

# Swiss Network of young Migration Scholars

## *Annual Report 2021/2022*

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## 1. Activities

### 1.1. Association

The administrative year started on August 25th 2021 with a **remote General Assembly**. During the year, the association had to adapt to evolving sanitary measures due to Covid-19. Live events had to be postponed, yet the committee was committed to keep online activities going, such as the writing days.

### 1.2. Working Groups and Projects

#### 1.2.1. Writing days

The *Writing Days*, launched in January 2021, were continued. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, the Writing Days were continued in an **online setting** via zoom. Due to the lifting of the Covid-restrictions in spring 2022, the Writing Days took place on a monthly basis via *zoom*, but were less frequently visited compared to the previous year.

#### 1.2.2. Doctoral Seminar

For the first time, the yearly *Doctoral Seminar* usually hosted by the Centre de droit des migrations (CDM) took place in collaboration with the SnyMS. In its 9th edition the seminar was held between September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2021 at Schloss Münchenwiler.

The two-day doctoral seminar included six presentations by an interdisciplinary group of doctoral students and was held offline, after consulting the wishes of all participants. While this caused a smaller delay of the actual event, participants enjoyed the **in-person** discussions and exchanges.

The next doctoral seminar will again be hosted by the SnyMS together with the CDM. It is scheduled to take place in Muntelier-Löwenberg from October 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022. A continuation of this collaboration is envisioned for the future, including financial contributions from various funding bodies, such as the University of Neuchâtel, Fribourg or Bern, in order to facilitate participation.

### 1.2.3. Tandem

The *SNyMS Tandem* is a **peer-mentoring programme** for SNyMS members to exchange ideas, discuss progress and questions, to give each other feedback and support in a peer-to-peer-setting. SNyMS provides the platform to link members who are from similar disciplines or are working on different topics. In addition, there is the possibility of a mentoring tandem between more advanced researchers and younger members of the Network. Currently, there are two active Tandem teams.

Members interested to set up or join a Tandem are asked to write to [migrationscholars@gmail.com](mailto:migrationscholars@gmail.com).

### 1.2.4. Review Lab

The *SNyMS Review Lab* is an initiative to provide members with a platform to exchange drafts (articles, book chapters, project proposals, grants etc.) and give each other feedback. Members of the SNyMS Peer Review commit themselves to give each other feedback on their texts and to receive input on one's own writing projects.

Complementing the Writing Days and the Writing Retreat the SNyMS Review Lab aims to support young scholars in their writing projects and provide a platform for scholarly exchange. It works on a 'Karma' basis - you get feedback if you also give feedback. Always on a friendly, respectful, confidential and constructive basis! It takes place virtually, on an on-demand basis.

Inspired by this platform, several members of the SNyMS-Network have exchanged texts and given each other mutual reviews.

Members interested in submitting a draft to the Review Lab are asked to write to [migrationscholars@gmail.com](mailto:migrationscholars@gmail.com).

## 1.3. Executive Committee Responsibilities and Activities

The year 2021-2022 was not a particularly active one for SNyMS, many activities not yet having taken up again after the two pandemic years. The Executive Committee has exclusively met via *zoom*, mainly because of geographic and timely feasibility.

The year is marked by transitions. Several long-standing members of the Executive Committee are leaving the Committee by the end of the administrative year out of personal and/or professional reasons: *Lisa Marie Borrelli*, *Anne Kneer*, *Anne-Cécile Leyvraz* and *Barbara von Rütte* are not

presenting themselves for re-election. We thank them sincerely for their many years of commitment and wish them all the best for the future.

The remaining Executive Committee members, *Nesa Zimmermann*, *Monika Plozza* and *Nula Frei*, look forward to being joined by new members, who will be elected at the upcoming General Assembly on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

## 2. Some Facts and Figures on...

### 2.1. ... Members

As of 31 July 2022, the association had 61 members. In the reporting period, **four new members** joined the association. The profiles of the members are very diverse, as always: there are PhD students and Postdocs, coming from different Universities, disciplines and regions.

Members are regularly informed about the ongoing projects and activities of the association via the newsletter. In addition, the Executive Committee communicates with the members via the mailing-list, its twitter account ([@MigrationNet](#)) and the [website](#).

Since 2021, the SNyMS is also present on LinkedIn. Members are invited to join the group "[Swiss Network of young Migration Scholars](#)".

### 2.2. ... Finances<sup>1</sup>

in CHF	expenses	revenues
Balance at 1 July 2021		8660.55
Membership Fees		840
CinéMigration	162.45	
Admin costs	33.90	
<b>Total Revenues and Expenses</b>	<b>196.35</b>	<b>840</b>
<b>Balance</b>		<b>9676.25</b>

<sup>1</sup> Covering the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 to 30 June 2022.



The financial status of the association is still very good. SNyMS is funded through the membership fees of 30 CHF per member per year. This is the second year that we have not asked for NCCR on the move founding. Due to the pandemic, SNyMS did not have a lot of projects and related costs.

### 3. Outlook

With the departure of four (out of seven) Executive Committee members, the remaining Executive Committee members decided on some organizational and functional changes in the structure of the Committee. Responsibilities within the board will be allocated more clearly, and responsibility for the different projects is sought to hand over to members, so that the Committee can better focus on the strategic leadership of the association.

Therefore, SNyMS remains committed to **improving the communication** with its members as well as increasing the possibilities for members to connect and network.

We are looking forward to the **Doctoral Seminar**, a cooperation between SNyMS and the Centre for Migration Law CDM, which will be held on October 13-14 2022.

Since the financial situation of the association is still very positive and we are constantly taking in more money than we are spending, we **explicitly encourage our members to approach us with ideas**, be it a conference or a workshop that the SNyMS could co-finance, a collaborative research project, a networking event or any other idea, as long as is in line with the goals of the association.

*Bern, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022*