



## Mobile Roots – Rethinking Indigenous and Transnational ties

**12th International ETMU Days conference 22–23.10.2015**

**University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland**

Mobility across borders is an everyday feature of life for many people across the globe. For some mobility is caused by changes in political power structures or war, increasingly also by environmental changes due to climate change. For others mobility is a privilege that enables movement across and towards other cultures and places. For indigenous peoples mobility has often signified movement following one's herd and the yearly lifecycle. A mobile lifestyle has enabled nature-based ways of subsistence and produced different cultural practices. In many cases the traditional ways of movement have changed and even largely ceased to exist due to colonisation and modernisation, thus causing cultural change and new ties. Our current way of life makes it possible to maintain cultural ties across virtual and physical borders and to permanently sever all ties to one's place of origin.

The aim of the **12th Annual ETMU Days** is to revisit the meaning of ties that are related to mobility, rootedness and crossing borders. How are ties that are typical for the age of migration forged? And what kinds of meanings do these ties embody in different cultures and contexts of belonging? Is it possible to maintain one's roots or put down roots in new places despite being mobile? Belonging to a certain place has often been important for indigenous peoples despite the old traditions of leading a nomadic life. How can roots and local histories be rethought outside the frames of external domination and colonialism?

**The 2015 ETMU Days** bring together researchers from the fields of indigenous studies and ethnicity and migration and creates an arena for a fruitful dialogue. The main language of the conference is English, but working groups may also be arranged in Finnish. The keynote speakers are:

- **NINNA NYBERG-SØRENSEN**, Senior Researcher  
Danish Institute for International Studies, Copenhagen, Denmark
- **VELI-PEKKA LEHTOLA**, Professor  
University of Oulu, Finland
- **AUDRA SIMPSON**, Associate professor  
Columbia University, USA
- **FLORIAN STAMMLER**, Professor  
University of Lapland, Arctic Centre, Finland

Extended call for papers is open until AUGUST 31st<sup>st</sup> 2015!

Submit a paper proposal for one of the following workshops

at <http://etmudays.etmu.fi>

## CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

1. Indigenous peoples' self-determination over their culture and cultural heritage including sacred sites: challenges and best practices
2. (Refugee Journeys – Conceptual and methodological discussions, **Cancelled**)
3. Uprooted by Neoliberal Development: Forced Migration and Displacement in the Global South/North
4. Workshop on legal concepts and social realities
5. Moving memories: Oral histories about people's movements across social, temporal, spatial and ideological borders (**Workshop already full**)
6. Place and Continuity: Reflections on Sámi Cultural Persistence after Postmodern Era
7. Puolueet ja painostusryhmät muotoilemassa siirtolaisuus- ja vähemmistöpolitiikkaa / Parties and pressure groups formulating migration and minority politics
8. Challenging Indigenous Governance
9. Diversity and welfare state services: Classifications, ambiguities and practices
10. Education, Diversity, Globalization and Ethics
11. Domesticating Global Orders? Constructing Minority Identities in Multicultural Spaces
12. Kriittinen muuttoliikkeiden ja etnisten suhteiden tutkimus – keitä olemme ja minne menemme?
13. Kuulumisen kulttuurisuus – kulttuurituotteiden affektiivisuus ja materiaalisuus / The cultural aspects of belonging: affectivity and materiality of cultural products
14. Migrants' transnational activities and agency: Implications, Opportunities and Challenges
15. Everyday bordering: coping strategies of 'irregular' migrants
16. Privileged and voluntary mobilities
17. Challenging the mainstream representations of ethnicity in media and arts
18. Transnational Migrant Families: Studying 'Wellbeing' (**Workshop already full**)

### Conference fees:

- The early bird rates for conference participation are: 80 € for members of ETMU, 100 € for non-members, and 50 € for students (BA/MA/PhD). The early bird rate is available until August 31<sup>st</sup>. (After that the prices for the above mentioned categories are: 110 €, 130 €, and 50 €).
- Instructions for Conference registration can be found at: <http://etmudays.etmu.fi/conference-fees/>

### Conference organisers:

The Society for the Study of Ethnic Relations and International Migration (ETMU): [www.etmu.fi](http://www.etmu.fi),

<http://etmudays.etmu.fi> & University of Lapland: [www.ulapland.fi](http://www.ulapland.fi)

Contact: Dr. Sanna Valkonen, Associate Professor of Sámi research, [sanna.valkonen@ulapland.fi](mailto:sanna.valkonen@ulapland.fi), +358-40-

484 4238 & Dr. Saara Koikkalainen, Post-doc researcher, [saara.koikkalainen@ulapland.fi](mailto:saara.koikkalainen@ulapland.fi), +358-40-484 4236

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### Conference programme

#### Thursday 22.10.2015

09:00 Registration, University of Lapland main lobby

10:15 Welcoming words

10:30—11:30 KEYNOTE I: **Ninna Nyberg Sørensen**, Danish Institute for International Studies  
*Transnational Ties and Ruptures*

11:30—12:00 Annual ETMU Award

12:00—13:00 Lunch break

13:00—14:00 KEYNOTE II: **Veli-Pekka Lehtola**, University of Oulu  
*Sámi Globetrotters. Indigenous histories outside frames of colonialism*

14:00—14:30 Coffee

14:30—17:30 Workshops

19.30— *Conference cultural evening*, Ravintola Valdemari (Jäämerentie 9)

#### Friday 23.10.2015

09:00—10:45 Workshops

11:00—12:00 KEYNOTE III: **Audra Simpson**, University of Columbia, NY, USA  
*Mohawk Interruptus: Political Life across the Borders of Settler States*

12:00—13:00 Lunch break

13:00—14:00 KEYNOTE IV: **Florian Stammer**, University of Lapland  
*Mobility and Ties in the Russian Arctic*

14:00—14:30 Coffee

14:30—16:00 *Panel: Maintaining transnational and indigenous ties: virtual connections and cultural and linguistic revitalisation. Views from Sámi activists and migration scholars. Chair: Vesa Puuronen*, University of Oulu

16:00- Closing of the conference