**MMS BOOK Proposal**

**Book description and rationale**

This book is about the migratory shifts, flows and experiences in Switzerland between 2016-2024 and about how one can look into these processes.

The book explores these phenomena in a visual way, by relying on the results of the Migration-Mobility Survey (MMS), the largest and more comprehensive longitudinal survey about migrants and migration in Switzerland carried out by the nccr – on the move between 2016-2024.

What is the MMS?

From the onset, the main aim was to create a tool that would allow to monitor changes in relation to certain dynamics (migratory related). But it also, and mostly, became a tool to better understand the migratory phenomena more than just change.

Style of the book

This proposition is to produce a ‘beautiful’, visual book, in the sense that it will be a graphically pleasant product that importantly relies on simple yet captivating visual and design material to summarize what the MMS is, who participated in it, what it found, and how it was done.

The material will mostly be presented through data visualization and/or illustrations, complemented with short explanatory texts or quotes from participants and researchers.

Producing such a book will allow us to share the main findings of our survey with a wider audience than a purely academic one, and also participate in the growing effort/debate to make academic research more accessible and understandable, and might motivate other research centers to undertake similar projects.

**Audience**

The book will serve as a means to disseminate the survey’s findings and its making to a broader audience than just academics and university students, including policymakers, civil society organizations, media, science communicators, interested general public, and potentially high schools (for courses on migration/demography).

From a knowledge dissemination perspective, a book that is not a classical academic/scientific book, because of its captivating and ‘simple’ design, is much more accessible. It would thus also be produced to reach non-specialized audiences to raise public awareness about the survey’s subject matter.

**Practical aspects**

Language: tbd, most likely FR and DE in the same edition

Length: max. 100 pages

Format: the book would be available both in print and online, and the online version will be open access.

**Authors**

The nccr – on the move is the National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) for migration and mobility studies. It aims to enhance the understanding of contemporary phenomena related to migration and mobility in Switzerland and beyond. Connecting disciplines, the NCCR brings together research from the social sciences, economics and law, and puts a strong emphasis on transferring knowledge from science to society.

Prof. Philippe Wanner:

Dr. Nora Bardelli is an anthropologist specialized in forced migration and holds a PhD from the University of Oxford. Her academic work, based on ethnographic research and critical approaches to (forced) migration, focused on how aid programs can increase intersectional inequalities among forced migrants in West Africa. She is the Knowledge Transfer Officer of the NCCR, and is passionate about making research findings accessible to a wide variety of non-academic audiences. If this can also be done beautifully and in style, she’s even more satisfied.

**Design**: TBD / WU?

**Table of content**

1. **Introduction / context**

The first section of the book will give some contextual information about what’s in the book, how/why the MMS was created, and what it became.

Examples of information shared (as much as possible in visual forms):

* A timeline including the beginning of the conceptualization and the various phases/waves
* What was the goal at its onset and what it achieved (including how other researchers used the data, how it filled a ‘data-void’, etc.), and how the topics were decided
* How the national context changed in those years and what it meant for the survey (i.e. migration policies/laws changes/migration flows, COVID-19, etc.)
* How many people participated over the years and how many questions were asked, and an overview of ‘profiles’ (by gender, age, nationality, etc.)
* Short ‘témoignages’ from people who participated in the survey and that gave an overall feedback 🡪 to show that there is more complexity in people’s experiences than what can be captured in a survey.

1. **Main part of the book**

This part is organized around the different thematic sections of the survey (the survey’s questions are separated in different themes). Each topic will be developed via 2-3 questions/results, going from the general result we can see, to the explication of one of the information we extrapolate from that.

An example: on the topic ‘naturalization’, we show a visualization of naturalization rates over the different survey waves, and by nationality. We highlight one aspect of that which seems interesting: after 10 years, 80% of people coming from Eastern Europe decides to naturalize, against only 10% of Portuguese doing so.

To explain this, we give an interpretation from a quote of a participant of Portuguese origin (“I don’t think I’ll ever go through the process, it seems so complicated and wouldn’t know who to ask for support”), and then 1-2 sentences of scientific explanation from one of our researchers, so also in form of quote and simple text (i.e., “Historically, this group xwy… The difference in permits validity…”).

This shows how from what seem like a ‘simple’ overview/result, we can actually learn a lot of more complex aspects that make up migratory experiences and processes.

The subsections of this second part of the book will be (for now using the names of the survey’s sections):

* Migratory history
* Context behind the arrival in Switzerland
* Citizenship
* Education history and current situation
* Employment history and current situation
* Family configuration and household composition
* Schooling
* Contact with the Swiss population
* Integration (language skills, feeling of belonging to the Swiss society)
* Transnationalism
* Life in CH
* Follow-up survey for those who left Switzerland
* (Solidarity?)

1. **Concluding section**

The concluding section will look at:

* Main emerging trends in terms of migration related phenomena/processes. Various trends have been observed, for example in relation to the level of qualification of migrant populations and their transnational behavior. At the same time, some indicators show little change, pointing to stability in certain dimensions of integration (e.g. in terms of position on the labor market).
* Policy relevance of the survey: some examples of how it has been used, and if appropriate some recommendation on the aspects discussed. For example, one thing that stands out quite clearly is the lack of information on naturalization and residence permit procedures. One recommendation would be to make this information more accessible.

**Timeline**

October – December 2024: discussions with graphic designers or data/science illustrators and publishing houses

March – August 2025: book preparation and submission end of Summer 2025

**Available Budget**

Up to 50,000.- , still need to be approved by SNSF.

This would include the work to produce the book (designers, extra staff if needed – most likely not), publication of a certain amount of copies, OA publication fees (at least 20’000), launch event if an event would be planned separate from the final NCCR events, etc.