

# Nikola Sander

## CURRICULUM VITAE

✉ [nikola.sander@gmail.com](mailto:nikola.sander@gmail.com)  
🌐 [www.nikolasander.com](http://www.nikolasander.com)  
🐦 [nikolasander](https://twitter.com/nikolasander)



*I'm a quantitative population geographer interested in internal & international migration, mobility and data visualisation.*

---

### Education

- Apr 2006 - Feb 2011 **PhD in Geography**, *University of Queensland, Australia*,  
Title: "Retirement Migration of the Baby Boomers in Australia: Beach, Bush or Busted?", Advisor: Prof. Martin Bell.
- Oct 2007 - Mar 2008 **International Max Planck Research School for Demography**, *Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Germany*.
- Jun 2007 - Aug 2007 **Young Scientists Summer Program**, *World Population Program, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria*.
- Oct 1999 - Jul 2005 **Diplom in Geography (Master's equivalent; graduated with distinction)**, *Eberhard-Karls University Tübingen, Germany*.
- Apr 2004 - Nov 2004 **Research stay**, *Griffith University, Gold Coast, Australia*.
- Feb 2003 - July 2003 **Exchange student**, *Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia*.
- 1998 **Abitur (baccalaureate)**, *Konrad-Heresbach Gymnasium Mettmann, Germany*.

---

### Current Position

- since Sep 2017 **Research Director for Migration and Mobility**, *Federal Institute for Population Research (BiB), Wiesbaden, Germany*.

---

### Previous Positions

- Mar 2016 - Aug 2017 **Assistant Professor of Population Geography**, *Population Research Centre, Department of Demography, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen, the Netherlands*.
- Nov 2010 - Feb 2016 **Research Scholar**, *Vienna Institute of Demography, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria*.
- Jan 2011 - Feb 2016 **Research Team Leader 'Migration & Education'**, *Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital, Austria*.
- Aug 2010 - Oct 2010 **Associate Research Scholar**, *World Population Program, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria*.
- May 2006 – Mar 2007 **Research Assistant**, *School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Management, The University of Queensland, Australia*, working for the Queensland Centre for Population Research.

Jun 2004 – Feb 2005 **Research Assistant**, *School of Environmental and Applied Sciences, Griffith University, Australia*, conducting case studies on amenity migration in inland Australia.

---

## Publications

26 publication; 309 citations; h-index: 6 (google scholar).

- 2017 **N. Sander** & E. Charles-Edwards. Internal and International Migration, *In: Africa's Population: In Search of a Demographic Dividend*, eds. J. May & H. Groth, Springer.
- 2017 **N. Sander**. Germany: Internal Migration Within a Changing Nation, *In: Internal Migration in the Developed World: Are We Becoming Less Mobile?*, eds. T. Cooke, A. Champion & I. Shuttleworth, Ashgate.
- 2017 **N. Sander** , J. Stillwell & N. Lomax. Circular Migration Plots, *In: A Handbook of Census Resources, Methods and Applications: Unlocking the UK 2011 Census.*, eds. J. Stillwell & O. Duke-Williams, Taylor & Francis.
- 2017 L. Prazeres, A. Findlay, D. McCollum, **N. Sander**, E. Musil, Z. Krisjane, & E. Apsite-Berina. Distinctive and comparative places: Alternative narratives of distinction within international student mobility, *Geoforum*, 80: 114-122.
- 2015 **N. Sander**. Die Zuwanderung aus Südeuropa nach Deutschland im globalen Kontext, *Berichte der Deutschen Akademie für Landeskunde*, 89 (1): 91-102.
- 2015 E. Charles-Edwards, T. Wilson & **N. Sander**. Visualising Australian internal and international migration flows, *Regional Studies, Regional Science*, vol. 2 (1): 431-433, [PDF](#), [LINK](#).
- 2015 **N. Sander** & M. Bell. Age, Period and Cohort Effects on Migration of the Baby Boomers in Australia, *Population, Space & Place*, pre-published online 21 May 2015, [PDF](#), [LINK](#).
- 2015 **N. Sander**. Font and Mendez (eds.): Surveying Ethnic Minorities and Immigrant Population, *European Journal of Population*, vol. 31(1): 107-108, [LINK](#).
- 2015 J. Stillwell, N. Lomax & **N. Sander**. Monitoring and Visualising Sub-national Migration Trends in the United Kingdom, *In: Planning Support Systems and Smart Cities*, pp. 427-445, eds. S. Geertman, J. Ferreira, R. Goodspeed & J. Stillwell, Springer, [LINK](#).
- 2015 Roland, M., P. Wiesinger & **N. Sander**. H ANHANG, *In: Malstil und Schreibsprache*, pp. 119-140, M. Roland, M. & P. Wiesinger, Austrian Academy of Sciences.
- 2015 **N. Sander** & R. Bauer. Visualizing The Global Migration System, *New World*, vol. 2, United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UNA-UK), [LINK](#).
- 2015 **N. Sander**. Die Welt auf Wanderschaft, *Demografische Forschung Aus Erster Hand*, Max-Planck-Institute for Demographic Research, [PDF](#), [LINK](#).
- 2015 **N. Sander**, G. Abel & R. Bauer. Visualizing Global Migration, *Journal of International Affairs*, vol. 68(2): 272-273, Columbia University, [LINK](#).
- 2014 G. Abel & **N. Sander** [alphabetical order; equal contribution]. Quantifying Global International Migration Flows, *Science*, vol. 343 (6178): 1520-1522, [PDF](#), [LINK](#).
- 2014 **N. Sander**. Internal migration in Germany, 1995-2010: new insights into East-West migration and re-urbanization, *Comparative Population Studies*, vol. 39(2): 217-246, [PDF](#), [LINK](#).

- 2014 **N. Sander** & M. Bell. Migration and Retirement in the Life Course: An event history approach, *Journal of Population Research*, vol. 31(1): 1-27, [PDF](#), [LINK](#).
- 2014 **N. Sander**, G. Abel & F. Riosmena. The Future of International Migration, *In: World Population and Human Capital in the 21st Century*, pp. 333-397, eds. W. Lutz, W. Butz & S. KC, Oxford University Press, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **N. Sander**. The Geography of Contemporary World Migration, *Geography Review by Hodder Education*, vol. 28(2): 20-21, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **N. Sander**. Deutschland in Bewegung? – Neue Daten und Erkenntnisse zur globalen Migration und zur deutschen Binnenwanderung, *Bevölkerungsforschung Aktuell*, vol. 35(3): 8-12, [PDF](#).
- 2014 M. Fischetti, **N. Sander** [Illustration]. The Not So Wretched Masses, *Scientific American*, vol. 310: 86, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **N. Sander**, G. Abel, R. Bauer & J. Schmidt. Visualising Migration Flow Data with Circular Plots, *VID Working Paper*, 2/2014, [PDF](#).
- 2013 **N. Sander**, G. Abel & F. Riosmena. The Future of International Migration: Developing Expert-Based Assumptions for Global Population Projections, *VID Working Paper*, 07/2013, [PDF](#).
- 2011 **N. Sander**, *Retirement Migration of the Baby Boomers in Australia: Beach, Bush or Busted?*, Ph.D. Thesis, [FIGSHARE](#).
- 2011 **N. Sander**, V. Skirbekk, S. K.C. & E. Lundevaller. Prospects for later-life migration in urban Europe, *Project report; Peri-Urban Land Use Relationships – Strategies and Sustainability Assessment Tools for Urban-Rural Linkages (PLUREL)*.
- 2006 R. Buckley, **N. Sander**, C. Ollenburg & J. Warnken. Green Change: Inland Amenity Migration in Australia, *In: The Amenity Migrants: Seeking And Sustaining Mountains And Their Cultures*, pp. 278-294, ed. L. Moss, CABI, [LINK](#).

---

## Teaching Experience

- 2016-17 **Lecturer & Coordinator**, *University of Groningen*, Masters course "Population Policies and Interventions"; Bachelor course "Population Geographies".
- 2016-17 **Guest lecturer**, *University of Groningen*, Bachelor course "Migration and Development"; RUG Summer School "Population and Society".
- 2011 **Guest lecturer**, *Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, MODUL University Vienna*, Course: Latest Trends and Innovations in Tourism.
- 2008 **Guest lecturer**, *School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Management, The University of Queensland, Australia*, Course: Applied Demography.
- 2006 – 2008 **Teaching Assistant**, *School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Management, The University of Queensland, Australia*.

---

## Professional Services

- since 2016 **Comparative Population Studies (BIB)**, *Member of the International Advisory Board*.
- since 2015 **Population, Space & Place (Wiley)**, *Member of the International Advisory Board*.
- 2014 **Austrian Integration Fund**, *Member of the Jury for the Dissertation Price*.
- since 2013 **International Geographical Union, Commission on Population Geography**, *Member of the Steering Committee and Secretary*.

---

## Refereeing

- Journals Comparative Population Studies  
Demographic Research  
European Journal of Population  
Geoforum  
International Migration Review  
Journal of Population Research  
Journal of the Royal Society  
PLOS One  
Population and Environment  
Population, Space & Place  
*Science*  
Urban Geography.
- Granting Bodies Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France; National Science Centre, Poland.

---

## Membership of Scientific Societies

- International Union for the Scientific Study of Population.  
International Geographical Union.  
Population Association of America.  
European Association for Population Studies.  
Asian Population Association.

---

## Scholarships and Awards

- 2010 **RHD Editorial Support Award for PhD thesis editing**, *University of Queensland, Australia (AU\$1,000).*
- 2006 - 2010 **UQ Research Higher Degree Conference Travel Award**, *University of Queensland, Australia (AU\$7,000).*
- 2006 - 2010 **UQ International Scholarship (UQI)**, *University of Queensland, Australia (AU\$103,400).*
- 2006 **International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS)**, *University of New South Wales, Australia (declined).*
- 2003 **Baden-Württemberg Exchange Program Award**, *Flinders University, Australia.*

---

## Research Funding

- 2016 **Quantifying the impact of internal migration on human settlement around the globe**,  
*Proposal submitted to the Dutch NWO VIDI Grant call 2016, but not retained for funding.*
- 2015 **Integrating Demography, Migration and Space in the Modelling of Urban Growth (DEMISPACE)**,  
*Proposal submitted to the Austrian FWF START Grant call 2015; evaluated as belonging to the top 10% of all proposals, but not retained for funding.*

- 2015 **Integrating Demography, Migration and Space in the Modelling of Urban Growth (DEMISPACE)**,  
*Proposal submitted to the ERC Starting Grant call 2015; evaluated as belonging to the top 25% of all proposals, but not retained for funding.*
- 2014 - 2015 **Coordinator of the case study on student mobility in Austria**,  
*PI: Prof Allan Findlay, University of St Andrews,*  
Project title: ESRC Centre for Population Change (phase II), Mobility Strand WP3.2 "Dynamics and policy implications of changes in student mobility".
- 2010 - 2014 **Modelling international migration in global population projections**,  
*PI: Prof. Wolfgang Lutz,*  
ERC Advanced Grant "Forecasting Societies' Adaptive Capacities to Climate Change".
- 2007 - 2010 **Prospects for later- life migration in urban Europe**,  
*WP leader: Prof. Vegard Skirbeck,*  
European Commission Grant "Peri-urban Land Use Relationships: Strategies & Sustainability Assessment Tools for Urban-Rural Linkages (PLUREL)".
- 2006 - 2010 **Retirement migration in Australia**,  
*PI: Prof. Martin Bell,*  
Australian Research Council Discovery Grant "Understanding the Structure of Internal Migration in Australia".

---

## Policy Advise

- Feb 2017 **Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)**, at the workshop "What Future for International Migration and Human Mobility?", organised by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Mar 2016 **German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development**, discussion round on "Migration, Integration and Development" in Berlin, Germany.
- Apr 2014 **World Bank**, at the workshon on "Modelling Migration in Population Projections" hosted at the United Nations in New York, USA, [LINK](#).
- Dec 2011 **European Commission**, during a discussion round on the scientific analysis of migration and global environmental change, hosted by the European Commission, Brussels, Belgium.

---

## Data Visualisations

- 2016 **Participation in the exhibition „Uncertain States. Artistic Strategies in States of Emergency“ of the Academy of the Arts in Berlin**, *Creation of wall art on global refugee and migration flows*, [LINK](#).
- 2016 **Global Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Applicants**, *An interactive data visualisation of globalflows of migrants, refugees and asylum applicants based on 2015 UNHCR data*, page views since Aug 2016: 9,400, [WWW.GLOBAL-REFUGEES.INFO](http://WWW.GLOBAL-REFUGEES.INFO).
- 2014 **The Global Flow of People**, *An interactive data visualisation of global migration flows, 1990-2010*, page views since March 2014: 737,000, [WWW.GLOBAL-MIGRATION.INFO](http://WWW.GLOBAL-MIGRATION.INFO).
- 2014 **Internal Migration in Germany**, *An interactive data visualisation of inter-regional migration flows in Germany*, [WWW.GERMAN-MIGRATION.INFO](http://WWW.GERMAN-MIGRATION.INFO).

- 2014 **Global Migration Data Sheet 2005-10**, *A two-sided poster for science dissemination and education. Total circulation: 5,000 copies*, [PDF](#).

---

## Selected Media Coverage

- 2017 **brand eins**: Wie globalisiert sind wir?, *by M. Hannemann*, [LINK](#).
- 2017 **OZY**: When a country's biggest city lies outside its borders, *by J. Watkins*, [LINK](#).
- 2017 **Nature**: Data on movements of refugees and migrants are flawed, *by D. Butler*, [LINK](#).
- 2016 **3sat**: nano, aired on 12.12.2016 titled "Anziehungspunkt: Afrikaner kommen weiter nach Deutschland", [LINK](#).
- 2016 **Der Spiegel**: Globale Migration: Die Welt bleibt zu Hause, *by G. Mingels*, [LINK](#).
- 2015 **3sat**: Wissenschaftsdoku, aired 21.05.2015 titled "Umstrittene Prognosen. Die Macht der Demografen", [LINK](#).
- 2015 **Der Standard**: Aus globaler Sicht hat Migration nicht zugenommen, *by A. Pumhösel*, [LINK](#).
- 2015 **The Washington Post**: How statisticians uncovered the world's missing migrants, *by A. Swanson*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **FAZ**: Land, Stadt, Glück, *by L. Nienhaus*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Die Welt**: Junge Menschen ziehen massenhaft in die Metropolen, *by D. Siems*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **National Public Radio**: How Cultures Move Across Continents, *by K. Manke*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **New Scientist**: Rising tide of migration is a myth, say global stats, *by J. White*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Scientific American**: Global Migrant Flows: An Interactive Map, *by G. Giller*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Quartz/The Atlantic**: Where everyone in the world is migrating — in one gorgeous chart, *by N. Stockton*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **FastCoExist**: Visualizing Which Countries People Are Trying To Get Away From, And Where They're Going, *by J. Leber*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Slate**: World on the Move, *by J. Keating*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Telegraph**: Innovative graphic shows human flow across world's borders, *by E. Roberts*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Wired**: Addio Italia: la mecca della cultura contemporanea è la California, *by G. De Martino*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Rue89**: Voici la visualisation qui cassera vos idées reçues sur l'immigration, *by C. Beal*, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Der Spiegel**: Die Welt ist konstant in Bewegung , [LINK](#).
- 2014 **ORF**: Globale Migration seit 1990 stabil, [LINK](#).
- 2014 **Der Standard (Titlepage)**: Neue Studie: Globale Migration seit 1990 nahezu unverändert, [LINK](#).

---

## Invited talks

- Sep 2015 **N. Sander**, *Myths and facts on migration in Europe and the global context [Plenary]*, Conference of the European Institute of Social Security, Vienna, Austria, [LINK](#).
- Jun 2015 **N. Sander**, *Migration in the Modern World [Opening Plenary]*, International Conference on Population Geographies, Brisbane, Australia, [LINK](#).
- May 2015 **N. Sander**, *Quantifizierung und Visualisierung Globaler Migrationsströme*, World Demographic and Ageing Forum, St. Gallen, Switzerland, [LINK](#).
- Oct 2014 **N. Sander**, *Participant and presenter at the Workshop on Demography and Energy, organised by the King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Centre (KAPSARC)*, Washington D.C., USA.
- Sep 2014 **N. Sander**, *Wie viele Menschen trägt die Erde?*, Helmholtz Association, Magdeburg, Germany, [SLIDES](#).
- Aug 2014 **N. Sander**, *Perception of Migration - How to Change the Narratives about Migrants*, UNAOC Global Forum, Bali, Indonesia, [LINK](#).
- Jan 2014 **N. Sander** & G. Abel, *Quantifying and visualising global international migration flows in 1990-2010*, Hungarian National Statistical Office, Budapest, Hungary.
- Sep 2013 **N. Sander**, *The socio-demographic characteristics of the New Highlanders and the impact of their migration behaviour on population structures in destination regions*, AlpWeek, Poschiavo, Switzerland.
- May 2013 **N. Sander**, *Participant in the Workshop on Migration, Urbanization and Climate Change*, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, USA.

---

## Conference Presentations

- Sep 2016 **N. Sander** & R. Bauer, *Bridging the gap between science and policy on migration and asylum*, European Population Conference, Mainz, Germany, [LINK](#).
- Jul 2016 **N. Sander**, *The Intensity of Internal Migration in Germany since 1995*, 1st International Conference on Geographies of Migration and Mobility, Loughborough, UK.
- Jul 2015 **N. Sander**, R. Bauer & T. Frank, *Adding Design to the Research Process: Visualising Complex Migration Flow Data*, APA Biannual Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, [SLIDES](#).
- Jun 2015 **N. Sander** & R. Bauer, *Internal migration in Austria along the rural-urban continuum and across the life course, 1996–2014*, International Conference on Population Geographies, Brisbane, Australia, [SLIDES](#).
- Jun 2015 **N. Sander** & R. Bauer, *How Data Visualisation Enhances the Impact and Visibility of Science*, International Conference on Population Geographies, Brisbane, Australia, [SLIDES](#).
- Apr 2015 **N. Sander** & R. Bauer, *How Data Visualisation Enhances the Impact and Visibility of Science*, PAA Annual Meeting, San Diego, USA, [SLIDES](#).
- Mar 2015 **N. Sander**, *Quantifizierung, Visualisierung und Kommunikation von globalen Wanderungsströmen*, DGD Jahrestagung, Berlin, Germany, [SLIDES](#).
- Dec 2014 E. Charles-Edwards, T. Wilson & **N. Sander**, *Visualising Australian internal and international migration flows*, Meeting of the Australian Population Association, Hobart, Australia, [POSTER](#).

- Dec 2014 M. Bell, E. Charles-Edwards, P. Ueffing, A. Bernard, F. Rowe, T. Wilson, J. Cooper & **N. Sander**, *Inter-regional migration in Australia: Thirty years of change*, Meeting of the Australian Population Association, Hobart, Australia.
- Aug 2014 **N. Sander** & G. Abel, *Quantifying and visualising migration flows around the globe*, International Geographical Union, Cracow, Poland, **SLIDES**.
- Aug 2014 **N. Sander** & R. Bauer, *Data visualisation at the nexus of science and the public*, The Graphical Web, Winchester, UK, **SLIDES**, **VIDEO**.
- Jul 2014 **N. Sander**, G. Abel, R. Bauer & J. Schmidt, *Visualizing Migration Flow Data*, Migration & Development Conference, Oxford, UK, **SLIDES**.
- Jun 2014 **N. Sander**, P. Rees & G. Abel, *The patterns and trends in global international migration flows since 1990: a revisit with new data and methods*, European Population Conference, Budapest, Hungary, **SLIDES**.
- Jun 2014 **N. Sander**, R. Bauer & G. Abel, *Visualizing global international migration flows*, European Population Conference, Budapest, Hungary, **POSTER**.
- Jun 2014 G. Abel, S. KC & **N. Sander**, *Examining the role of international migration in global population projections [poster]*, European Population Conference, Budapest, Hungary.
- May 2014 G. Abel, S. KC & **N. Sander**, *Examining the Role of International Migration in Global Population Projections*, PAA Annual Meeting, Boston, USA.
- Oct 2013 **N. Sander**, G. Abel & S. KC, *The impact of alternative assumptions about migration differentials by education on projections of human capital*, Eurostat/UNECE Work Session on Demographic Projections, Rome, Italy.
- Oct 2013 **N. Sander**, *Internationale Migration von und nach Deutschland: Die neue "Einwanderungswelle" aus Südeuropa in Globaler Perspektive*, Deutscher Geographentag, Passau, Germany, **SLIDES**.
- Sep 2013 **N. Sander** & R. Bauer, *Binnenwanderungsmuster in Deutschland seit 1995: Allgemeine Trends und Geschlechterdifferenzen*, D-A-CH Tagung, Salzburg, Austria, **SLIDES**.
- Aug 2013 **N. Sander**, *Internal Migration in Germany between reunification and financial crisis: Changes in spatial patterns and sex ratios*, IUSSP Population Conference, Busan, Korea.
- Aug 2013 **N. Sander**, G. Abel & S. KC, *Innovations in International Migration for use in Global Population Projections*, IUSSP Population Conference, Busan, Korea, **SLIDES**.
- Jun 2013 **N. Sander**, *Transitions in Gender Ratios among Internal Migrants in Germany, 2000-2010*, Population Geography Conference, Groningen, The Netherlands.
- Jun 2013 **N. Sander**, G. Abel & S. KC, *Innovations in International Migration for use in Global Population Projections*, Population Geography Conference, Groningen, The Netherlands.
- Apr 2013 **N. Sander**, *"Go West, Young Man"!? Internal Migration in Germany between Reunification and Economic Crisis [poster]*, PAA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, USA.
- Apr 2013 **N. Sander**, G. Abel & S. KC, *Innovations in International Migration for Use in Global Population Projections*, PAA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, USA.
- Aug 2012 **N. Sander**, *Go West, Young Man!? The spatial structure of inter-regional migration in Germany*, International Geographical Union, Cologne, Germany.



- Jun 2012 **N. Sander**, *Dynamics in the spatial structure of international migration flows between 195 countries, 1960-2010 [poster]*, European Population Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Apr 2012 **N. Sander** & J. Vobecka, *A Cross-National Comparison of the Spatial Structure of Internal Migration by Level of Educational Attainment*, PAA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, USA.
- Jun 2011 **N. Sander** & M. Bell, *Retirement Migration of the Baby Boomers in Australia: Beach, Bush or Busted?*, International Conference on Population Geographies, Umea, Sweden, **SLIDES**.
- Oct 2010 **N. Sander** & V. Skirbekk, *Prospects for later-life migration in urban Europe*, International Conference on Managing the Urban-Rural Interface, Copenhagen, Denmark, **SLIDES**.
- Sep 2009 **N. Sander** & M. Bell, *Retirement migration among the baby boomers: cohort dynamics and spatial structure in Australia*, IUSSP Population Conference, Marrakesh, Morocco.
- Aug 2009 **N. Sander** & M. Bell, *Migration and Retirement in the Life Course: An event history approach*, International Conference on Population Geographies, Dartmouth, USA.

*Last updated: 14 September 2017*