



Refugee Futures

10–12 September 2009

Monash University Prato Centre

Foreword

Refugee Futures is the fourth in a Series of Conferences which the Metropolis Project, the Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements and the Australian Multicultural Foundation have hosted at the wonderful Monash Centre in Prato. The first three – Multicultural Futures, Immigration Futures and Integration Futures – were highly successful, and widely read publications ensued from them.

The Refugee Futures Conference features a very distinguished list of scholars, policy makers, administrators and community representatives. Of particular importance to the focus of the Conference will be the future environment that those involved in the strategic management of refugee flows will face; the challenges of resettlement policy; issues concerning refugees, crime and security; environmental refugees; the future of refugee children; and regional and forthcoming general challenges in refugee policy.

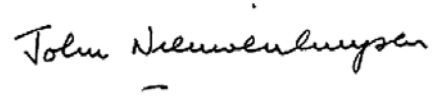
The Metropolis Project, the Australian Multicultural Foundation, and Monash University are delighted once more to be joint partners in this Conference. As with the previous three joint venture events, we are sure that it will be stimulating and instructive for those who attend, and will also produce published outputs of lasting value and influence.



Dr Howard Duncan
Executive Head
Metropolis Project, Canada



Dr Hass Dellal OAM
Executive Director
Australian Multicultural Foundation



Professor John Nieuwenhuysen AM
Director
Monash Institute for the Study of
Global Movements

Conference Program Outline

Pre-conference – Thursday 10 September 2009

- 5:30pm** **Cocktail Reception**
Monash University Prato Centre
- 6:00 – 6:20pm** **Official welcome and opening**
The Hon Amanda Vanstone Australian Ambassador to Italy
Dott.ssa Eleonora Maffei Prefeto, Prefettura di Prato (Chief Officer, Prefecture of Prato)
Chair: Professor Loretta Baldassar Director, Monash University Prato Centre
- 7:00pm** **Close**

Day 1 – Friday 11 September 2009

- 8:30 – 9:00am** **Registration**
- 9:00 – 9:15am** **Welcoming remarks**
Dr Hass Dellal OAM Executive Director, Australian Multicultural Foundation
Dr Howard Duncan Executive Head, Metropolis Project Canada
Chair: Professor Loretta Baldassar Director, Monash University Prato Centre
- 9:15 – 11:00am** **Session 1 – The Future for Refugees**
In this session, we will look at the future environment that those involved in the strategic management of refugee flows will face and ideas, perhaps radical, for solving the problems that the international community will face with regard to refugees and displaced persons.

Professor Mario Morcone Department of Immigration and Civil Rights, Ministry of Interior, Italy
Erika Feller UNHCR
Commentary: Professor Howard Adelman Griffith University
Chair: Professor Tyrone Pretorius Monash South Africa
- 11:00 – 11:30am** **Morning tea**
- 11:30 – 1:00pm** **Session 2 – Protracted Refugee Situations: a Long-Term Future?**
The global refugee context is increasingly being characterized as having fewer refugee situations overall, but with existing situations involving more people and much longer durations. The international community, led by the UNHCR, has been making progress in understanding this new context, and also in developing solutions to specific refugee situations. But are we to expect protracted refugee situations to continue, even to grow in number? Will short term refugee situations become increasingly protracted as solutions elude the international community? Why have refugee situations become protracted? Why have solutions to existing protracted refugee situations been so difficult to find? What is the role for regional actors versus those of the international community? How can political will and funding be maximized in the search for solutions?

Dr Jeff Crisp UNHCR
Merrill Smith US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
John Matthews Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations, Geneva
Chair: Professor Susan Kneebone Monash University

1:00 – 2:00pm

Lunch

2:00 – 3:30pm

Session 3 – Resettlement: Will it Remain a Viable Solution?

As one of three ‘durable solutions’, refugee resettlement is an attempt by specific countries, increasingly in partnership with others, to improve the lives of refugees. Resettling refugees to third countries is meant to not only offer protection and an opportunity at a better life for those resettled, but also increased access to limited resources for those refugees that remain. Similarly, it can alleviate pressure, whether real or perceived, on refugee-hosting countries. However, at best, refugee resettlement exists as a possibility for an exceedingly small proportion of refugees. Can we thus consider it to be a viable solution in the light of the global refugee context? Could the international system cope with the number of refugees in need of resettlement? Are additional partners needed, such as new countries of resettlement? Is resettlement in the global North the preferred solution? What of local integration and voluntary repatriation as alternatives to resettlement? What of permanent camps themselves as alternative solutions, especially those camps that have a long history and have developed their own economies?

Kathleen Newland Migration Policy Institute

Paris Aristotle Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Inc.

Debra Pressé Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Professor Jennifer Hyndman Simon Fraser University

Chair: Professor Daniel Hiebert University of British Columbia

3:30 – 4:00pm

Afternoon tea

4:00 – 5:30pm

Session 4 – Refugees, Crime and Security

Refugees can be associated in the public imagination with criminality, whether in refugee-hosting areas that fear increased crime or even terrorist activity originating in the camps, or third countries of asylum or resettlement that fear the abuse of their welfare systems and labour markets in addition to criminality and violence. Some of this fear results from impressions that people have of the conditions that refugees fled as well as emotional scarring resulting from these conditions, scarring that some believe leads to violence and crime. Others fear that crime results from difficulties in integration into countries of resettlement, especially those that are much more developed than the countries or camps from which the refugees came.

What is fact and what is fiction when it comes to refugees and crime? This session will explore the extent to which these concerns are supported by empirical evidence. It will look at measures that can be taken in the future to diminish actual risks of criminality, including steps, some of which can be taken in the camps, to ease refugees’ integration. More successful integration can diminish public fear of criminality and the damaging hostility that refugees can face from the media and some **host populations**.

Professor Susan Kneebone Monash University

Participating Chair: Dr Hass Dellal OAM Australian Multicultural Foundation

7:30pm

Conference Dinner

Baghino Restaurant

Conference Program Outline (continued)

Day 2 – Saturday 12 September 2009

9:00 – 10:30am

Session 5 – Environmental Refugees: An Emerging Challenge?

Projections of the effect of climate change and environmental degradation on the size and scope of migration has led some to question current models of migration management and humanitarian protection. In particular, concerns have been raised about the ability and even applicability of existing legislation to cope with individuals migrating due to environmental factors such as flooding, desertification, and natural disasters. A number of important questions bear consideration: What is the anticipated size of the problem of “environmental refugees”? How many might there come to be? Which regions of the world will be most affected? Where might those affected seek refuge? What legal and political instruments are available to deal with these situations? Where will political responsibility ultimately lie?

Professor Graeme Hugo University of Adelaide

Dr Philippe Boncour International Organisation for Migration

Chair: Dr Howard Duncan Metropolis Project Canada

10:30 – 11:00am

Morning tea

11:00 – 12:30pm

Session 6 – The Future for Refugee Children

Perhaps the best barometer of the state of the global refugee regime is the future it affords children and youth brought into its midst. Apart from basic necessities, key factors affecting the future for refugee children include protection from violence and abuse, opportunities for education, and social supports for themselves and their families, among others. What if we were to also include the availability of livelihood opportunities for their family and community, or perhaps even more to the point, the prospect of a solution to their plight within their lifetime? What would the answer be for the majority of refugee children today? Is it likely to improve over time? What can the international community do to improve outcomes? What is at risk if we cannot provide a better answer?

Dr Su-Ann Oh Room to Grow Foundation, Thailand

Dr Jeff Crisp UNHCR

Chair: Paris Aristotle Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Inc.

12:30 – 1:30pm

Lunch

1:30 – 3:00pm

Session 7 – Perspectives from Some Regions

Migration flows are more and more influenced by conditions of the global economy. The “push” factors behind economic migration are increasingly global as are the potential destinations of economic migrants. Refugee flows, however, tend to be conditioned more regionally, the push factors being conditions within a state or territory. This panel will look at the conditions giving rise to refugee flows in different regions of the world and will illustrate the differences that exist amongst the world’s regions, differences that themselves will continue to challenge the global asylum system.

Dr Darshan Vigneswaran University of the Witwatersrand

Professor Graeme Hugo University of Adelaide

Professor Susan Kneebone Monash University

Merrill Smith US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

Chair: Associate Professor Dina Burger Monash South Africa

3:00 – 3:30pm

Afternoon tea

3:30 – 5:00pm

Session 8 – The Future of the Global Refugee Regime

In a world rife with ethnic conflict, natural disaster, and civil war, the demand for international protection seems to be exceeding its supply. In some part this is due to the specificity of the 1951 Geneva Convention as it pertains to the definition of a refugee, and the fact that many countries have yet to become signatories. With the persistence of global social, economic and environmental inequalities, future demand for international protection would seem to be ever increasing. Internally-displaced peoples already far exceed the number of refugees worldwide, statelessness continues still, and the potential threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation looms ever large. Is the global refugee regime able to effectively cope with these challenges to its institutional structures, partnerships, and practices in the field? Could refugee protection be made more extensive and effective through a paradigm shift in how the international community defines, processes, and protects refugees? Should the global refugee regime move beyond mere protection to work at prevention or even preemption through peace building, development, and regional security approaches? Will the continued commitment to refugee protection by the international community and individual states come at the cost of being able to address others in need of protection? What is to be the future of the Convention?

Professor Howard Adelman Griffith University

Professor Graeme Hugo University of Adelaide

Kathleen Newland Migration Policy Institute

Dr Darshan Vigneswaran University of Witwatersrand

Chair: Professor Loretta Baldassar Monash University Prato Centre

5:00 – 5:15pm

Conclusion

Dr Howard Duncan Metropolis Project Canada

Professor John Nieuwenhuysen AM Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements

Biographies

Howard Adelman recently completed a three year term as Research Professor at the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance at Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia after completing a two year term at Princeton University. Currently, he is a Professor Emeritus at York University where he was a Professor of Philosophy for 37 years and where he was the founding Director of the Centre for Refugee Studies and Editor of *Refuge* until the end of 1993. He has written or co-authored 9 books, edited or co-edited 21 others, authored 75 chapters in edited volumes, 97 articles in refereed journals, and 30 professional reports. Professor Adelman is currently completing a co-authored book with Elazar Barkan entitled *Rites of Return* for Columbia University Press. His edited volume, *Protracted Displacement in Asia: no place to call home*, was released in November 2008 by Ashgate.

Paris Aristotle AM has been the Director of the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Inc (also known as Foundation House), since the organisation's establishment in 1987. In 2002 he was appointed as a part time Commissioner of the Victorian Law Reform Commission. Paris has also held several positions on state and federal government and international advisory bodies in the settlement and human service fields over the past 20 years. He currently holds positions on the Australian Government's Refugee Resettlement Advisory Council and the Immigration Detention Advisory Group. He has also been a member of a number of official delegations to the UNHCR Executive Committee meetings and was a member of the UNHCR Executive Task Force on Resettlement and Integration. In 2002 Paris was made a Member of the Order of Australia and in 2003 was awarded an Australian Centenary Medal – both honours recognising his longstanding work with refugees, in particular survivors of torture.

Loretta Baldassar is Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Monash University Centre in Prato, Italy. She has published extensively on Italian migration to Australia, including, *Visits Home* (MUP 2001) and *From Paesani to Global Italians* (with Ros Pesman, UWAP 2005). Her most recent publications deals with transnational migrant relationships including, *Families Caring Across Borders* (with Cora Baldock and Raelene Wilding, Palgrave 2007) and *Intimacy Across Borders* (with Donna Gabaccia, Fordham Uni Press forthcoming). She is currently collaborating on projects which focus on the Australian Diaspora in Italy and Chinese migrants in Prato.

Dina Burger is the Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor Research at Monash South Africa. She was previously the Director of Research at the University of South Africa in Pretoria, where she published numerous journal articles, contributed to a book on project management, was involved in research projects and supervised postgraduate students. Her broad research interests include leadership and research management.

Philippe Boncour is currently the Head of the International Dialogue on Migration Division at the International Organization for Migration (IOM). He also serves as the Climate change, Environment and Migration and focal point for the Organization and has chaired a range of IOM taskforces on these issues. Prior to joining IOM in 2002, he was the Director of Development and Communication of the Worldwide Network of the Alliance Française. He has worked for the French Ministries of Cooperation and Foreign Affairs in various capacities, mostly dealing with education, higher education and research, including positions with the French Embassy in Dakar, and as an advisor to Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire governments. Philippe holds a Master's degree and a Doctorate from the University of Paris-Sorbonne. He specialised in development-related issues, with a particular focus on capacity building and on project management.

Jeff Crisp is Head of Policy Development and Evaluation at UNHCR, the UN's refugee Agency. He has also worked as Director of Policy and Research at the Global Commission on International Migration and held positions with the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues and the British Refugee Council. Jeff has a PhD from the University of Birmingham in the UK, and has published widely on refugee, humanitarian and migration issues, as well as African affairs.

Hass Dellal OAM is the Executive Director of the Australian Multicultural Foundation. He has over twenty years experience in policy, management, community development and programming for cultural diversity. Hass has spearheaded initiatives for the development of the general community and prepared programs on community relations on behalf of Government authorities and the private sector. Hass serves on many boards and committees including the European Multicultural Foundation, he is a Fellow of the Williamson Leadership Program. Recently he was appointed by the Australian Government to the Australian Multicultural Advisory Council.

Howard Duncan received his doctorate in philosophy in 1981 from the University of Western Ontario. In 1987, he entered the field of consulting in strategic planning, policy development and program evaluation. In 1997, Howard joined the Metropolis Project as its International Project Director, and became its Executive Head in 2002. He has concentrated on increasing the geographic reach of Metropolis, enlarging the range of the issues it confronts, and increasing its benefits to the international migration policy community by creating opportunities for exchanges between researchers, practitioners, and policy makers.

Erika Feller holds the post of Assistant High Commissioner for Protection at UNHCR. Her professional career, predominantly with international law focus, has included 14 years and three international postings with the Australian Diplomatic Service, including having headed the Australian Foreign Ministry's Human Rights Section. This was followed by 21 years of more senior appointments with the UN, working predominantly with the theory and the practice of international human rights and refugee law. Erika has served for UNHCR in Geneva, but also as the Representative in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei. Concurrently with this position, she was appointed Regional Coordinator for Status Determination under the Comprehensive Plan of Action to resolve the Indo-Chinese Refugee problem. In her current position, her responsibilities include oversight of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming and accountability in UNHCR programs. She is an academically acknowledged authority on refugee law, has published widely in Journals, is co-editor of a book on Refugee Protection in International Law and has contributed to other book publications, including the Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law.

Daniel Hiebert, Professor of Geography, University of British Columbia and, currently, Guest Professor in Memory of Willy Brandt, University of Malmö, Sweden, is interested in migration and integration policies, both at the scale of nation states and in metropolitan areas. His research highlights the intersection between migration, and labour and housing markets, and how this relationship is shaped by regulatory systems.

Graeme Hugo is University Professorial Research Fellow, Professor of the Department of Geographical and Environmental Studies and Director of the National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems at the University of Adelaide. His research interests are in population issues in Australia and South East Asia, especially migration. He is the author of over three hundred books, articles in scholarly journals and chapters in books, as well as a large number of conference papers and reports. In 2002 he secured an ARC Federation Fellowship over five years for his research project, "The new paradigm of international migration to and from Australia: dimensions, causes and implications".

Jennifer Hyndman is Professor at the Centre for Refugee Studies at York University in Toronto, Canada. She has worked in refugee camps and on repatriation programs for CARE and UNHCR in East Africa. Her research spans the continuum of forced migration, from conflict zones and camps to refugee resettlement in North America. Since 1996, she has worked with Canadian settlement agencies on refugee research with a policy focus. A geographer by training, her work focuses on human displacement induced by both human-made (conflict) and natural disaster. She is currently working on a book that analyzes the effects of the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004 on extant conflicts in Sri Lanka and Aceh, Indonesia. Hyndman is co-editor *Sites of Violence: Gender and Conflict Zones* (University of California Press, 2004), and the author of the book *Managing Displacement: Refugees and the Politics of Humanitarianism* (University of Minnesota Press, 2000), as well as several dozen refereed articles and book chapters.

Susan Kneebone is a Professor of Law and a Deputy Director of the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law at the Faculty of Law, Monash University. Susan teaches Forced Migration and Human Rights, International Refugee Law and Practice, and Citizenship and Migration Law. She has authored many articles on these issues and edited several books including: *Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and the Rule of Law: Comparative Perspectives* (Cambridge University Press, 2009); *New Regionalism and Asylum Seekers: Challenges Ahead* (Berghahn, 2007 – with F Rawlings-Sanaei); *The Refugees Convention 50 Years On: Globalisation and International Law* (Ashgate, 2003). Susan is a Chief Investigator on three ARC grant projects concerning issues of migration and protection in South East Asia.

Biographies continued

John Matthews (BA LLB (Natal)) is Minister-Counsellor (Immigration) at the Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva. He manages Australia's engagement in multilateral meetings on migration, refugees and asylum with the international organisations based in Geneva, primarily the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Previously, John was Assistant Secretary of the Onshore Protection Branch in the Refugee, Humanitarian and International Division in the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) in Canberra where his work focused on refugee policy issues. Before that, John spent two years as an Assistant Secretary in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, providing strategic policy advice on immigration and national health security matters to the Prime Minister and his office. Prior to that, John worked as a section or branch head in a range of positions for DIAC, including the legal services branch. John is admitted as a Legal Practitioner of the High Court of Zimbabwe and as a barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

Mario Morcone has been Head of Department for Immigration and Civil Rights of the Ministry of the Interior since July 2006. In February 2008, he was appointed Extraordinary Commissioner for the provisional administration of the municipality of Rome, until the establishment of the ordinary organs. From December 2001 to July 2006, he was Head of Department of Fire Corps, Public Rescue and Civil Defence, ensuring the approval of deep reforms for the national Fire Corps. In October 2000 he became Director General of Civil Administration of the Ministry of Interior. From September 1999 he was "Deputy for the civil administration" in the UN mission for the Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK). In the same year he was appointed UN administrator of the region and the city of Mitrovica until March 2000. Mario entered the Police force in April 1976 and the Civil Administration of the Ministry of the Interior in October of the same year. He received his first appointment of Prefecture of Rovigo and later in Rome in the central offices of the Ministry, at the General Direction of Civil Defence and Fire Services and then, in the Cabinet of the Minister. He was also Head of the Technical Secretariat of the Prime Minister (1988), Head of the Secretariat of the Minister for extraordinary interventions in the Mezzogiorno (until 1990), of the Minister of Education (from 1991), and of the Minister of the Interior (from 1992). He was Prefect of Rieti (from 1993) and Arezzo (1995-2000). In June 2005 he was appointed Cavaliere di Gran Croce al Merito della Repubblica Italiana. Mario graduated in Law.

Kathleen Newland is co-founder of the Migration Policy Institute and directs MPI's programs on migrants, migration, and development and comprehensive protection for refugees and internally displaced people. Her work focuses on the relationship between migration and development, governance of international migration, and refugee protection. Previously, at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, she was a Senior Associate and then Co-director of the International Migration Policy Program (1994–2001). She sits on the Board of the International Rescue Committee, and is a Chair Emerita of the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. She is also on the Board of the Foundation for the Hague Process on Migrants and Refugees. Prior to joining the Migration Program at the Carnegie Endowment in 1994, she worked as an independent consultant for such clients as the UNHCR, the World Bank, and the office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Kathleen is the author or editor of six books, including the first State of the World's Refugees for UNHCR in 1993, and No Refuge: The Challenge of Internal Displacement for the United Nations in 2003. She has also written eleven shorter monographs as well as numerous articles and book chapters.

John Nieuwenhuysen AM is the Founding Director of the Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements. In 2003 he received an award in the Order of Australia for service to the community through contributions to independent academic, public and private sector research, to debate on immigration, cultural diversity, equity, economic development, taxation, Indigenous, labour and industry issues, and to reform of the liquor laws of Victoria.

Su-Ann Oh is a sociologist specialising in refugee and conflict education. For the past 4 years, she has been conducting research on the education of Burmese refugees in camps in Thailand, looking at a variety of technical and sociological issues. These included collecting comprehensive education data, inclusive education, adolescents and pregnancy, non formal and adult learning and unaccompanied minors among other issues. She is also a co-director of Room to Grow Foundation, a charity based on the Thai-Burmese border, which provides basic necessities to migrant and refugee children living in camps and in migrant areas: <http://roomtogrowfoundation.org/>

Debra Pressé is a senior manager with over 25 years in the federal civil service. She was recently appointed to the position of Director of Refugee Resettlement at Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) with responsibility for policy and program development in the selection and resettlement for the overseas refugee program. Before assuming the duties of Director for Refugee Resettlement, Debra served as Deputy Director of Horizontal Policy and International Protection in the Refugees Branch at CIC NHQ in Ottawa. Prior to joining CIC, Debra held a variety of positions in Secretary of State, Multiculturalism and Citizenship and Canadian Heritage during which she had the privilege of interviewing over 20,000 newcomers from around the world. Debra holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Canadian History.

Tyrone Pretorius commenced as Pro Vice-Chancellor, Monash South Africa in April 2005. Before joining Monash he was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (academic) at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) and spent 10 years as Dean of Community and Health Sciences at UWC. With a background in psychology, Tyrone has doctorates from UWC and the University of the Orange Free State in South Africa and a postdoctoral fellowship from Yale University, USA. In 2001 he received an award from the Psychology Society of South Africa recognising his contribution to the field of psychology. He has published extensively on coping and stress, statistics and research methodology, and remains an active researcher. He is a past Associate Editor of the *South African Journal of Psychology*. Currently a Statistical Editor, he is also a member of the Statistical Council of SA and on the Economic Advisory committee for the Premier of Northern Cape.

Merrill Smith has been editor of the *World Refugee Survey* since the 2003 edition and is also active in the campaign to end the human warehousing of refugee. He has a long history of advocacy on refugee, human rights, and trade issues for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Church World Service, the UN, and Haiti Advocacy. He holds a BA in linguistics from Columbia University, a JD in law from Vanderbilt Law School, the *Diplôme* in international human rights law from the International Institute of Human Rights, and an LLM in international legal studies from NYU Law School.

Darshan Vigneswaran, is a Senior Researcher at the Forced Migration Studies Programme, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg where he coordinates the Migration and Policy Initiative. His doctoral research (Monash, 2006) examined variations in state territorial controls across European history. In 2008 he was a British Academy fellow at Oxford University and he is an Honorary Research Fellow at the Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation, University of Hull. His current work on cross-border policing, detention, smuggling and refugee reception in Southern Africa is supported by the Open Society Foundation and Atlantic Philanthropies. He has recently authored articles in the *Review of International Studies*, *Political Geography*, and *Journal of Southern African Studies*.

About the Organisers



The International Metropolis Project is a forum for bridging research, policy and practice on migration and diversity. The Project aims to enhance academic research capacity, encourage policy-relevant research on migration and diversity issues, and facilitate the use of that research by governments and non-governmental organisations. In the decade since its inception, the Project has grown to include researchers, policy-makers, international organisations and NGOs from North America, most of Europe and much of the Asia-Pacific region.

The Project is managed by a Secretariat, which is jointly located in Ottawa and Amsterdam. It is also guided by an International Steering Committee made up of approximately 40 partners from across the Project, who provide advice, direction and an international perspective. The Project is perhaps best-known for its International Conferences, which are the largest annual gathering of experts in the fields of migration and diversity. The Metropolis network also shares research projects, publications and informal policy discussion; smaller Inter-Conference Seminars; a website; the Journal of International Migration and Integration; and an annual publication – the World Bulletin – which updates the network on partners' various projects and activities.



The Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements seeks to advance knowledge of the diverse economic, social, political and cultural dimensions to global movements.

Based at Monash, Clayton campus, it undertakes high-quality research, fosters public discussion and offers expert advice.

While serving Monash University as a whole, the Institute draws especially on co-operative initiatives in the faculties of Arts, Art and Design, Education, Law and Business and Economics.

The Institute is concerned with three key questions:

- What are the nature and implications of the global movement of people, resources and ideas?
- What institutions, systems and structures are evolving to facilitate global flows, movements, and global interdependence; and what are the implications for national and local institutions?
- What is the impact on security, human rights and national identities in an increasingly mobile and often borderless world?



The Australian Bicentennial Authority gave support to a proposal to establish the Australian Bicentennial Multicultural Foundation. The idea was first proposed by the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia National Conference in 1981.

In 1986 the Federation and the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs jointly convened a Working Party, which consulted widely concerning the objects and direction for the Foundation.

In June 1987 the Authority invested \$3 Million in the Australian Bicentennial Multicultural Foundation Trust Account. In September 1988 the Funds were transferred to the Foundation after it was legally incorporated as an independent organisation.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the foundation are:

- To cultivate in all Australians a strong commitment to Australia as one people drawn from many cultures and by so doing to advance its social and economic well-being;
- the promotion of an awareness among the people of Australia of the diversity of cultures within Australia and the contribution of people from all cultures to the development of Australia; and
- the spread of respect and understanding between all cultural groups through any appropriate means.

The foundation will achieve its aims:

- by adopting issues of national significance; and
- by initiating projects and programs in consultation and in partnership in any worthwhile field or activity.

Refugee Futures Conference

10–12 September 2009

Refugee Futures is organized and sponsored by Metropolis Project Canada, the Australian Multicultural Foundation and Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements (Australia)

Information for delegates

Venue

Monash University Prato Centre

First floor of the Palazzo Vaj,
26 Via Pugliesi, Prato, Italy

Tel: +39 0574 436921

Fax: +39 0574 436923

Welcome reception

Thursday 10 September 2009

5.30pm – 7.00pm

Monash University Prato Centre

First floor of the Palazzo Vaj, Terrace

Registration

Friday 11 September 2009

8.30am – 9.00am

Registration desk will be located on the first floor of the Monash University Prato Centre.

Session times

Friday 11 September 2009

9.00am – 5.30pm

Saturday 12 September 2009

9.00am – 5.15pm

Name tags

Delegates are asked to wear their Conference nametag at all times.

Conference dinner

Friday 11 September 2009

7.30pm

Restaurant Baghino

Via Dell' Accademia 9, Prato, 59100

Messages

Messages for delegates will be left on the bulletin board next to the Registration Desk.

Catering

Morning teas and lunches will be served at the Monash University Centre in Prato.

Incidental expenses

The organisers and the Monash Conference and Events Management Office will not be responsible for any incidental expenses incurred by delegates during the meeting.

Audio visual equipment

Data Projector and Laptop will be provided if required

Transport to Prato

Please visit the following website for details about getting to Monash University Prato Centre.

<http://www.ita.monash.edu/getting.html>

Accommodation

Accommodation for participants has been booked at:

Wallart Hotel

Viale della Repubblica 4, 6, 8
59100, Prato, Italy

Tel: +39 0574 596600

Fax: +39 0574 575335

Email: info@wallart.it

Web: www.wallart.it

Time difference

12 noon in Prato is 8.00pm in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane; 6.00am in Ottawa and Toronto; 3:00am in Vancouver; 3:30pm in New Delhi; 6am in Richmond, Virginia; 3am in Seattle, Washington; 5pm in Bangkok; 12noon in Geneva and Johannesburg.

Currency

The monetary unit used in Italy is the Euro. Foreign currency or travellers' cheques can be freely exchanged at banks, hotels and the airports. Automatic teller machines are located in central locations in Prato and Florence and credit cards are readily acceptable at most restaurants, shops and all conference hotels.

Climate

The weather in northern Italy in September is usually a pleasant summer average of a comfortable **21–25°C**. Delegates are advised that on occasions greater variations occur and provision for both cooler and much warmer temperatures is advised. Evenings are usually cooler down to **15°C**.

Shopping

Shops are usually open during the following hours:

Monday	4.00pm – 7.30pm
Tuesday to Saturday	8.30/9.30am – 1.00pm 4.00pm – 7.30pm
Clothing stores may open later between	9.00am and 10.00am
Most other stores will open between	8.30am and 9.00am
Many food stores (bakeries etc.) close on Wednesday afternoons	

What to do from Prato

From Prato there are many great Italian towns and cities that are easily visited by train.

Florence

The best way to find out about Florence's innumerable offerings is to go to the tourist information office at Via Cavour, 1r.
Open: Monday to Saturday, 8.30am – 6.30pm
Sundays and public holidays, 8.30am – 1.30pm
<http://www.aboutflorence.com>
or <http://www.studentsville.it/>

Day Trips from Prato

Many of Italy's most popular towns are easily reached by train from Prato.

Rome	2hrs 20mins (from Florence on the Eurostar)
Bologna	45mins – 1hr
Pisa	1hr 30mins
Lucca	55 mins
Viareggio (seaside town)	1hr 15mins

Where to eat in Prato

Listed below is a selection of restaurants which have been recommended by the Monash University Prato Centre. Many restaurants are closed on Tuesdays and some on Mondays.

Restaurants/Pizzeria:

Donchisciotte

Piazza Mercatale 38/39
Ph: 0574 39023

Delicious wood oven pizzas at a reasonable price, plus other main dishes including seafood.

Antica Fiaschetteria

Piazza Lippi 4
Ph: 0574 41225

This is easily the best medium priced restaurant in Prato. Mostly southern Italian inspired cooking. The service is friendly and there are a good range of wines available.

La Veranda

Via dell'Arco 10 (just off Piazza San Marco)
Ph: 0574 38235

Serves typical Tuscan dishes and a wide variety is available. Main courses priced slightly higher than 'trattoria' prices.

Ars Libandi

Via dell'Accademia, 49
Ph: 0574 401984

Typical Tuscan meals lightly revised.
Wide selection of wines.

Osteria Cibbè

Piazza Mercatale, 49
Ph: 0574 607509

Small restaurant serving typical Tuscan cuisine. Booking recommended.

