art of Capoeira and mobilities to and from Brazil, the intersection between work and leisure among Swedish professionals, and the blurry boundaries between economics, tourism and lifestyle migration among investor visa holders in Portugal.

The mobility framework (Urry 2007, Shelly and Urry 2006) informs this project as the book delves into the intersection of multiple forms and multidirectional paths of human's spatial movements. What makes the book stands out, however, is the emphasis on the 'global mobility regime', the way in which human mobilities are categorized, regulated, controlled, and channeled by powerful institutions, particularly the nation state, in the context of global capitalism, resulting in hierarchies and inequalities among differential im/mobile subjects. The migration regime imposes fixed mobility classifications through visa types and migration/refugee statuses on people whose mobilities and subjectivities are complex, crosscutting tourism, economics, lifestyle, family making and maintaining, migration, education, work and leisure.

While critical analysis of colonialism, race, and citizenship (of global South vs. global North countries) are well covered in this project, gender is not given as much attention. Gender is underlying and embedded in mobilities for family reunification, parents' migration for young children's education, cases of dependent/derivative migration/refugee statuses, and marriage migration. In addition, being male and female, as well as non-gender binary, shapes one's mobility subject and pathways in a very important way. Feminist concepts of care and intimacy can also shed light on gendered interactions in tourism space, between and hospitality workers and tourists, where the boundaries between customers/friends, or even boyfriends/girlfriends are blurry.

### References

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