Contributors

**Eduardo Ascensão** is a researcher at the Centro de Estudos Geográficos, University of Lisbon. An anthropologist and urban geographer, his research interests are in cities and the geographies of architecture, with a particular focus on the intersection of urban informality and post-colonialism, as well as in housing and migration. He is currently developing a research project on the technoscience of slum intervention in Portuguese-speaking cities. His publications include the article ‘The Slum Multiple: A Cyborg Micro-History of an Informal Settlement in Lisbon’, published in the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*.

**Jørgen Carling** is Research Professor at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) in Norway. He holds a PhD in human geography from the University of Oslo and also has a background in demography. He has done research on several aspects of international migration and migrant transnationalism, including human smuggling, migration control policies, transnational families, remittances and migrant entrepreneurs. His empirical work has concentrated on migration from Africa to Europe, and he has extensive fieldwork experience from Cape Verde, the Netherlands and Italy. In much of his work he combines ethnographic data with statistical analyses.

**Anastasia Christou** is Associate Professor in Sociology at Middlesex University. She has engaged in multi-sited, multi-method and comparative ethnographic research in the United States, Denmark, Germany, Greece and Cyprus, and has published widely on return migration; the second generation and ethnicity; space and place; transnationalism and identity; culture and memory; gender and feminism; home and belonging; emotion and narrativity; and ageing, youth, health mobilities, care and trauma. She seeks to interrogate constructions and limitations to cultural citizenship and belonging with the rise of contemporary exclusions in understanding how both states and social subjects shape social relations.

**Francis L. Collins** is a Senior Lecturer and Rutherford Discovery Fellow in the School of Environment at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He holds a PhD in human geography from the University of Sydney and has published extensively on urban and regional issues in the Middle East and North Africa.
Zealand. His research focuses on international migration and cities, with a particular emphasis on the experiences, mobility patterns and governmental regulation of temporary migrants. Empirically, his research has been undertaken in South Korea, New Zealand and other parts of the Asia Pacific region exploring: international students and urban transformation; higher education and the globalization of cities; labour migration and marginalization; time and youth migration; and social networks and aspirations.

Marta Bivand Erdal is Senior Researcher at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) in Norway. Her research focuses on: migrant transnationalism (including remittances and diaspora engagements); processes of migrant integration (including citizenship practices in diverse contexts); and return migration and transnational mobilities sustained over the long term. She is interested in questions of dual belonging, and in the roles of religion for both diaspora development engagements and for migrant integration processes. She has conducted research in Norway, Poland and South Asia, particularly Pakistan, primarily using qualitative methods.

Melanie Griffiths is Senior Research Associate in the School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies at the University of Bristol, where she is an ESRC Future Leaders Research Fellow. Her research on the UK asylum system has built on many years of visiting Immigration Removal Centres (IRCs) and uses ethnographic methods to focus on detention and deportation. Her PhD, from the University of Oxford, considers the role and negotiation of identification requirements in the asylum system in the UK. Dr Griffiths has also written on time, uncertainty, masculinity and bureaucratic relations in the migration field.

Alex Ma is a doctoral researcher in the Department of Geography at University College London (UCL), working on Myanmar labour migration to Singapore and remittance-led development. His research has a focus on the Asia-Pacific region. Past studies looked at the transnational practices and migrant temporalities of Filipino and Indonesian domestic workers in Singapore. His doctoral research mainly focuses on remittances and household development in Myanmar. He has also undertaken research for migrants’ NGOs in Singapore, especially on topics related to employment. In much of his work he combines quantitative survey work with qualitative data acquisition.

Elizabeth Mavroudi is a Lecturer in Human Geography at the University of Loughborough. She has a PhD from the University of Durham, where she was also a postdoctoral researcher. Her research focuses on the
dynamic, grounded nature of diasporic and transnational migrants’ lives, identities and politics. Conceptually, she is interested in theories of belonging and how they relate to diasporic connections with the ‘homeland’. Dr Mavroudi has conducted research on the cultural, national and political identities of both diasporic Palestinians and foreign nationals from countries of the Global North in Athens, Greece. She has also researched the Greek diaspora in Australia and their socio-economic connections to Greece, and the impacts this has on their identity, language and perceptions of Greek politics and economy.

**Jennifer McGarrigle** is a Researcher at the Centro de Estudos Geográficos, University of Lisbon, and also lectures at the university’s Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning. She holds a PhD in Urban Studies from the University of Glasgow. Her main research interests lie at the intersection of urban studies and migration studies. She is the author of *Understanding Processes of Ethnic Concentration and Dispersal* (University of Amsterdam Press, 2010). She recently coordinated a project on the socio-spatial integration of Lisbon’s religious minorities, which looked particularly at the residential patterns, mobility, place-making and translocal connections of Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs in the city. She is currently contributing to a study on the role of social protection concerns in migration decision making and transnational welfare strategies developed by migrants across countries of origin and residence.

**Paolo Novak** is a Lecturer in Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London. He has degrees in Business and International Finance (Bocconi University, Milan) and Development Studies (SOAS) and has worked for brokerage firms, investment banks, NGOs and the UNHCR. His PhD field research was conducted in Pakistan, where he studied processes of institutional change in the protection and assistance regime for Afghan refugees. His current research focuses on the notion of transnationality, with particular emphasis on migration, refugee regimes, borders and NGOs.

**Ben Page** is a Reader in Human Geography and African Studies at University College London (UCL) and has undertaken research in Cameroon for 20 years. His past research in migration studies has focused on the contributions made by diaspora associations to international development. Current research looks at the contributions made by transnationals to urban transformation in Africa by undertaking ethnographies of specific house-building projects. He is interested in the role international migration is playing in the emergence of the New
Middle Class in Africa, particularly as revealed through empirical studies of food. He is also researching diaspora entrepreneurship and the second-hand car trade between Europe and Africa.

**Sergei Shubin** is Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Swansea. One of his key research interests is in the geographies of mobilities and migrations, based on extended work with migrants from Central Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union in Western Europe (particularly Scotland), and also work with foreign English teachers in South Korea. He has set out to understand the multi-sensuous geographies of movement and the ways they are governed, and has researched the diversity of mobile experiences (labour migrations, spiritual mobilites) and the divisions they produce. Drawing on a range of philosophical sources, he has been rethinking mobile subjectivities and socialities and looking at the ways ‘ideal migrants’ and ‘good migrants’ are imagined and produced.

**Darren Smith** is Professor of Geography at Loughborough University. His research focuses on the ways in which places and neighbourhoods are transformed by contemporary processes of migration and population change, and how new social relations and conflicts are created. Examining these connections, his research centres on social and population change in a range of urban, rural, and coastal places to advance theoretical, conceptual and empirical understandings of the formation of more exclusive, segregated, marginalized and transient societies. In particular he has worked extensively on the impacts of studentification, and on regional migration in England and Wales.

**Hila Zaban** is Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in Warwick University’s Sociology Department. She is an urban anthropologist, having completed her PhD in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the Ben Gurion University of the Negev. Her dissertation dealt with the Baka neighbourhood in Jerusalem, and the physical and cultural changes it experienced over the years due to processes of gentrification combined with high-status immigration of Jews from Western countries. Dr Zaban’s research continues to investigate urban processes from an anthropological perspective by looking at the urban effects of British Jews’ transnational practices on London and Israel.