

*Workshop proposal nr.17*

Title: **Europe and Middle East refugee crisis**

Organizer(s): Marko Valenta

Email(s): [marko.valenta@svt.ntnu.no](mailto:marko.valenta@svt.ntnu.no)

**Europe and Middle East refugee crisis**

Europe has recently experienced an unprecedented increase in numbers of irregular migrants. Most of the migrants are refugees from Syria and from other unstable and war-affected countries in the Middle East, Asia and Africa. In this workshop session, we analyze the responses to the refugee migrations in 2015-2016. The focus is on idiosyncrasies of the recently emerged refugee migration system, which includes Syria and its neighboring countries on the one hand, and the European transit and receiving countries on the other. The primary ambition of this workshop session is to discuss and compare experiences in the neighboring countries, transit countries in Western Balkans and receiving countries in Europe/Scandinavia. Which responses on an individual and national level may be identified, and which factors influence the chosen strategies and political responses?