

## DeZIM Workshop Series

### Authoritarianism and (Im)Mobility: Moving Beyond Exile and Forced Migration

7-8 November 2022  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

**Organizers:** Gülay Türkmen (WZB)  
Zeynep Yanaşmayan (DeZIM Institute)  
Ertuğ Tombuş (HU Berlin)

Liberal democracy is in decline around the world. With 70% of the world's population now living in autocracies, the third wave of autocratization is in full swing. This turn towards authoritarianism in world politics has drawn much scholarly attention in recent years. Existing research has demonstrated political discontent, dissatisfaction with deterioration of democratic and civil rights, and perceived corruption to be important emigration drivers both in democratic contexts and in autocratizing countries. Similarly, scholars have established democratic governance as an important incentive for prospective migrants. Recent studies on forced migration, exile and transnational repression have also contributed to our understanding of the relationship between authoritarianism and migration.

Connecting this literature with the “mobility turn” in migration studies, this workshop seeks to move beyond the existing focus on exile and forced migration to display the various paths of (im)mobility in authoritarian settings. We aim to receive contributions on one or more of the following questions:

- What kinds of (im)mobility practices does democratic decline in general, authoritarianism in particular, produce?
- In which authoritarian contexts and under which circumstances mobility appears as a life aspiration?
- What motivations shape (im)mobility decisions in authoritarian settings? What resources make mobility or immobility a viable option?
- What impact, if any, do diaspora communities have on democratization/autocratization processes of origin countries?

Contributions can address theoretical questions that conceptualize the relationship between democratization and (im)mobility. Alternatively, contributions can also be empirical studies documenting the range of (im)mobility practices people engage in authoritarian settings. Multidisciplinary in nature, the workshop welcomes participations from a wide range of disciplinary and methodological approaches. Junior scholars are particularly encouraged to apply.

Please send a 300-word abstract and short resume to [authmob22@gmail.com](mailto:authmob22@gmail.com) by May 15, 2022. Notifications of acceptance will be sent out by June 10, 2022. We expect to receive full papers by October 10, 2022. Selected papers will be included in an edited volume or a journal issue.

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