

Against Alarmism

– Some Remarks on the Role of Science(s) in Projections, Forecasts and Scenario buildings

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Many more to come? Against alarmism

An example:

Smith, Stephen 2019: *The Scramble for Europe: Young Africa on Its Way to the Old Continent*, Cambridge/Medford: Polity (original: *La rue vers l'Europe*, 2018)

Vs.

Héran, François, 2018: *Europe and the Spectre of Sub-Saharan Migration*, in: *Population & Societies*, 50: 558.

Joint Research Centre 2018: *Many more to come? Migration from and within Africa*, Brussels.

The (limited) use of surveys for projections

Intentions to migrate \neq migration

An example: Gallup-poll: <https://news.gallup.com/poll/245225/gallup-migration-research-center.aspx>

What do we really know?

Complexity of migration motives

Lack of data

Different projections and forecasts with different (theoretical) approaches and models

Qualitative vs. quantitative, technical vs. social sciences: Unknown territories

What do we need?

- more interdisciplinarity
- better data and research relying on these data
- networking and more cooperation



Thank you!

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