

Migration and Freedom

Mobility, Citizenship and Exclusion

Brad K. Blitz, Professor of International Politics and Policy,
University College London, UK

Migration and Freedom is a thorough and revealing exploration of the complex relationship between mobility and citizenship in the European area. Drawing upon over 170 interviews, it provides an original account of the opportunities and challenges associated with the rights to free movement and settlement in Croatia, Italy, Slovenia, Spain and Russia. It documents successful and unsuccessful settlement and establishment cases and records how both official and informal restrictions on individuals' mobility have effectively created new categories of citizenship.

'... throughout Migration and Freedom: Mobility, Citizenship and Exclusion, Blitz takes great care in detailing the influence of national laws, the European Charter, international customs and principles, and social factors on the freedom of migration movement. ... The book is suitable for students and academics of several fields including political science, international studies, and law as it discusses the efficacies of - as well as deterrents to - freedom of movement in an evolving global society.'

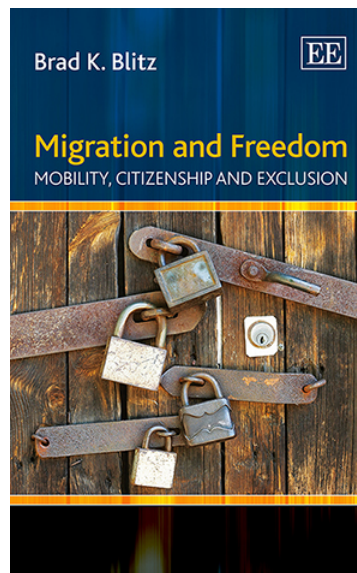
– Patricia M. Muhammad, International Social Science Review

'In this timely and important book, Professor Brad K. Blitz, a leading expert on post-conflict integration, statelessness, migration, development and human rights, reminds us how the concept of freedom of movement, and its relationship to migration, has received little comprehensive treatment among academics, even though it underpins what we expect as individuals living in liberal states. Yet, there are 214 million international migrants and 740 million internal migrants in the world today. It is all the more paradoxical therefore that there is no guarantee of the right of freedom of movement where most migration takes place against the backdrop of both official and unofficial controls. With strong theoretical underpinnings, and drawing from a range of philosophers, both ancient and modern, Professor Blitz, examines the legal foundations for the free movement of people, before undertaking a practical critique of recent free movement experiences in Spain, Italy, Serbia, Croatia, Russia and Slovenia. This is a tour de force. A work of remarkable scholarship, prescience, and practical relevance, which deserves to be read by all on this much-neglected subject of freedom of movement.'

– Satvinder Juss, King's College London, UK

'An advance, both analytically and empirically, for migration studies. With a base in international law and political theory, Blitz admirably opens up the ambiguous question of freedom of movement in relation to the restrictions still imposed by national borders and sovereignty, and the difficulties migrants face turning movement into successful settlement. Focusing on Europe, and migration experiences internal and external to the EU, as well as within and across national boundaries, the book significantly challenges current immigration paradigms with a series of atypical and provocative case studies.'

– Adrian Favell, Sciences Po, Paris, France



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