



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

## CALL FOR PAPERS

# Frontiers and borders of superdiversity: theory, method and practice

International Conference, Birmingham 23-24 June 2016

**(DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:  
15 JANUARY 2016)**

The unprecedented speed, scale and spread of international migration and the global refugee crisis have firmly placed migration at the top of the political agenda in Europe and elsewhere and further increased the diversification of diversity that Vertovec describes as superdiversity. Researchers have an important role to play in producing empirically informed knowledge, unpacking discourses and narratives on migration and diversification, developing new methods and theories to advance understanding of a rapidly changing and increasingly complex society.

To date much academic research on superdiversity has been focusing on specific localities in which people of different backgrounds meet and interact. The concept of superdiversity needs to expand these earlier works on local social relations by way of looking at what kinds of categorical differences make a difference in varying contexts and scales.

The aim of the conference is to map the state of the art in knowledge on superdiversity and reflect on the analytical and heuristic uses of the concept, its potential and limits.

### **Invitation to submit**

The Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS) at the University of Birmingham is organising the second international interdisciplinary conference on superdiversity. The conference will be held at University of Birmingham on the 23 -24 June 2016. It will feature keynote speeches, invited plenaries, academic panels, and a research/policy roundtable on topics at the forefront of the superdiversity research agenda.

We are inviting paper and panel submissions on the following themes:

- The migration and refugee crisis and changing demographics in Europe
- Diasporized and creolized worlds: superdiversity and transnationalism
- Urban complexity and experiences of place
- Axes of differentiation and politics of difference

- Private and public interactions and encounters
- Policy, rights, service delivery and citizenship
- Xenophobia, racism and social exclusion
- Identity, representations and belonging
- Researching and (re)presenting superdiversity
- Superdiversity, work and enterprise
- Gendering superdiversity

We welcome academics from a range of disciplines, including, but not exclusively, anthropology, sociology, social policy, geography, linguistics, history, psychology, economics, business, medicine, demography, politics, and development studies, policy makers and practitioners to submit innovative papers, and panel proposals.

Doctoral researchers are welcome to submit their work. The conference will be an opportunity for meeting early career researchers and senior academics working on superdiversity.

### **Submission Guidelines**

Abstracts should be submitted electronically, using the online submission system by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2016**.

- **Paper** submissions should include an abstract (max 250 words) and short biographical note (100 words) about the author including his/her current position and relevant experience related to superdiversity. [Submission form for Papers](#)
- **Panel** submissions should include the names of three speakers and a chairperson, an overview abstract (250 words) and an abstract for each associated paper (250 words). [Submission form for Panels](#)

Acceptance decisions will be communicated at the beginning of March 2016.

**Presentation Format:** The selected papers will be grouped by themes in parallel sessions. Each presentation will last 20 minutes and followed by 10 minutes discussion.

**Conference Publications:** Delegates will be offered the opportunity after the conference to submit their papers for consideration to be included in an edited book and/or journal special edition.

**Other:** Travel and accommodation expenses should be covered by the participants. However, there will be a limited number of registration fee bursaries for participants under exceptional circumstances.

**Further info:** please contact Ann Bolstridge, IRiS manager: [a.bolstridge@bham.ac.uk](mailto:a.bolstridge@bham.ac.uk)

**Conference website:** [www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/social-policy/departments/social-policy-social-work/news-and-events/2016/06/frontiers-and-borders-of-superdiversity.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/social-policy/departments/social-policy-social-work/news-and-events/2016/06/frontiers-and-borders-of-superdiversity.aspx)