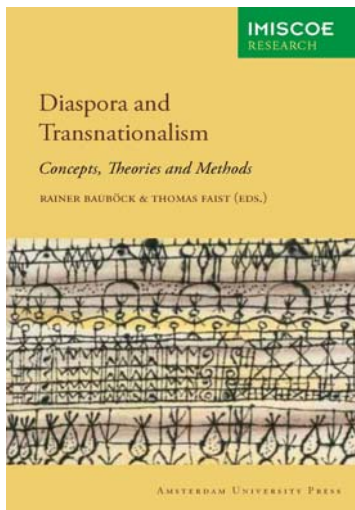


Press release, 19 July 2010

Diaspora and Transnationalism

Concepts, Theories and Methods

Edited by Rainer Bauböck and Thomas Faist



Diaspora and transnationalism are widely used concepts in academic as well as political discourses. Although originally referring to quite different phenomena, they increasingly overlap today. Such inflation of meanings goes hand in hand with a danger of essentialising collective identities. This book therefore analyses diaspora and transnationalism as research perspectives rather than as characteristics of particular social groups. Its contributions focus on conceptual uses, theoretical challenges and methodological innovations in the study of social ties that transcend nation and state boundaries. Bringing together authors from a wide range of fields and approaches in the social sciences, this volume is evidence that studying border-crossing affiliations also requires a crossing of disciplinary boundaries.

Contributors: Rainer Bauböck, Paolo Boccagni, Michel Bruneau, Anastasia Christou, Janine Dahinden, Thomas Faist, Nina Glick Schiller, Uwe Hunger, Koen Jonkers, Laia Jorba, Russell King, Kathrin Kissau, Maria Koinova, Valentina Mazzucato, Laura Morales, Karsten Paerregaard, Myra A. Waterbury, Agnieszka Weinar

"Diaspora and transnationalism have become buzzwords in popular debates. In this innovative work, Bauböck, Faist and their co-authors reclaim the concepts for social science by demonstrating their significance for contemporary migration research." -- Stephen Castles, Research Chair in Sociology, The University of Sydney

"A strong, elegant and very welcome map and compass for the concepts, theories, questions and methodological challenges that drive research on the global condition." --Peggy Levitt, Author of *God Needs No Passport* and Professor of Sociology, Wellesley College

"An insightful and thought-provoking contribution to the theoretical and methodological debates. The chapters provide both fresh and authoritative perspectives on the key issues at stake and underscore the value of cross-disciplinary dialogue." --Eva Østergaard-Nielsen, Associate Professor of Political Science, Autonomous University of Barcelona

"Compiled by foremost scholars in the field, this volume skilfully brings together compelling essays that examine concepts, theories and methods surrounding these two terms, their mixed definitions, critiques and social scientific impacts." --Steven Vertovec, Director, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

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