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## Press release

### The evolving dynamics of the refugee and migration response

Friday 2 December (10am–2pm) at Rich Mix, 35-47 Bethnal Green Road, London E1 6LA

The Migration Museum Project (MMP) is jointly hosting an event in London on December 2, exploring the evolving dynamics of the current refugee and migration ‘crisis’ and our responses to it.

*The evolving dynamics of the refugee and migrant response* will feature selected works from the MMP’s *Call me by my name: stories from Calais and beyond* exhibition, and a panel discussion chaired by award-winning journalist Tim Large, featuring leading academics and representatives from the International Organization for Migration and United Nations.

There will also be live illustration of the panel by graphic artist Laura Sorvala, and a performance by school students based on material devised during a series of education workshops run by actREAL, an organisation using theatre and performance to bring academic research on social issues to life.

The event marks the culmination of *The ethics and politics of the refugee crisis*, an integrated programme of activities about migration aimed at strengthening collaboration between academic research, civil society, education and the culture sectors via avenues of creative expression.

Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the programme is a partnership between MMP, Citizenship and Governance research at The Open University, The University of Oxford’s Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), actREAL and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

“The current situation has brought together a host of different actors, with multiple, contrasting projects, intentions and motivations. This obviously includes refugees and migrants, but also those who police and regulate migration, those campaigning for more of it, those who support migration for personal benefit, and those who aid migrants out of solidarity and compassion,” says Professor Engin Isin, one of the project leaders and Chair in Citizenship and Professor of Politics at the Faculty of Social Sciences, The Open University.

“Not only have we been forced to question the politics and ethics of engagement, including researching and reporting of the refugee and migrant issues, but we have also been compelled to reevaluate our understandings of hospitality, compassion, justice, citizenship, borders and migration.”

**The event is open to all, and admission is free, but registration is required. For enquiries or to book a place, please visit our [Eventbrite page](#).**

## Notes to editors:

Speakers and participants at the event include:

### **Panel discussion**

Bridget Anderson, University of Oxford COMPAS

Elsbeth Guild, Jean Monnet Professor ad personam at Queen Mary, University of London as well as at the Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands

Ovais Sarmad, Chief of Staff, International Organization for Migration

Pamela Delargy, Special Advisor to the U.N. Special Representative for Migration

Moderated by Tim Large, award-winning journalist and editor

### **Exhibition:**

Extracts from *Call me by my name: stories from Calais and beyond*, an acclaimed multimedia exhibition staged by the MMP at Londonewcastle Project Space in June 2016, exploring the complexity and human stories behind the current migration crisis – with a particular focus on the Calais camp.

### **Performance:**

Students from City and Islington College, exploring media representations of migration and the Calais camp, based on a series of workshops run by actREAL

### **Live illustration:**

Laura Sorvala ([www.auralab.co.uk](http://www.auralab.co.uk))

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### **About the Migration Museum Project**

The Migration Museum Project is creating Britain's first dedicated migration museum, examining the important role that migration to and from the UK has played in our national story. We stage an adventurous set of events, exhibitions and education programmes across the country, as we work towards our goal of creating a permanent museum. Our aim is to tell the stories of migrants who have shaped our culture and identity and to promote a more historically based conversation about the role of migration in Britain. In the current climate, the need for such a space for dialogue could not be greater. For more information, visit [migrationmuseum.org](http://migrationmuseum.org), or follow @MigrationUK on Twitter.

**For more information on the Migration Museum Project or the event, please contact Matthew Plowright (E: [matthew@migrationmuseum.org](mailto:matthew@migrationmuseum.org) T: 07585 117 924)**