



Opening Film-discussion festival **FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT** Monday November 17th, 2008

Welcome to the Festival Freedom of Movement!

A unique festival with film, discussions, keynote speeches and music on migration issues within and into the European Union.

Everybody is moving,
but some move more than others
Some move where they want
But certainly not everybody can move where they want.

The overarching question behind the festival is how to accommodate freedom of movement inside the European Union on the one hand, whilst ensuring security and safety of its citizens, on the other.

This complex issue is captured in four themes, each introduced by experts.

The themes are
'European migration policy',
'Human trafficking',
'Migration from Eastern Europe'
and 'Cultural identity'.

As participants you are much invited to engage in the discussions. I hope you will like it and have a wonderful festival.

On the organization:

This event is part of Maastricht Debates, a platform for debate and networking on issues of international cooperation and globalisation.

In Maastricht Debates co-operate:

Maastricht University (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Mundo (which I represent))
Concordantia Study Association of European Studies
ECDPM

Maastricht Debates is supported by the Society for International Development (SID) and Europe Fund of the National Commission for Sustainable Development

This particular event is organised by Maastricht Debates in cooperation with Lumière Cinema, Studium Generale and the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance.

So THANKS everybody who has contributed to making this festival possible.

Having said this, the festival is open. I hope you all will enjoy it!

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The theme and the movie tonight ('It's a Free World') will be introduced by two PhD fellows at MGSoG, Ms Metka Hercog and Ms Cheng Boon Ong

Ms. Metka Hercog (Slovenia), PhD Fellow MGSoG

Mrs. Hercog is a political scientist, with an emphasis on international development processes. Her main expertise is in labour migration with a special regional focus on Europe. She is focusing on the effects of government policies on the choice of a destination country for highly skilled migrants. Next to her research, she manages the development of a Migration Master in collaboration between Maastricht University and European Institute of Public Administration.

Ms. Cheng Boon Ong (Thailand), PhD Fellow MGSoG

Cheng graduated with a B.A. in Politics and International Relations at the University of Essex (United Kingdom) and completed her Master's studies in Social Policy Analysis at CEPS/INSTEAD research centre (Luxembourg) and the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium).

Currently, Cheng is a research fellow at the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance under the European Social Protection Ph.D. Programme. Her research interests include housing segregation, migration, social exclusion, comparative politics, and quantitative research methods.

Han Aarts
Director MUNDO

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