

OBERT Migration and Labour Working Group

Online Round Table

25 January 2022, 5 pm UK time

'Definitions'

Defining a field of studies is always a paradoxical task. It is often needed as a preliminary action to ensure the accessibility and verifiability of research methods and findings. At the same time, destabilising what is fixed and crossing borders is at the heart of critical inquiry. This is all the more true in the fields of migration and labour, where movement and transformation are at the centre. The meaning of words is itself migrant and the result of a creation. In this round table, we would like to reflect on words and definitions employed in the fields of migration and labour (e.g. 'migration', 'mobility', 'migrancy', 'labour', 'work') in the light of this paradox.

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