



BRIDGES

A **toolkit** for **diversifying knowledge** and **tackling discrimination** through **civil society participation** in universities.

Toolkit Workshop

Transit

ACTIVITY

REMAPPING TRANSIT

🕒 45 MIN

OBJECTIVE

To think critically about the politics of mobility and to shift our understanding of "roots" and "routes" as lines and flows but as desires, feelings and lived experiences.

STEP 1

Look at IOM and Frontex maps of migrant and refugee flows "in transit" to Europe.

<https://migration.iom.int/europe> <https://frontex.europa.eu/along-eu-borders/migratory-map/>

Answer the following questions:

- What can you see on these maps?
- What is missing from these maps?
- What is the purpose of these maps?
- Where are the people and where/what are the borders?
- What are the keywords and first sentences that come to your mind in relation to movement after having observed these maps?

STEP 2

Reflect on your own experiences of movement across borders. Create a map of these movements.

STEP 3

In small groups of two to three, present each other maps and reflect on the similarities and differences.

STEP 4

Group discussion: Compare your own maps to the IOM and Frontex maps and elaborate on the idea/concept of "transit" as it is being represented in your maps in comparison to the official ones (IOM and Frontex maps).

ACTIVITY

WHAT'S THE POWER OF YOUR PASSPORT?

🕒 2 H

OBJECTIVE

To think critically about the politics of mobility, to question our relation to the passport that we hold, to detach yourself from our passport.

STEP 1

Take a look at the following sources:

<https://www.passportindex.org/byRank.php>

In 2020, "[a] Japanese passport holder can access 165 more destinations than a holder of the world's weakest passport, that of Afghanistan, which offers visa-free/visa-on-arrival access to just 26 destinations."

<https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/henley-index-world-best-passport-2020/index.html>

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, "the power of any world passport has faded, and with travel restrictions in place in most world countries, the power of some of these passports equals to not having a passport at all. All of a sudden, every world passport is ranked equally, almost worthless."

<https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/news/and-now-suddenly-all-passports-are-ranked-equally/>

STEP 2

- What do you understand by "powerful passports"?
- What power your passport holds, during the pandemic, and before the pandemic?
- How often are you asked to show your passport, where and by whom?
- How, in your view, has the Covid-19 pandemic affected "powerful passports"?
- Do you agree with the idea that the Covid-19 pandemic has erased hierarchies between passports? Explain your answer.
- Reflecting on the notion of 'stuck in transit', think about the role of "powerful passports" in everyday life, besides the moment of border crossing and travel.

STEP 3

"I am my passport": Reflect on this statement. Do you agree or disagree? Share your perspective in a group discussion.differences.

RESOURCE LIST

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