

## NATIONAL EMN CONFERENCE 2020

### Speaker Profiles

#### Welcome and Opening

##### **Peter Webinger**

###### **Director-General for Migration, Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior**



Since 2019, Peter Webinger has been Director-General for Migration at the Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior. Between 2009 and 2018, he was Deputy-Director-General for Legal Affairs at the Ministry of the Interior. Peter Webinger is a member of the Austrian Migration Commission, Head of the Austrian delegation of SCIFA (Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers, and Asylum) and Chair of the Country of Origin Board. He is editor of *“STABLE STATES – rethinking social cohesion and good governance”*, *“WHO ARE YOU – states & the quest for identity”* and the scientific series *“regions et res publicae”*. Peter Webinger gives lectures on migration and asylum i.a. at the Strategic Leadership Course of the Austrian government and at various European universities.

##### **Marian Benbow Pfisterer**

###### **Head of the IOM Country Office for Austria**



Marian Benbow Pfisterer has been heading the IOM Country Office for Austria since 2017. In addition to representing IOM in Austria, she oversees all activities of IOM in Austria and is responsible for the overall coordination and management of the mission. Before assuming her current post, Marian Benbow Pfisterer was Head of Project Management/Liaison at IOM Germany’s office in Nuremberg. Prior to joining IOM in 2005, she worked as a Corporate Business Immigration Lawyer in Frankfurt/Main. Marian studied law in Heidelberg, Germany, and Bergen, Norway

##### **Elizabeth Collett**

###### **Special Adviser for Policy and Strategy to the Director General, IOM**



Elizabeth Collett is Special Adviser for Policy and Strategy to the Director General of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in Geneva. Previously, she was founding Director of Migration Policy Institute Europe (MPI Europe) and Senior Advisor to MPI's Transatlantic Council on Migration. She also served as a Senior Policy Analyst at the European Policy Centre, a Brussels-based think tank, and was responsible for its migration program, which covered all aspects of European migration and integration policy. She has also worked in the Migration Research and Policy Department of the IOM in Geneva and for the Institute for the Study of International Migration in Washington, D.C.

## **Part II – Migration Forecasts and Scenarios: Assessing the State of Predictive Migration Research**

**Rhea Ravenna Sohst**

**University of Luxembourg / IOM GMDAC**



Rhea Ravenna Sohst is a doctoral researcher at the University of Luxembourg and a consultant at the IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC). At GMDAC, she has recently co-authored two studies focusing on migration forecasts. Previously, she has worked with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and IOM on questions of international migration policy and comparative integration outcomes. Her doctoral research focuses on income inequality and international migration patterns.

### **Panel 1 - Snapshots of Migration Predictions**

**Jakub Bijak**

**Professor of Statistical Demography, University of Southampton**



Jakub Bijak is Professor of Statistical Demography at the University of Southampton, United Kingdom. He has a background in economics and nearly 20 years of work experience in academia and international civil service. His research focuses on demographic uncertainty, population and migration models and forecasts, as well as the demography of armed conflict. For his work on migration modelling he has been awarded the Allianz European Demographer Award (2015) and the Jerzy Z Holzer Medal (2007). He currently leads a European Research Council project "Bayesian agent-based population studies", developing innovative simulation models of migration, and a Horizon 2020 project "QuantMig: Quantifying Migration Scenarios for Better Policy", focusing on quantitative migration scenarios and forecasting.

**Susanne Melde**

**Senior Analyst, IOM GMDAC**



Susanne Melde is a Senior Analyst at the IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) in Berlin, Germany. She has more than 13 years of experience in working on migration data analysis and governance at IOM. She coordinates the Global Migration Data Portal of GMDAC which aims to provide a one-stop-shop to better understand international migration data. Furthermore, she chairs the Core Working Group developing the Knowledge Platform and Connection Hub of the UN Network on Migration, established in the framework of the Global Compact on Migration.

## Andre Gröger

Assistant Professor of Economics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



Andre Gröger is Assistant Professor of Economics (tenure-track) and *Juan de la Cierva* Fellow at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Spain, Affiliated Professor at the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (BGSE), and Fellow at Markets, Organizations and Votes in Economics (MOVE). His research interests are in Applied Microeconomics, Data Science, Development, Labor and Political Economy.

## **Panel 2 – Predicting Migration and the Implications on Europe**

### Rainer Münz

Migration Expert, JRC KCMD, European Commission



Rainer Münz is an expert in demography and migration, working at the Joint Research Centre (JRC)'s Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography (KCMD) in Ispra, Italy. Before joining the JRC he was Adviser on Migration and Demography working for European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker during his time in office (2014-2019). Between 2005 and 2015 he was the Head of Research and Development at Erste Group, a Central European retail bank headquartered in Vienna. He also worked as Senior Fellow at the European think tank Bruegel, Brussels, the Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI) and at the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), Washington D.C.

### Holger Fabian Sahl

Strategic Analyst, Frontex



Holger Fabian Sahl serves as strategic analyst at the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), headquartered in Warsaw. At Frontex, he provides the strategic picture of the EU external borders to decision-makers and is lead author of the Frontex Risk Analysis Unit's flagship publication, the Annual Risk Analysis. In his previous role, Holger Fabian Sahl served on the International Staff at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Headquarters in Brussels. He is a graduate of Stanford University, United States of America, and the London School of Economics.

## **Tobias Heidland**

**Senior Researcher, Kiel Institute for the World Economy**



Starting with October 2020, Tobias Heidland (né Stöhr) will be full professor of economics at Christian–Albrechts–University in Kiel, Germany. He studied economics and development economics at the universities of Mannheim, Germany, and Nottingham, United Kingdom, and holds a doctorate in Quantitative Economics from Kiel University. His research focuses on migration decisions, attitudes towards migration, and central banks' foreign exchange intervention. Currently, he is coordinating MEDAM research on the driving forces of migration in African countries of origin and transit. Tobias Heidland is the local principal investigator of the Horizon 2020 project ITFLOWS.

## **Petra Bendel**

**Chair of the Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration**



Petra Bendel is Professor of Political Science and Academic Director of the Centre for Area Studies at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany. Her fields of expertise include the European and German refugee and asylum system as well as integration policy at various political levels. Petra Bendel is Chair of the Advisory Council of the German Federal Office of Migration and Refugees (BAMF), a Member of the German Federal Government's Expert Commission on the Framework Conditions for Integration and an advisor for various expert committees.

## **Part II – Migration Predictions and Proactive Migration Management**

### **Panel 3 – The Nexus between Predictions and Policy Making**

## **Michael Clemens**

**Director of Migration, Displacement, and Humanitarian Policy and Senior Fellow, Center for Global Development**



Michael Clemens is the Director of Migration, Displacement, and Humanitarian Policy and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Development, where he studies the economic effects and causes of migration around the world. He also serves as a Research Fellow at the IZA Institute of Labor Economics in Bonn, Germany, and has served as an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Population Economics* and *World Development*. Previously, Clemens has been an Affiliated Associate Professor of Public Policy at Georgetown University, a visiting scholar at New York University, and a consultant for the World Bank, Bain & Co., the Environmental Defense Fund, and the United Nations Development Program. He received his PhD from the Department of Economics at Harvard University, United States, specializing in economic development, public finance, and economic history.

### **Teddy Wilkin**

**Head of Data Analysis and Research Sector, EASO**



Previously a Research Fellow at Oxford, United Kingdom, Teddy Wilkin has spent the last 10 years working for EU Institutions setting up systems for data collection, analysis and research of mixed migration flows, including irregular migration and international protection. Currently as Head of the Data Analysis & Research Sector at the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), he leads on several large projects aimed at understanding and predicting flows of asylum seekers to and within the EU so that the agency can provide targeted operational support to Member States under particular pressure, and to support evidence informed policy in Brussels.

### **Britta Behrendt**

**Head of Division General Migration, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany**



Britta Behrendt has been the Head of the Division for General Migration Policy at the German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community since autumn 2018. Before taking up this position, she worked in the area of returns of persons considered a potential Islamist threat. From 2015 to 2017 she was a liaison officer at the Italian interior ministry in Rome. She joined the German Federal Ministry of the Interior in 2008, after having worked at the German Bundestag for four years. At the ministry she initially worked on general policy matters, and in 2009 became a speechwriter for the then minister, Thomas de Maizière. She later transferred to the Federal Ministry of Defence, where she worked for three years, also as a speechwriter and later as private secretary to Ursula von der Leyen. Britta Behrendt studied law in Saarbrücken, Berlin, Pisa and Cape Town.

### **Mathias Czaika**

**Head of Department for Migration and Globalization, Danube University Krems**



Mathias Czaika is a full professor of migration and integration and the Head of the Department for Migration and Globalization at Danube University, Austria. His wider research interest is focused on the role and importance of migration and integration policy in shaping complex patterns and interplays of international migration and integration. He has a PhD in Political Economy from the University of Freiburg, Germany. He has published across disciplinary boundaries in journals such as *Demography*, *Population and Development Review*, *International Migration Review*, *European Union Politics*, and *Journal of Peace Research*, as well as books on *The Political Economy of Refugee Migration and Foreign Aid* (2009, Palgrave Macmillan) and *High-Skilled Migration – Drivers and Policies* (2018, Oxford University Press).



## **Panel 4 – The Future of Migration Forecasting**

### **Tobias Molander**

**Head of International Migration and Strategy, Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior**



Tobias Molander is the Head of Department for International Migration and Strategy at the Austrian Ministry of the Interior since March 2019. He focuses on the creation of a resilient asylum and migration system that responds to the challenges of a globalized world. In his previous positions he was the Head of Unit for Resettlement, Return and International Affairs at the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, Chair of the Working Party Expulsion and Co-Chair of the Asylum Working Party during the Austrian EU Presidency 2018, and Attaché (Counsellor for Home Affairs) at the Austrian Permanent Representation to the European Union. He holds a law degree from Salzburg University, Austria, and studied also at Hong Kong University and Fudan University Shanghai, China.

### **Alexander Kjærørum**

**Global Advisor – Senior Analyst, Danish Refugee Council**



Alexander Kjærørum is a Global Advisor, Senior Analyst with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). In this capacity he is responsible for supporting the organization and country operations to make better and smarter use of data and analysis for strategic planning, programming and advocacy. This includes exploring the potential of using predictive analytics and big data to improve humanitarian protection outcomes and leading the flagship Foresight project.

### **Zsuzsanna Felkai-Janssen**

**Head of Sector for Migration (DG Home) and DG Coordinator for Artificial Intelligence, European Commission**



Since 2011, Zsuzsanna Felkai-Janssen has been working at the European Commission in the Directorate General Home Affairs and Migration (DG Home). She has been in charge of the Schengen Information System, the largest EU law enforcement database, first as a lawyer and afterwards as a Head of Sector. Since 2018, she is heading a situational awareness sector concerning migration and her team is producing the most important migration situational awareness report of the EU on migration. In addition to her migration related tasks, she has been appointed to the DG Coordinator for Artificial Intelligence (AI) to coordinate and lead the DG AI related initiatives. She has graduated in law from the Eötvös Lóránd University in Budapest in 1996. She has a master's degree in Commercial and Competition Law from the King's College London and a master in European Studies from the University of Hamburg, Germany.

## Thomas Liebig

**Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Division, OECD**



Thomas Liebig is Senior Migration Specialist in the International Migration Division of the OECD in Paris. He is notably in charge of the work on the integration of immigrants and their children. Among other projects, he led in-depth country studies on integration in 15 OECD countries as well as international comparative work on the integration of children of immigrants, the integration of refugees, the socio-economic impact of naturalisation, discrimination against migrants, the labour market impact of free mobility, and the fiscal impact of immigration. Thomas holds a doctorate and an MSc in Economics from the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland). He also holds an MSc in International Affairs and, following studies at the ESADE (Barcelona, Spain), a CEMS Master in International Business Management. Prior to joining the International Migration Division in 2004, he worked for the OECD's Economics Department in 2000 and for the Institute for Labour Economics and Labour Law at the University of St. Gallen from 2001-2004.

## **Moderation**

### **Julia Lendorfer**

#### **Head of Research and Migration Law, IOM Country Office for Austria**



Julia Lendorfer is the Head of Research and Migration Law in the IOM Country Office for Austria. Within the National Contact Point Austria in the European Migration Network (EMN Austria), she is responsible for the overall coordination of the project. Julia holds a master's degree in International Economics and International Relations from the Johns Hopkins University (SAIS), United States, as well as in International Development from the University of Vienna. She has more than ten years of professional experience in different research and management functions. Before joining the IOM, Julia has worked at the World Bank and was the Country Representative of Innovations for Poverty Action in Mexico.

### **Jasper Dag Tjaden**

#### **Data and Impact Analytics Coordinator, IOM Global Migration Data Centre**



Jasper Dag Tjaden is the Data and Impact Analytics Coordinator at the IOM Global Migration Data Centre (GMDAC) in Berlin, where he works on projects with a focus on data-driven, evidence-based migration policies. He is leading GMDAC's work on rigorous (experimental and quasi-experimental) impact evaluations of IOM interventions, forecasting and foresight initiatives, and quantitative analysis of various IOM operational datasets. Jasper holds a Ph.D. in Quantitative Social Sciences from the University of Bamberg, Germany, and a MA from the London School of Economics and Political Science. During his doctoral studies, he spent one year as a Fulbright scholar at the City University of New York and the Minnesota Population Centre. Before joining the IOM, he worked for the World Bank in Washington, D.C. and the Migration Policy Group in Brussels.