



Research Project Title:

**Migration and strategies of
development in the periphery of the
“Western World” during the early
Post-World War II period (Greece,
Portugal / Brazil, Argentina)**

Principal Investigator:
Yannis Papadopoulos



Popular Title:

**Migration and development policies in
Greece, Portugal, Argentina and Brazil
during the Postwar period**

Scientific Field:
History

Host Institution:
Institute of Mediterranean Studies (IMS-FORTH)



H.F.R.I.
Hellenic Foundation for
Research & Innovation

During the 1950s, governments of countries in the periphery of the so-called “Free World” set the “modernization” of their societies as a priority, since underdevelopment was considered as a source of social and political instability. In this context, migration policies that promoted either emigration or immigration became important part of the development strategies in sending and receiving countries respectively. The huge and under populated South American developing countries such as Brazil and Argentina, looked at skilled European immigrants as a solution to their deficiencies in qualified human resources, whereas overpopulated Southern European countries tried to get rid of their “surplus” workforce, which was considered as a main factor for high unemployment, poverty and underdevelopment. At the same time, the migration-development nexus had a strong presence in the international policies of that period and in the post-war world system. Newly founded international organizations such as the ICEM (Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration), under the leadership of the United States, tried to integrate Southern Europe and Latin America in the internationalized market of the “Free world” through immigration and development strategies. In that context, discourses and policies that linked migration with development were mobilized to join the countries of emigration and immigration, which to some extent had complementary interests. Efforts to improve the ties between countries of the “free world” were supported by the imagery of their integration through development and modernization.

The main axes of the project are: a) The connection between migration and development policies in a comparative perspective, focusing on the priorities of the governments of Southern European and Latin American countries and b) The relations 'center-periphery' as shaped in the context of the post-WWII development doctrine.

Our interdisciplinary research will problematize the different versions that the development-migration nexus took in the periphery of the “Western world” during the 1950s, and their relationship with the hegemonic models of that period.

The subjects of development and migration have always attracted the interest of scholars but lately have gained a wider audience, as a result of the global economic crisis after 2008 and the migration movements it triggered. In this respect, a comparative study of countries in the “Global South” seems more pertinent to current debates.

“



I started studying migration to South America in 2014. I realized then that publications on migration to the countries of the region have mainly focused on the period before WWII. Little research has been done on Postwar migration movements and their impact on economy and society in the process of globalization. Moreover, there is little research on the multifaceted links during that period between Southern Europe and South America, two regions of the “semi-periphery” that share common characteristics.

Our research aims at filling this gap and offering through a rigorous analysis an innovative approach on national structures, transnational networks and international development models during the Postwar period. The funding by the ELIDEK will permit me to continue my research, broaden my perspective, benefit from current theoretical debates and better define my scientific profile

*The Principal Investigator,
Yannis Papadopoulos*

Funding

Amount: **170,000 €**

Duration: **36 months**

Foundation: **H.F.R.I.**





H.F.R.I.
Hellenic Foundation for
Research & Innovation

CONTACT

127, Vasilissis Sofias Avenue
115 21 Athens, Greece
info@elidek.gr
www.elidek.gr



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF
DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS



GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR
RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY