Is Academic Mobility Gendered?

Symposium on the internationalization of research careers and its implications for equality policies at national levels

University of Lausanne, Novembre 10-11th 2022

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Being mobile, working in transnational networks, publishing in international journals are few of the academic norms early-career researchers have to face in an increasingly internationalised academic system (Le Feuvre, Bataille, & Sautier, 2020). Yet, these norms widely vary across fields (Hamann & Zimmer, 2017; Herschberg, Benshop, & van den Brink, 2018), institutional and national environments (Laudel, Bielick, & Gläser, 2019; Musselin, 2004). In this symposium, we consider academic mobilities, as well as their norms and practices, as an empirical ground to explore some of the recent transformations of academic careers related to internationalisation, and their consequences for the researchers and their institutions (Bernela & Milard, 2016; Schaer, Jacot, & Dahinden, 2021; Tzanakou & Henderson, 2018; Zippel, 2017). We invite researchers from various geographical and disciplinary backgrounds, to discuss the complexities of the academic mobility phenomenon. The symposium aims at building a better understanding of the implications of the internationalisation of research careers on shaping female and male’s trajectories – in sometimes counter-intuitive ways (Cañibano, Fox, & Otamendi, 2016; Goastellec & Pekari, 2013; Zippel, 2017) – and on transforming institutional recruitment (Le Feuvre et al., 2020; Moratti, 2021; Sautier, 2021).

As academic institutions have showed a growing interest in combining internationalisation policies and equality policies, the symposium also provides a space of discussion between researchers working on academic mobilities, and institutional stakeholders working on career management or implementing innovative actions.


