

From Evidence to Action: Understanding Migration Choices in Times of Change

6 March 2026, 09:00–13:00 CET

Library of the Institute of Economic Research, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Šancová 56, 81105 Bratislava



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Today's Agenda

- 09:00 – 09:10** Welcome and Opening
- 09:10 – 10:45** Evidence Session: Research Insights on Migrant Decision-Making and Public Preferences for Migration Policies
- 10:45 – 11:15** Coffee break
- 11:15 – 12:15** Armchair Discussion: Policy at the Crossroads: Reconciling Evidence with Practice
- 12:15 – 13:00** Lunch and Networking



Welcome and Opening:
Jasmijn Slootjes, Deputy Director,
Migration Policy Institute (MPI) Europe



Making migration and migration policy decisions
amidst societal transformations

Evidence Session

Research Insights on Migrant Decision-Making and Public Preferences for Migration Policies



Simona Vezzoli, Postdoctoral Researcher, International Institute
of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Lucia Kováčová, Researcher, Institute for Forecasting, Centre of
Social and Psychological Sciences, Slovak Academy of Sciences



María Jesús Cabezón Fernández, Associate Professor,
Department of Human Geography, University of Alicante

Anne-Marie Jeannet, Associate Professor, Department of Social
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Making migration and migration policy decisions
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Making migration and migration policy decisions amidst societal transformations

Simona Vezzoli

EMN Policy Event, Bratislava

6 March 2026



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Research questions

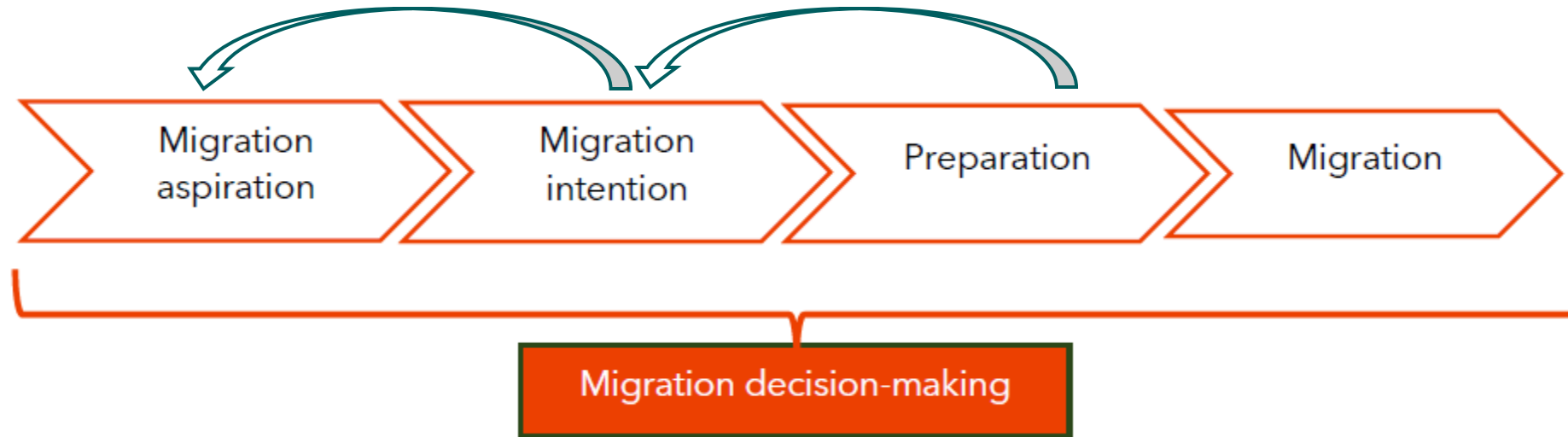
How do changes in society, individual life experiences and migration policies shape decisions to stay or to migrate over time and across countries?

And how can this knowledge inform future migration policies and governance?

Towards a holistic understanding of decision-making

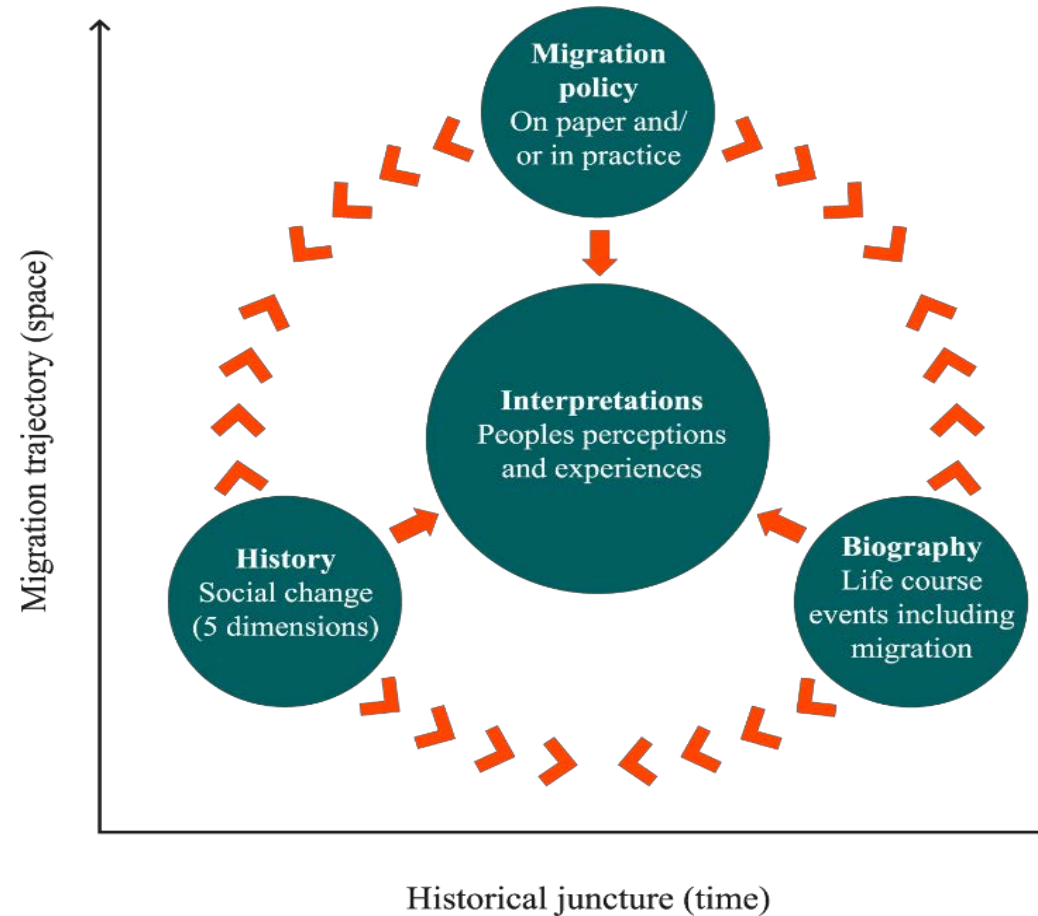


What is migration decision-making?



Temporal multilevel framework (TMA)

(Vezzoli, Kureková and Schewel, 2024)



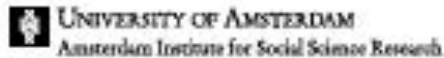
Focus on African migrations to Europe



Research design

Research component	Sub-component	Countries	Methods
Migration policy decision-making	Mapping and typology of policy instruments	EU level, Austria, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Sweden	  Interviews, policy documents
		Austria, Italy, the Netherlands	  Interviews, policy documents
	In-depth analysis of implemented policy initiatives	Ethiopia, Nigeria	  Interviews, policy documents
	Public opinion on migration policies	Austria, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden	 Survey
Migration decision-making	Decision-making before migration	Algeria, Ethiopia and Nigeria	  Interviews, experiments
	Decision-making of people on the move	Algeria, Ethiopia and Nigeria; Niger and Tunisia; Italy, Slovakia and Spain	  Survey, interviews

14 partners: Universities, NGOs, IOs



Associated partners

