



## Western Centre for Research on Migration & Ethnic Relations



### Dr. Nicola Piper

Senior Research Fellow, Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institute, at University of Freiburg, Germany

Dr. Piper's interests and expertise focus on gendered migration and migrant rights issues. Her research interests emerge from political sociology with international migration as empirical subject and revolve around social movements and political mobilization, transnational advocacy networks, nodal governance, migrant rights and political development with area expertise in mostly East and Southeast Asia, but also Latin America and Europe.

## Global Governance of Migration and the Global Migrant Rights Movement

The past few years have seen the ascendancy of international migration for work on the global policy agenda. Much in contrast to other issue areas which are subject to global regulation such as trade (WTO), finance (IMF, WB), health (WHO) and intellectual property (WIPO), the movement of people is not governed by one formal international regime (except for refugees). Recently, however, there has been an increased level of activity surrounding the governance of migration for work at the global level: numerous intergovernmental organizations are now actively involved in migration from their respective areas of expertise or interests, several international commissions and state-led initiatives have placed migration governance on the global policy agenda, and a number of institutions for inter-state dialogue and cooperation have been established at the regional and global levels. This had the result of an emerging system of migration governance which is to date, however, highly fragmented and incoherent.

The general aim of this talk is to examine the obstacles and opportunities provided by the emerging, yet fragmented, migration governance system, and specific IOs within it, for the rallying around of non-state actors in one form or another in order to assess their level of influence over shaping the direction and content of policy making at the global level. In this context, the specific question explored pertains to the kind of strategies civil society actors are using to promote migrant rights and to influence policy making at the global level. To probe deeper into the nature of these strategies, an analytical framework is developed on the basis of two overlapping strands of theory: constructivist international relations and social movement theory.

**Thursday, October 27, 2011**

**4:00pm – SSC 5220**

**Refreshments 3:30pm – SSC 5230**

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**All Welcome!**