# NATIONAL EMN CONFERENCE 2020

**Forecasting the Future of Global Migration**

29 September 2020, 09:00 – 17:00  
Haus der Ingenieure, Eschenbachgasse 9, 1010 Vienna, Austria and Online

Conference Language: English

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<td>08:30 – 09:00</td>
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| 09:00 – 09:30 | Welcome and Opening  
Tobias Molander, Head of International Migration, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Austria  
Marian Benbow Pfisterer, Head of the Country Office for Austria, IOM  
Keynote Speech  
Elizabeth Collett, Special Adviser to IOM Director General, IOM |

## PART I  
Migration Forecasts and Scenarios: Assessing the State of Play of Predictive Migration Research

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| 09:30 – 10:00 | Overview of Existing Models and Approaches to Anticipate Migration  
Approaches to predict future migration offer an array of possibilities to apply lessons from past developments to policy decisions. This presentation will introduce the basic concepts of migration forecasting and will highlight the purposes and time horizons of different predictive methods.  
Rhea Ravenna Sohst, University of Luxembourg/IOM Global Migration Data Analysis Centre |
| 10:00 – 11:15 | Snapshots of Migration Predictions  
A comprehensive understanding of the nature of future migration requires a multitude of perspectives and a comparative analysis of findings generated by forecasts, narrative scenario studies and big data analyses. This session will provide insights into key findings of recent forecasts and scenario studies.  
1. Forecasting International Migration: Dealing with Uncertainty Across a Range of Time Horizons  
   Jakub Bijak, Professor of Statistical Demography, University of Southampton  
2. Scenario Studies and Expert Judgement  
   Susanne Melde, Senior Analyst, IOM Global Migration Data Analysis Centre  
3. An Innovative Approach: Using Online Search Data to Predict Migration  
   André Gröger, Assistant Professor of Economics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona |
| 11:15 – 11:45 | Coffee Break                                                           |
| 11:45 – 13:00 | Predicting Migration and the Implications on Europe  
This session will identify common components of future migration trends to Europe and challenges of accurately predicting migration, particularly in view of unexpected events such as COVID-19.  
1. The Future of Migration to and within Europe - Plausible Scenarios  
   Rainer Münz, Migration Expert, JRC KCMD, European Commission  
2. Latest Trends and Future Developments in Europe  
   Holger Fabian Sahl, Strategic Analyst, Frontex  
3. How to Interpret the Results of Forecasts in View of Uncertainty  
   Petra Bendel, Chair of the Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration  
4. COVID-19 and Future Migration Flows  
   Tobias Heidland, Senior Researcher, Kiel Institute for the World Economy |
### Part II

**Migration Predictions and Proactive Migration Management**

| 14:00 – 15:30 | The Nexus between Predictions and Policy Making  
The results of migration forecasts and scenarios do not easily translate into policy recommendations and decision-making, with uncertainty as an important challenge. This session will explore the extent to which predictive methods have been used to inform policy decisions and how policy has influenced migration forecasting. |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               | 1. How Unexpected Events Shape Policy Outcomes  
Michael Clemens, Director of Migration, Displacement, and Humanitarian Policy and Senior Fellow, Center for Global Development |
|               | 2. The EU’s Efforts in Providing up-to-date Forecasts for Policy Making  
Teddy Wilkin, Head of Data Analysis and Research Sector, EASO |
|               | 3. Applying Forecasts at National Level: The Case of Germany  
Britta Behrendt, Head of Division General Migration, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany |
|               | 4. Preparing for Uncertain Migration Futures  
Mathias Czaika, Head of Department for Migration and Globalization, Danube University Krems |

| 15:30 – 16:00 | Coffee Break |

| 16:00 – 17:00 | The Future of Migration Forecasting  
A concluding panel will explore different options to prepare for future migration patterns to Europe. Special attention will be placed on effective communication strategies, which are important to translate forecasts and scenarios into sustainable migration management. Panelists will also discuss the role of forecasting in managing the external migration policy dimension |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               | 1. The Way Forward for National and European Policy Making  
Tobias Molander, Head of International Migration, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Austria |
|               | 2. Forecasting based on Artificial Intelligence  
Zsuzsanna Felkai-Janssen, Head of Sector for Migration (DG Home) and DG Coordinator for Artificial Intelligence, European Commission |
|               | 3. Dealing with Uncertainty in Migration Management  
Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head of the International Migration Division, OECD |

| 17:00 – 18:00 | Reception at the Haus der Ingenieure |

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The conference language is English. Please note that translation from English to German will not be provided. With your participation, you agree with the publication of photos, videos or audio recordings taken during this event. For more information on the conference, please visit [www.emn.at/en](http://www.emn.at/en).