

Websites on Migration

Reviewed by Irene Moreno-Martín de Nicolás

The following websites are part of the essential sources to be consulted when researching on the field of migration. The reliable data displayed on these websites covers most of the important aspects the people interested on migration wishes to find. Two important universities made public their research online: the University of Oxford and the University of California, Davis, both research centers. The first contributes in the field of Forced Migration; the latter, publishes their research in Migration Dialogue. Two more important organizations that contribute with relevant online information on migration are The Migration Policy Institute and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Therefore, for their reliability and the great varied amount of information on migration, the four websites are useful main focuses of relevant data for those researching on the topic. The next lines will detail the contents and applications of the mentioned websites.

Migration Policy Institute

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/>

The Migration Policy Institute is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit think tank in Washington DC, dedicated to the analysis of the movement of people worldwide. It is funded by donations from numerous corporations and multinational organizations including the United Nations, the Carnegie Corporation, and the Ford Foundation. The institution was created in 2001 by Demetrios G. Papademetriou and Kathleen Newland, and it grew out of the International Migration Policy Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. The displayed data is made publicly available by the good will of global organizations and governments and accessible to researchers, policy makers, journalists, students. Overall, the website shows essential facts, data, and tools which can be used by the people interested in discovering the movements of people worldwide.

One can find information on several research programs: National Center of Immigration and Integration Policy, US Immigration, European Immigration, Migration and Development, and Refugee Protection. The information included in these varied programs on migration is very complete. In each program one comes across publications, news, events, expert's opinions, and policy work. The National Center of Immigration and Integration Policy comprises

specific information on migrants, such as education, health, fiscal impacts, citizenship and civic engagement, language and literacy, integration in other countries, etc.

Furthermore, there is information on resources. The MPI data hub includes numerous resources on migration grouped in several categories: US Immigration, Immigration and Integration, European Migration, Migration and Development, Refugee Protection, and Migration Information Source. These categories enclose maps, reports, and articles related to the research topic. A different way of researching in this website is to click on either US data or International data. Those research tools consist of maps, articles, news, reports, and facts and figures on the selected area.

The online journal incorporated in the MPI website, *Migration Information Source*, contains global data (citizenship, asylum, comparative migration statistics...) divided into regions, country resources (where one can select a country and get immediate maps, related articles, and other resources), US data, refugees' stories and statistics, archives (to find stories by author, category or issue), a press room with tools for writing stories, and a glossary with vocabulary on international migration.

A section is dedicated to news and events where one ought to register in order to obtain the desired information. One more section that requires registration is "your interests" with further information and news on migration. There is a section dedicated to media tools, where one can find more research news and research resources on migration. The final section is called "US Congressional Resources" and it includes MPI congressional testimony and links from the *Migration Information Source*.

The great amount of information contained in this website turns it into one of the most reliable and essential websites on migration. It is a useful tool, not only for researchers, but for anyone interested in the field of migration. However, the website would be much of use to someone researching on the United States' migration than on international migration, since it contains more information on the United States.

Migration Dialogue

<http://migration.ucdavis.edu/>

University of California Davis is one of the nation's public research universities and is part of the public university system. One of the specific areas of research is migration. The research on this field is published by Migration Dialogue. It gives factual and timely information

as well as several analyses on international migration issues. The website consists of five activities: Migration News, Rural Migration News, west Coast Program on Science and Engineering Workers, Changing Face, and Research & Seminars. Each activity has its objective and its function.

Migration News gathers topics by regions: The Americas, Europe, Asia, and Other. Their function is to analyze immigration and integration developments in the different regions stated. Migration News is produced with the support of the German Marshall Fund of the United States and the University of California-Berkeley Center for German and European Studies. The website is divided into five sections where one can find current and past issues (since 1994), information about the subscription, resources (articles about immigration and integration), and data.

Rural Migration News is produced with the support of the Rosenberg, Giannini and Farm Foundations. It deals with migration related issues affecting immigrant farm workers in California and the United States. The topics are grouped in five categories: Rural America, Farm Workers, Immigration, Other, and Resources. There is an email version, to which the people interested could subscribe to and get the latest updates. Rural Migration News has been published since 1995.

West Coast Program on Science and Engineering Workers (WCPSEW) includes information on science and labor force. It hosts seminars on labor and immigrants. The WCPSEW is quite recent; they began publishing in January, 2008. This website is very specific and it gives information only related to science and some issues deal with immigrants and science.

A fourth activity, Changing Face, analyzes the effects of immigrant farm workers on agriculture and agricultural communities. The project's objective is to assess the prospects for migrants and their children arriving in Rural America. The information published includes conferences, reports, and lectures on the mentioned topics.

Migration Dialogue conducts Opinion Leader Seminars (OLS), coordinates the Comparative Immigration and Integration Program (CIIP), and manages the Comparative Efforts to Manage Emigration (CEME) project. The first, OLS, includes information on migration issues in concrete settings. The people interested can look for the region they are researching on. CIIP is a space where graduate students can share their research on comparative migration issues in periodic seminars. Comparative Efforts to Manage Emigration program intends to coordinate movements, to contact immigrant's destinations to facilitate them work more effectively.

The five activities that constitute Migration Dialogue deal with different aspects and fields of migrant's life. All of them are very specific, but very useful for those researching on these precise topics.

Forced Migration

<http://www.forcedmigration.org/>

The University of Oxford Refugee Studies Center (RSC) makes publications on forced migration that can be consulted in The Forced Migration website. This website focuses on resources for people involved in the field of forced migration. The established sections contain web-based regional resources, thematic resources, and a digital library, where one can view summaries, guides, and documents from their digital library. Another section includes journals, as the *International Migration Review*, published three times a year by the Center of Migration Studies, which was created to encourage and facilitate the study of sociodemographic, historical, economic, political, legislative, and international migration. There is also information on the relevant organizations in the field of forced migration.

Apart from articles and guides on forced migration, the people interested can watch online videos, view photos, and listen to audio files on lectures from events, discussions between experts, and interviews with refugees. Moreover, there are working papers that the University of Oxford Refugee Studies Center (RSC) publishes on forced migration. The events where Forced Migration contributes (seminars, conferences and workshops) can be checked in the "events" section.

The information given by Forced Migration is addressed to people doing research on the field. Most of the information given by the University of Oxford is research on the field of forced migration worldwide. In that aspect, the website becomes a reliable and indispensable source for doing research on migration.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

<http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/lang/en/pid/1>

IOM is an inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. The IOM website, offered in three different languages (English, French and Spanish), was created based on the principle that an orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As a leading international organization for migration, IOM acts to: a) assist to meetings about the challenges of migration management; b) advance

understanding of migration issues and make them public; c) encourage social and economic development through migration; d) and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

On the main menu of the website one can find information on the IOM, migration, activities, policy and research, and a last section with information on law, media, events, publications, and partnerships. The latter provides migration videos, photos, stories, speeches, periodicals, reports, books, and research on migration law. The other sections contain useful information on migration around the world. Clicking on the link about migration, there are facts and figures, materials on migration and security, health, and gender, and help on how the passport, visa, and the border management systems work. That kind of information might be useful for migrants themselves

However, the contents of the IOM website are very useful for journalists, researchers, or even students who deal with migration issues. More information can be found on migration policy and research, the international dialogues on migration, and regional consultative processes. Furthermore, in the section called “activities”, those interested will be able to select a country and find out which activities concerning migration are going to take place.

The information is not limited to a particular region but it is worldwide information, which makes the website a tool for finding any kind of activities, policies and research, real migration cases, and specific information on managing migration anywhere. It is a complete website that provides practical and helpful information for people involved in migration as well as migrants themselves.

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Pedro Martín Butragueño es doctor en lingüística hispánica por la Universidad Complutense de Madrid (1991), y desde 1994 es profesor-investigador del Centro de Estudios Lingüísticos y Literarios de El Colegio de México. Su área de trabajo es la variación y el cambio lingüístico, en especial la variación fónica, sintáctica, y las relaciones entre entonación y sintaxis. Ha trabajado con español de España (procesos de adaptación lingüística de inmigrantes meridionales en el sur del área metropolitana de Madrid) y español de México, en particular con datos derivados del proyecto para el estudio sociolingüístico de la ciudad de México (que incluye informantes naturales e inmigrantes). Como autor o editor, ha publicado una docena de libros, además de unos sesenta artículos y capítulos de libros. En la actualidad, es coeditor de una Historia sociolingüística de México que se encuentra a punto de aparecer, y está trabajando en una Fonología variable del español de México.

Francisco Moreno Fernández es Doctor en Lingüística Hispánica por la Universidad Complutense de Madrid y Catedrático de Lengua española de la Universidad de Alcalá de Henares (Madrid – España). Ha sido director académico del Instituto Cervantes (1995-1996; en el cargo desde 2008), director de los institutos Cervantes de Sao Paulo (1998-2001) y Chicago (2001-2005), así como director académico y de investigación de la Fundación Comillas (2006-2008). Ha publicado una treintena de libros, entre ellos algunos de amplia difusión: *Diccionario para la enseñanza de la lengua española* (1995), *Qué español enseñar* (2000, 2007), *Principios de sociolingüística y sociología del Lenguaje* (1998, 2005, 2008, 2009), *Historia social de las lenguas de España* (2005), *Demografía de la lengua española* (2007, con Jaime Otero), *Atlas de la lengua española en el mundo* (2007, con Jaime Otero). En 2000 se le concede el Voto de Louvor de la Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro y en 2003 recibe el Premio de la National Association of Hispanic Publications de EE.UU. a la mejor serie de artículos publicados en prensa de gran tirada.

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