

Migration with Dignity: Perspectives on Climate Change and Human Mobility Biographies and Abstracts

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Susan Martin is the Donald G. Herzberg Professor Emerita of International Migration in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She was the founder and director of Georgetown's Institute for the Study of International Migration. She also chairs the Thematic Working Group on Environmental Change and Migration for the Knowledge Partnership in Migration and Development (KNOMAD) at the World Bank. Prior to joining Georgetown's faculty, Dr. Martin was the Executive Director of the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform, which was mandated by statute to advise the President and Congress on U.S. immigration and refugee policy. She received her PhD in the History of American Civilization from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Martin has authored or edited a dozen books and numerous articles and book chapters. A second updated edition of her book, *A Nation of Immigrants*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2021. She serves on the boards of Jesuit Refugee Service USA and the Center for Migration Studies and is a member of the International Organization for Migration's Migration Research and Publishing High-Level Advisors group, the Comptroller General of the United States' Advisory Council, and the Advisory Board at Douglass Residential College, Rutgers University.

Abstract:

According to the International Panel on Climate Change, "Extreme weather events provide the most direct pathway from climate change to migration" but in the longer-term "sea level rise, coastal erosion, and loss of agricultural productivity ... will have a significant impact on migration flows." Mobility patterns will differ, depending on which scenario prevails: Drought and rising sea levels, for example, are likely to produce gradual and, often, anticipatory migration whereas acute natural hazards and conflict over climate-scarce resources will likely lead to reactive, and often, emergency, displacement. Most alarming, some populations are likely to be trapped in place, unable to get out of harm's way, without external help. This presentation will examine these different scenarios and forms of mobility through the lens of 'migration in dignity,' discussing gaps in law and governance and proposing potential steps to address the barriers to safe and dignified migration.

Carl Bruch is the Director of International Programs at the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) and the founding President of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association (EnPAX). His work focuses on environmental peacebuilding (especially after conflict), environmental governance, adaptation, and environmental emergencies. He has helped dozens of countries— including many conflict-affected countries—throughout Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe strengthen their environmental laws, institutions, and practices. He has edited more than ten books and authored more than 80 journal articles, book chapters, and reports. He is an adjunct professor at American University School of International Service. He holds a JD from the Northwestern School of Environmental Law of Lewis & Clark College, an MA in physics from the University of Texas-Austin, and a BS in physics (with additional majors in mathematics and anthropology) from Michigan State University.

Monica Iyer is a Human Rights Officer at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, where she works on issues related to migration and to the environment and climate change and coordinates a project on climate-related migration in the Sahel. Within OHCHR she has also supported the mandates of the Working Group on discrimination against women and the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity. Her interests and expertise include development and human rights, tax justice, women's rights and gender, and racial discrimination. Prior to joining OHCHR Monica worked as a human and civil rights attorney for a number of nongovernmental and State organizations, including the New York State Office of the Attorney General. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago, a juris doctor from New York University School of Law, and a masters in international cooperation and development from the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Milan, Italy.

Brian Kelly is the head of the Community Stabilization Unit for the International Organization for Migration. This position is based in Washington, D.C. Prior to this he was the Regional Emergency and Post Crisis Advisor at the IOM Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. He has been with IOM since 2000 and has worked in the Balkans, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Nepal, Iraq, Pakistan, and elsewhere. Specializing in humanitarian operations, community stabilization, peace-building, reintegration, and the coordination of relief-and-recovery programming, Mr. Kelly helps governments, the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector support vulnerable populations and stabilize communities. His publications include an article on the relationship between climate change and displacement in South Asia, a handbook about communicating with disaster-affected communities, and lessons learned from the Libya experience supporting international labor migrants caught in crisis. Before joining IOM, Mr. Kelly worked with the International Rescue Committee and for the Connecticut State Department of Education.

Dr. Shanna N. McClain is the NASA Earth Science Divisions Global Partnerships Manager and the Applied Sciences Lead for Risk Reduction and Resilience. She sits as a Visiting Scholar with the Environmental Law Institute, where she co-leads the program on environmental migration and displacement. She serves as Chair to the Environmental Peacebuilding Association's Interest Group on Water, and to the IFRC-German Red Cross Anticipation Hub Working Group on Earth Observations. She worked previously for the joint UNOCHA/UN Environment Emergencies Section on issues relating to complex and protracted crisis. She holds a PhD in Environmental Science & Policy from Southern Illinois University, where she examined the challenges of integrating three science and policy priorities – climate change adaptation, response to disasters, and resilience – into multilevel governance frameworks of international river basins.