



RENCONTRES SCIENTIFIQUES IGG

Institut de géographie, Université de Neuchâtel
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Valentin Comte, IGG

Impacts du changement climatique pour le vignoble Neuchâtelois et stratégies d'adaptation

Quelles sont les conditions climatiques au-delà desquelles la viticulture dans la région neuchâteloise pourra ou devra s'adapter compte tenu des changements climatiques récents et futurs ? Ma thèse a pour objectif de répondre à cette question en abordant les différents seuils climatiques et indices bioclimatiques pertinents pour la viticulture régionale. L'utilisation des scénarios climatiques pour la Suisse du NCCS permettra de présenter le futur climat viticole et les possibilités d'adaptation pour la région.

19.11.2020

Simon Noori, nccr-on-the-move / IGG:

Rethinking Smart Borders' Anti-Political Economy

Amidst the EU's increasing reliance on biometrics and large-scale IT system, several scholars have argued that private firms have turned border control into a profitable business in recent years. Providing know-how, infrastructure and technological 'solutions' to political problems, their influence is mostly understood as depoliticizing border control. Yet, less is known about the ways in which this industry is practically entangled in the creation of new IT systems and how it has indeed transformed practices of bordering. In this paper I therefore aim at rethinking the "anti-political economy" of European border control. First, I examine how the thinking of borders changed once it entered the realm of business calculations and entrepreneurial reasoning. Second, I ask through which mundane techniques of governing the public/private divide was redrawn in this case. Third, and by providing insights into a Europe-wide pilot project in which several border security firms were involved, I explore the rival metrological regimes that transformed the material properties of biometric systems into sites of calculation and experimentation, producing matters of concern which have not existed before.

10.12.2020

Christina Mitmasser, IGG / nccr-on-the-move:

How mobility trajectories create business opportunities. The transnational strategies of migrant entrepreneurs in Zürich

The activities of self-employed migrants extend increasingly beyond national borders as they travel and move goods between countries. Yet the diverse mobilities of transnational entrepreneurs are not sufficiently understood. This paper uses the mobility perspective to study how these migrants mobilize past experiences in different countries for current transnational business activities. It is based on a case study in Zürich, Switzerland, including ethnographic observations and biographic interviews with 34 migrants of diverse backgrounds. Beyond classical representations of migration as a one-time movement, this paper highlights the variety of (im)mobilities that transnational entrepreneurs develop across space and time. By analysing the biographies of two interviewees, the paper demonstrates how migrants' entrepreneurial strategies relate to their past mobility trajectories and biographical experiences of living in multiple locations. However, mobility experiences should be considered as a resource that is valuable only under certain conditions. This case study reveals that not every migrant is able to mobilize past experiences for a transnational business in the same way, as opportunities differ depending on social positions in multiple localities and temporalities. The presented results highlight the fact that temporal and spatial aspects are highly intertwined in creating possibilities for migratory agency.

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