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SPECIAL EDITION: MIGRATION, RACISM AND MULTICULTURALISM

#### **Nicos Trimikliniotis (Editorial)**

Rethinking Migration, Discrimination and Multiculturalism In a Post-tourist Society

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#### **Articles:**

### **Cetta Mainwaring**

On the Edge of Exclusion: The Changing Nature of Migration in Cyprus and Malta

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At the heart of the Mediterranean crossroads, lie two islands that bridge North and South, islands that will undoubtedly continue to experience flows of migrants and refugees, like the ones that have caused such a furore during the last decade. Malta and Cyprus were admitted into the European Union (EU) in 2004, a fact that has greatly affected the type of migration they are both experiencing and the related policy responses. Moreover, they lie between the shores of rich Europe, with its declining birth rates and consequent labour shortages, and poor Africa with its burgeoning jobless population, visible demarcations of the North-South divide and the related South-North migration routes into the EU. Their geographic location now means that they are lucky enough to be considered part of "Europe", but must also bear the consequences as their borders have been redefined as external EU borders in need of fortification and control.

This paper is a comparative analysis of how Malta and Cyprus are coping with their new migration realities as member states on the European Union's southern periphery. I will first discuss what the two islands have in common and where they differ in terms of migration and the responses to this relatively new phenomenon for countries historically known as countries of emigration. Where can lessons learnt be shared and what does each of these countries have to gain from the experience of the other? This discussion will be framed within the accession of the two states to the EU. Although part of the rich club, they are also minor political players within the Union and therefore hold little power to affect the type of migration and asylum policies they are obliged to enact as member states. Indeed, as members, they are now not simply facing new forms of migration, but have also been placed in the difficult position of acting as gatekeepers. In this context, EU policies and directives have impelled them to adopt increasingly restrictive migration policies.

**Keywords:** Cyprus, Malta, European Union, migration, migration controls, externalisation, asylum, irregular migration, refugees, mixed flows

## Elena Papamichael

Greek-Cypriot Teachers' Understandings of Intercultural Education in an Increasingly Diverse Society

51 - 78

There is an increasing acknowledgement of cultural diversity as the norm in societies around the world, which creates further challenges for the educational systems, especially the teachers. Cyprus is not an exception; at the moment Greek-Cypriot teachers are working in highly diverse environments in the context of a predominantly monocultural educational system in a multicultural, still ethnically divided society. Based on research still in progress, this article aims to explore intercultural education in Greek-Cypriot primary schools, with a focus on the teachers' role. A review of the field of multicultural education, its approaches and critics provides the framework for this study. The article discusses the preliminary findings of an ethnographic study conducted in two highly diverse Greek-Cypriot public primary schools, focusing on the teachers' understandings and practices of intercultural education. The analysis shows that most participants consider acceptance of diversity and challenging negative elements of racism and xenophobia in children's attitudes as the main aims of intercultural education. The teachers attribute a cross-curricular character to intercultural education and offer no standard 'recipes' for its implementation in everyday practices. In both schools, the practices mainly involve events for the 'celebration of diversity'. The article concludes that intercultural education, as described by the participants in this study, represents the additive approach of multicultural education, which has been heavily criticised for tokenism and failure to challenge institutional racism. However, some teachers' critical reflections and policy developments point to the possibility of moving toward a transformation approach of the curriculum.

**Keywords:** intercultural education, multicultural education approaches, teachers' understandings, diversity, Greek-Cypriot primary schools

### Nicos Trimikliniotis and Corina Demetriou

Evaluating the Anti-discrimination Law in the Republic of Cyprus: A Critical Reflection

This paper sets out to critically evaluate the situation as regards the current state of affairs on combating discrimination in Cyprus. It concentrates primarily on the legal aspects of the struggle to put an end to discriminatory ideologies, policies, practices and prejudices on all grounds recognised by the EU antidiscrimination acquis apart from gender, the grounds of race or ethnic origin, religion, age, disability and sexual orientation. Moreover, it also examines other grounds recognised by the constitution and international conventions but the legislative measures to counter gender discrimination are dealt with foremost because they provide the pivotal dimension which created the groundwork for anti-discrimination in those other fields. More often than not legislative measures are treated separately from other grounds but if a comprehensive picture of the anti-discrimination framework is to be understood, then an integral approach must be taken to

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view the system operating as a whole; legal development in one ground or field both influences and has a knock-on-effect on the other.

**Keywords:** direct and indirect discrimination, anti-discrimination acquis, ethnic conflict, national question

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#### Mihaela Fulias-Souroulla

Marriage and Migration: Greek Cypriot Representations and Attitudes towards Inter-societal Marriage

117 - 143

This article tackles a questionnaire survey-based study of Greek Cypriots' attitudes towards inter-societal marriage between non-nationals and Greek Cypriots in the Republic of Cyprus. The study draws working hypotheses from a preliminary analysis of data from official population statistics on inter-societal marriage and immigration in Cyprus and further explores theoretical assumptions about three central factors to the propensity for inter-societal marriage: attitudes, opportunities and exchange. Four key findings resulted: different social distances for diverse groups of non-nationals; a hierarchy in Greek Cypriots' perceptions of different nationalities living in Cyprus that accounts for economic, racial and religious separation lines; gendered patterns of marital preferences for non-national spouses and more acceptance for nationalities that are perceived as having similarities with the Greek Cypriots.

**Keywords:** inter-societal marriage, attitudes, Cypriot society, non-national spouses, international migration

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#### **Mete Hatay**

The Problem of Pigeons: Orientalism, Xenophobia and a Rhetoric of the 'Local' in North Cyprus

145 - 171

This article discusses the Orientalism at the heart of Turkish Cypriots' visions of modernity, as well as the more recent effects of this Orientalism on the immigrants from Turkey who now both compose and symbolise old Nicosia within the walls. The article, first, discusses the Kemalism of Turkish-Cypriot modernisation, looking at Kemalism's roots in a type of Orientalism aimed at the supposedly "backward" self. The initial arrival of Turkish immigrants on the island after 1974 and Turkish-Cypriots' initial reactions to them are also described. Later the article sketches the recent neoliberal privatisation in the north, its wealth effect, and the growing distinction between Turkish Cypriots and working-class "others" that has become a defining facet of a new Turkish-Cypriot identity. In this process, the article shows how representations of those "others," especially in relation to the walled city of Nicosia, are inherently Orientalising, and it documents the ways in which this representation affects the lives of those now living within the walls.

**Keywords:** Settlers, immigrants, Kemalism, Orientalism, xenophobia, Turkish-Cypriots and Nicosia

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