

## **Society for Applied Philosophy Short-term Postdoctoral Grant (January-June 2022)**

### **Final report**

In the application for the SAP Short-term Postdoctoral Grant, I planned to work on a journal article and a book chapter. Both the article and the book chapter develop ideas from my PhD thesis, which I defended on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2021. During the award period, I thus focussed on preparing these two research outputs for publication.

The journal article, entitled “Reparative Responsibility for the Harms of Forced Migration”, develops a harms-based account of reparative responsibility for forced migrants. It is composed of five main sections. Section 1 briefly situates my backwards-looking account of who owes what to forced migrants in the debate on justice in forced migration. Indeed, in normative political theory, the dominant understanding of responsibility for forced migrants is based on the humanitarian duty to rescue, although a few alternative accounts have recently been proposed. This section presents how the article aims to advance the debate. Section 2 argues that external states, companies and supranational institutions may directly and foreseeably contribute to forced migration through their actions and therefore bear individual reparative responsibility. Section 3 argues that when states participate in collective structures and processes that foreseeably contribute to forced migration, they bear collective reparative responsibility. Importantly, both individual and collective reparative responsibilities extend to IDPs. In section 4, I propose three principles that policies should respect to count as reparations for the harms of forced migration: the specificity, continuity, and expressivity principles. In section 5, I assess some policy implications of this reparative-justice approach, compared to humanitarian-aid and development-oriented policy approaches. Indeed, as I show, such policy approaches are both based on a forward-looking, humanitarian account of responsibility.

The article was submitted to the Journal of Social Philosophy as part of a journal issue on reparations and received positive feedback. Indeed, the reviewers provided insightful and encouraging comments and the editorial decision on the manuscript was “accepted pending minor revisions”. I therefore revised and resubmitted the manuscript and I am currently waiting for the editorial decision on the revised manuscript.

The book chapter, entitled “The Harms of Internal Displacement Beyond Human Rights Violations”, argues that internally displaced people (IDPs) should be categorised as forced migrants, together with people displaced across borders, rather than as internal victims of human rights violations. The chapter is structured in three sections. Section 1 shows the limits of the 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in grasping what is distinctively harmful in internal displacement and thus in justifying the identification of IDPs as a distinctive category compared to other internal victims of human rights violations. Section 2 argues that IDPs, unlike non-displaced victims of human rights violations, suffer distinctive harms connected with forced displacement and should thus be categorised as forced migrants, together with refugees and other international forced migrants. To support this argument I illustrate four kinds of harm involved in forced displacement. Section 3 argues that, as a result of the harms of forced displacement, IDPs have specific needs. In this section, I show that, given the lack of a satisfactory appreciation of the harms of forced displacement, the Guiding Principles cannot fully express such needs. The last section of the chapter summarises the argument and concludes that, to better theorise what is owed to forced migrants, political philosophers cannot merely draw on the Guiding Principles and general human rights but should rather proceed from a theorisation of the harms of forced displacement.

The chapter is expected to be published in the first normative political theory volume on internal displacement, *The Political Philosophy of Internal Displacement*. The volume was officially approved for a contract by the Delegates of the Press at Oxford University Press in May 2022. The first draft of my chapter was presented on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January during the Internal Displacement Conference organised by the Nuffield College of the University of Oxford. The draft had also been pre-circulated among the conference participants. Based on the comments of the conference participants, as well as on the comments of the book editors, I have been revising the chapter. The final version of my contribution is due in September 2022.

During the award period, I also worked on disseminating research on the political philosophy of forced migration. Together with Dr Gloria Zuccarelli, I submitted a panel proposal for the 2022 Mancept Workshops. The proposal, entitled “Forced Displacement, Refugeehood and Injustice”, was accepted, thus the workshop will be run from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of September at the University of Manchester. We subsequently selected papers via a call for abstracts and we will finalise the programme of our workshop in August. During the panel, Dr Zuccarelli and I will also present papers. This will allow me to present and discuss the theory of the harms of displacement I have been working on over the last months.

I am deeply grateful to the Society for Applied Philosophy for funding my research.

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Laura Santi Amantini