

La soutenance de mémoire de Master en sciences sociales
- *pilier migration et citoyenneté* –
de

Sara Ferrolho

South Asian migrants' lives on hold in Portugal: between regularization
challenges and strategies to address them

aura lieu le

20 février 2025 à 10h00, salle 3.410 (A.-L. Breguet 2)

Directeur de mémoire : Prof. Gianni D'Amato

Expert : Dr. Mihaela Nedelcu.

Abstract :

This work explores the challenges faced by South Asian migrants in seeking regularisation in Portugal, and the strategies they adopt to deal with them. Using an inductive approach, interviews with the migrants themselves and observations were conducted, the study reveals dysfunctions within the Portuguese administrative system that make the process of acquiring a residence permit difficult. In response, migrants use their agency and resilience to implement solutions. The study highlights the central role of the community network, both as a solution and as a relay of information on possible strategies. However, the power to decide whether to grant a residence permit is concentrated in the hands of the administration responsible for managing migration, thus limiting the influence of South Asian migrants' strategies on the outcome of their case. In short, the regularisation procedure in Portugal traps South Asian migrants in an administrative spiral, leaving them in a "suspended life".

