

Write for Routed

Who: Routed is an online publication on migration and (im)mobility. Bridging the divide between specialist academic literature on human mobility and popular portrayals of migration in the media, we hope to bring a fresh, critical perspective to the study of how and why people move, as well as the contexts of mobility.

What: Our next issue, on the theme of **'Migration, mobility, and elections'**, to be published in **February 2021**.

Elections can be a routine exercise, a rubberstamp, or the very essence of a political system. As the cornerstone of the majority of political systems, elections find aspects of movement and mobility at their very heart. Mobility features in citizen and noncitizen's political allegiances, identity articulation, issues discussed in potential mandates, the geographic and logistical structuring of constituencies, and access to candidacy and the ballots.

Last year was one of messy and puzzling elections. [More than sixty countries postponed](#) their elections due to a pandemic, but the majority of governments explored avenues to allow access to ballots in creative (and virtual) ways. Protesters [still contest the election](#) of President Lukashenko in Belarus while his main opponent takes shelter in nearby Lithuania. With levels unprecedented of mail-in voting, US citizens grapple with the [consequences](#) of mobile votes in an increasingly immobile environment. Citizens in places like [Jordan](#) debated the meaning of elections and their impact for change for refugee populations and those whose vulnerability was exacerbated by the recent crisis. [Hong Kong](#) questions the very role the parliament holds in their political system.

In the midst of restricted movement and mobile votes, elections remind us how mobility is a salient aspect of both the composition of the electorate, the political system, and the electoral process.

For our next issue, Routed Magazine welcomes contributions that explore the following areas:

- **Migrant communities' mobilisation** in times of elections. This can include immigrants or emigrants voting as individuals or members of a diaspora in a country of habitual residence or abroad. Is thinking of migrant communities as a 'block' of voters a useful way to conceptualise voters in national elections? Why or why not? What factors might lead migrant communities to vote in one way or another? What are particular ways that communities mobilise along aspects of identity? What has been the effect of migrant communities in major elections?
- **Migrant candidates** in major elections. What are some examples of candidates from backgrounds of mobility running in or winning national elections? What might be particular about their story and decision to run? Is there increased pressure on them to hold certain views or represent certain voices? What are some important contributions to national policies these candidates have made?
- **Mobility in elections.** How have COVID-associated restrictions on mobility affected elections? Do you think COVID adaptations to electoral processes will have lasting effects in the years to come? What are other restrictions that affect migrants' ability to vote in elections of their countries of nationality or habitual residence? What are some election-related campaigns that have featured the voices of migrant communities prominently?

We are particularly interested in publishing work that lifts up the voices of people on the move and exploring (im)mobility in its many varied forms.

We are also keen on receiving pieces that analyse **current news** about migration and (im)mobility, or reflect on **cultural developments** related to these topics.

Articles should address a broad audience, made of experts and non-experts, and should be originally written in **English** or **Spanish**.

When: The deadline for proposals is **31 December 2020**.

How: If you are interested in proposing a submission for this issue, please send us a short abstract no longer than 250 words via email to: RoutedMagazine@gmail.com. We would also like to hear about your relationship to migration and mobility (if you are a migrant, a researcher, a student, a practitioner...)

Article guidelines:

1. The length of the piece should be between 700 and 1000 words.
2. The article should consistently use British spelling and grammar, if you're writing in English.
3. The simpler the language the better. Try to briefly explain or add links to any concepts, organisations, policies... introduced in the article.
4. Concepts and cited works/legislation/articles should be inserted in the article as hyperlinks.
5. All acronyms should be specified in parentheses.

Some notes on the publication process:

1. Once you send us your proposal, we will get back to you after the deadline for all submissions (**31 December**).
2. First drafts are due on **16 January**, for publication on **20 February 2021**. After you send us your first draft, your editor will get back to you with their comments, which you will review before publication.
3. The article will be translated and promoted on social media.
4. We understand this topic may be highly sensitive. If any writer wishes to remain anonymous, we commit to protecting their identity.
5. Please be aware that any opinions you express in your article will be yours alone and not reflect Routed's general stance.