

Population Healing: Languages,
Creativity and the Extraordinary
Normality
of Migration

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In the name of



Migration is normal.

This is the first and perhaps only fact we can trust in debates around migration and refugee 'crises.



Migration is 'extraordinarily' normal.

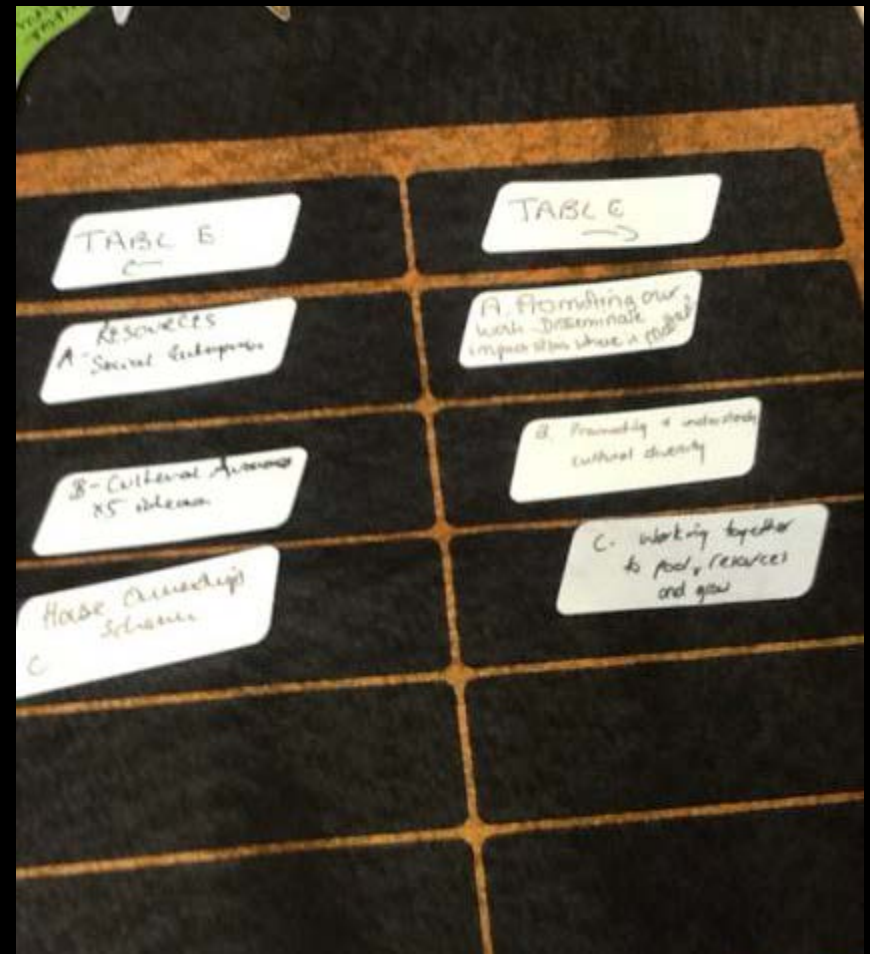
“People are on the move, and have been for centuries, 'dwelling in travel.’” (Clifford 1997).

It produces extraordinary effects.



Representations

Alongside migration comes an industry dedicated to population health and its analysis.



Migration and Statistics

In 2006-07 the net migration gain was 33,000, the highest since these estimates started in 1951. However, in 2011-12 net migration had fallen to 12,700 and in 2012-13 net migration fell again to 10,000. In 2013-14 net migration rose by 7,600 to 17,600 which is the biggest increase since 2006-07.”

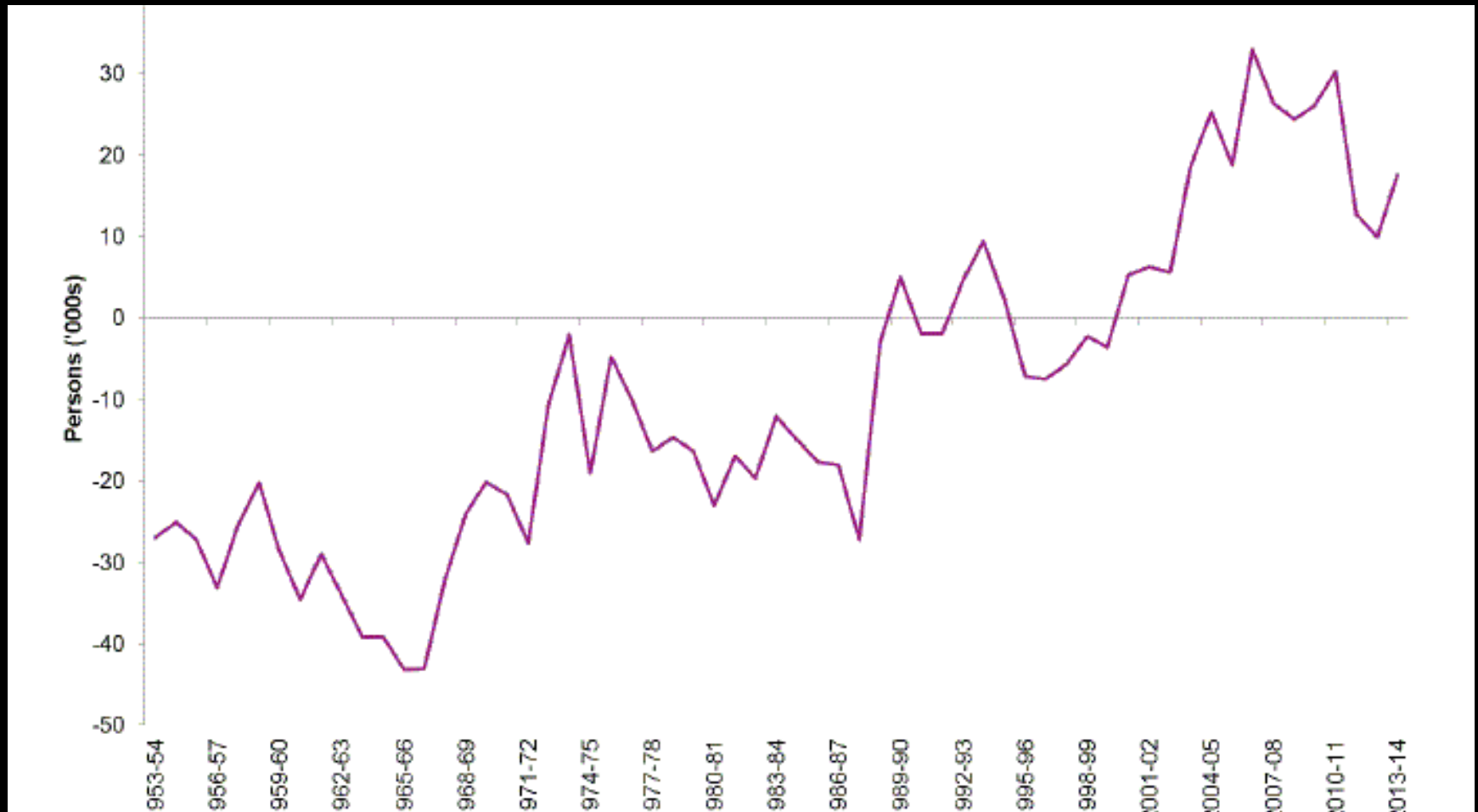
<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/high-level-summary/j11198/j1119806.htm>

Scotland

“Historically, Scotland has been a country of net out-migration, with more people leaving to live elsewhere than moving to live in Scotland. However, since the 1960s, net out-migration has greatly reduced, and from 1990 onwards Scotland has mostly experienced net migration gains. Scotland has now entered a period of net in-migration. Between 2003-04 and 2010-11, there were net gains of at least 18,600 per year.”



Represented in Graphs



Refugee Migrations

- Two-thirds of the world's 61 million refugees (2015) are living in developing countries. Many are living in large refugee camps. *(Source: UNHCR.)*
- In 2012 Scotland hosted around 2,000 asylum seekers - a tiny proportion of the world's refugee population, and around 10% of the total number of asylum seekers making claims in the UK. *(Source: UK Government, 2013.)*
- Asylum seekers make up less than 0.5% of the population of Glasgow (where the vast majority of asylum seekers in Scotland live).
- If all the refugees and asylum seekers in Scotland gathered at Hampden stadium it would be less than 40% full.
- In Europe, in 2012 the UK ranked 11th in the European Union in terms of asylum applicants per head of population. In terms of absolute numbers of applications, France, Germany and Sweden all received more than the UK. France and Germany both received almost three times more than the UK. *(Source: UK Government, 2013.)*

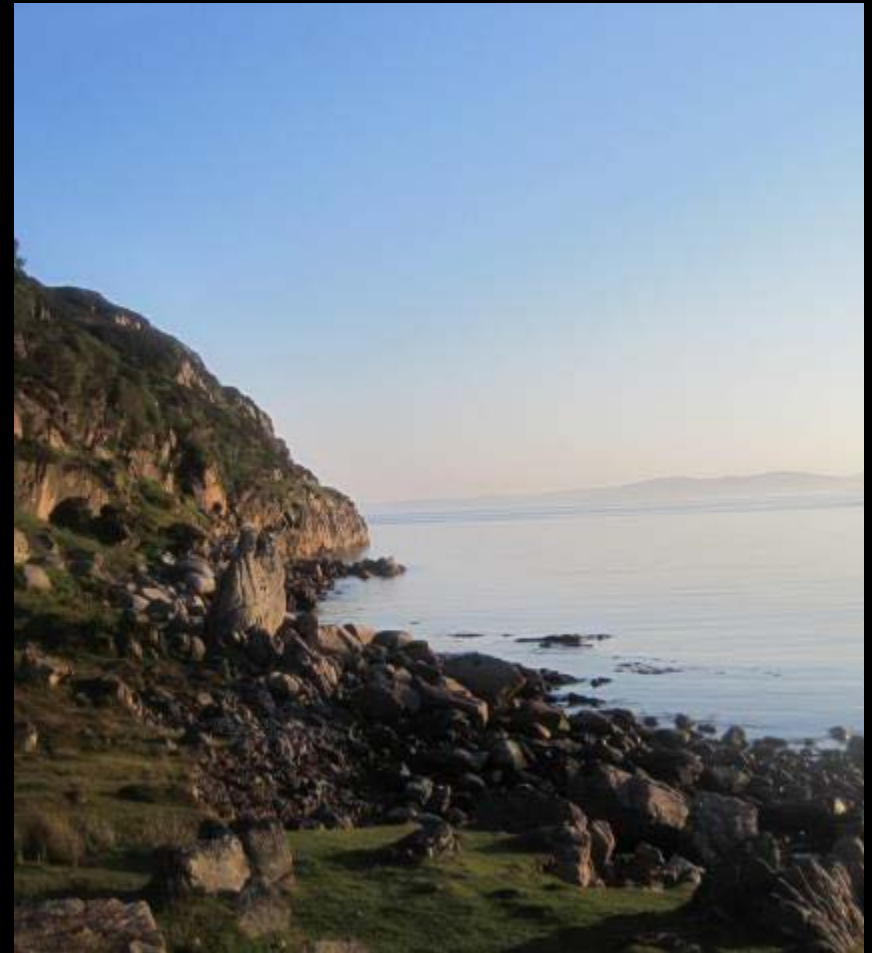
Some other figures for seasonal and long term migration

2014 – 15.5 million overnight tourism

International Students UK Higher Education

- EU 11,420
- Non UK-EU 106,915

- 11% of UK population move house each year.



[IOM interactive Map](#) – fun for hours.

Missing migrants project

658,002 – arrivals

3,138

Seriously unreliable data.

“Globalisation takes place only in capital and data. All else is damage control.”

(Spivak 2013, p. 3)

Human Capital and Human Lives



Lederach & Lederach

Project-driven mentalities
& logistical sequencing of
events for addressing
change misses out on the
metaphors of lived
experience.



From Fears of Population Change to Population Happiness

Can migration assist in
happiness indices?

What does diversity do
(for us)?

How can we map the
human capital
contributions of migrants?



Population Health: To do what? At whose expense?

There is an ethical valence to these questions
-to our use of data.
-to our representation of data.

Economic migration vs human protection.

Data & capital vs damage control



Underlying Stories: Languages and population healing?

“You are stingy with your language. You do not speak to us in the street”



Languages and Creativity in the Pursuit of Healing

Languages as data-bytes
or languages as the
primary facilitators of
social integration and
healing.



Researching Multilingually:



- Killjoy methods;
- Taking the standpoint of the 'wretched'
- Languages under Pain and Pressure.
- Troubling the cult of English/monolingual ly masked research.

Multilingual Democracies

To the forces of monolingualism and 'English-only' policies the multilingual subject stands as a quixotic figure.

A killjoy.

A condition requiring artistry. And defiance.



How to become a multilingual Democracy

ESOL provision

Language deficit models

Learn from International
Relations and diplomacy

Stop using languages as a
proxy for diversity.

Learn from multilingual
contests and places of
pain and pressure.



- How have populations turned to healing and held on to their languages in the face of conflict and population starvation and in the face of mass migrations?
- -Gaza
- -Aotearoa





The genres of the future in the present

Dear TEMPUS (partners)

We are emailing you in reference to Project 517494-TEMPUS-UK-JPMES (2011-2504). We have been asked by the European Commission to provide documentation in regards to costs that have been reported in the financial claim.

You may have already provided documentation for these transactions however, the Commission is asking you to provide these again, and if any documents are in Arabic, they must be translated into English so we can understand the content.





1 month later: Designing Arabic Training in Gaza

- Nazmi Al Masri – TEFL model/ AFL quality
- Employability/peace project
- Conflict and Compassion are central concerns



IUG Multilingual campus: 6 languages

1. Arabic

2. English

4. Braille



5. Arabic sign language

6. Art, Languages & technology designing gifts & furniture by engineers & physically impaired people (Mosaic Works, Arabesque work)



Language and the Arts of Resistance



Singing Good-bye to Red Road



Nau mai Haere Mai

Karakia

Whakawhanaungatanga

Whakapapa o te ao Māori

-Whakarongo (Visual-kite-ā-
karu)

-Titiro (Audio-Rongo-ā-taringa)

-Kōrero (Kinaesthetic-Mahi-ā-
tinana)



Māori - Mihi (Decolonising Methodologies)

Te Whakapapa o Alison

Tēna koutou katoa e te whānau whānui

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa I tēnei wā o te tau.

Ko 'Calmac' tōku waka

Ko Clyde tōku awa

Ko Maunga Lomond tōku maunga tapu

Ko Yorkshire-Scottish-Blen tōku iwi

Ko Phipps-Swinfen-Andmariam tōku hapū

Ko West End tōku marae

I te taha o tōku papa ko Fred rāua Gertrude ōku tīpuna

I te taha o tōku māmā ko Leonard rāua Annie ōku tīpuna.

Ko Roy rāua ko Anne ōku mātua.

Nā reira tēnā koutou katoa

Mihi



One step at a time.

“The new world is not given whole, any more than the new self is given abruptly in psychotherapy. It is given only a little at a time, one poem, one healing one pronouncement, one promise, one commandment. Over time these pieces are stitched together, all of us in concert, but each of us idiosyncratically stitched together a new whole.” (Brueggemann)



Listen to the wretched of the earth. Does it help them? And if it doesn't - Be a killjoy – make trouble; use your moral imagination.




Population Healing

- “Acting together, and not separately, mending the torn fabric through community rituals, making understandable the incomprehensible, invoking the very demons that run through history: it is in these acts that the healing qualities of representation [...] reside.

(Febres 2011)

“Revolution happens because everyone refused to go home” (Butler)





Researching Multilingually at the Borders of Language, the Body, Law and the State

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