

Call for Papers for an interdisciplinary workshop on *Social Class and Mobility*

Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

24 September 2026

The Centre for Migration Law (CMR) and the Radboud University Network on Migrant Inclusion (RUNOMI) are organizing an interdisciplinary workshop exploring the interplay between migration and social class on 24 September 2026.

While scholars have been increasingly paying attention to the role social class plays in the lives of people on the move, it remains an area warranting further exploration (Shachar 2021). Although migration scholarship has extensively examined the role that characteristics such as race, gender, ethnicity and religion play when it comes to spatial and social (im)mobility, social class has remained comparatively underexplored (Van Hear 2014; Bonjour and Chauvin 2018; Khourshed et al. 2019; Ellermann 2020; Pearlman 2020; Hunkler et al. 2022). This workshop addresses the question of how social class and social networks (e.g. social capital) shape migrants' trajectories (from pre- to post-migration) and affect belonging, inequality, and 'integration'.

Suggestions for themes and topics

We invite theoretical and empirical papers from different disciplines (law, political science, sociology, history, etc.) that may relate to, but are not limited to, the following issues:

- How social class affects migration opportunities, trajectories and access to legal status, and resources post-migration.
- The intersection of social categories, such as class, gender, ethnicity, and the production of differentiated opportunities and experiences of people on the move.
- The relationship between social class and the distinction between migrants working in 'high-skilled' and 'low-skilled' jobs.
- The role legal status plays in shaping access to rights and social mobility after migration.
- How social class affects belonging and participation.



The workshop intends to bring together migration scholars from various academic backgrounds. We welcome researchers at any stage of their career. Both national and comparative studies are welcome.

Submission Guidelines

Paper abstracts should be about 500 words in length and include a title, the aim, central question(s), methods, and key findings. Please send your abstract and a short biography of the author(s) to dr. Abduhalim Albakkor (abduhalim.albakkor@ru.nl) and Nesli Soylu (nesli.soylu@ru.nl). A selection of the presented papers will be part of a Special Issue proposal for a peer-reviewed international journal.

Deadline for submitting an abstract: 15 May 2026

Information on selection: 29 May 2026

The seminar will take place at the Centre for Migration Law of the Radboud University in Nijmegen, the Netherlands on 24 September 2026. In principle, the workshop will take place 'offline', but an option for online participation might be provided in special circumstances.

We have limited funds available to cover travel and accommodation costs. Contact Abduhalim Albakkor (abduhalim.albakkor@ru.nl) to inquire about possibilities.

Attending the workshop will automatically grant participants the opportunity to attend this year's annual conference of the Dutch Association for Migration Research (DAMR), which will take place at Radboud University on 25 September 2026.

The workshop, which is funded by RUNOMI and the Dutch Research Council (NWO), takes place within the framework of the Migration Class Nexus project at Radboud University, in which the following researchers are involved: dr. Ricky van Oers (project leader), prof. Ashley Terlouw, dr. Abduhalim Albakkor (post-doctoral researcher) and Nesli Soylu (PhD researcher). The project examines how social class shapes migrants' mobility and legal status, and how legal status, in turn, affects their socio-economic position. The workshop is further organized in collaboration with dr. Giacomo Solano (Senior Assistant Professor in Migrant Inclusion at the Nijmegen School of Management, Department of Economics and Business Economics).

