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# First Technical Webinar

Deliverable 11.2



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## History of changes

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1.1	29 January 2021	First version submitted as official deliverable to the EC

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**PU** Public

## Acknowledgments

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## 1. Introduction

The deliverable D11.2 “Technical Webinar 1” has been delivered as a webinar “Translating Migration Theory into Empirical Propositions”, held virtually on 11 December 2020, at 2:00-3:00 pm CET. The main objectives of this first technical webinar were to 1) inform and integrate various stakeholder audiences into the project, particularly data experts and scholars working on migration issues; and 2) to enhance knowledge exchange between project partners and data experts on methodologies applied in the project, ensuring that participatory dialogue with a wide range of stakeholders is at the core of the project.

## 2. Description of the Technical Webinar

The agenda of the webinar was divided in two parts: the first one consisted of a 30 minute presentation by Prof. Jørgen Carling, Research Professor of Migration and Transnationalism studies at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO); Prof. Mathias Czaika, Head of Department and Professor in Migration and Globalisation, Danube University Krems, Austria; and Prof. Marta Bivand Erdal, Research Director and Research Professor in Migration Studies at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO). The presentation was based on QuantMig Deliverable 1.2: Carling, J., Czaika, M. and Bivand Erdal, M. (2020), Translating migration theory into empirical propositions, QuantMig Deliverable 1.2, available at <http://www.quantmig.eu/res/files/QuantMig%20D1.2%20v1.1.pdf>

Concretely, the presentation considered the very idea of migration theory, and outlined the ten propositions that can be empirically approached from different angles and turned into hypotheses. Migration studies has often been described as both a fragmented and largely under-theorised research field. However, the three speakers argued that through the triangulation of various theoretical accounts and concepts, propositions that address diverse and multifaceted migration patterns and regularities can be developed. The webinar introduced the logic behind moving from a theoretical approach to empirical propositions that have a strong evidence base, and the 10 propositions suggested by the speakers. propositions can be summarised as following: 1- Migration flows often reflect pre-existing connections between countries; 2- Migration flows beyond a certain threshold become self-sustaining, 3- Migrants are outnumbered by involuntary non-migrants, 4- Migrants with fewer resources make more fragmented, convoluted and unpredictable journeys, 5- Environmental stress separates populations into trapped and mobilised groups, 6- Violent conflict causes short-distance migration, often followed by geographically dispersed secondary migration, 7- Emigration rises with economic development until a certain level and thereafter falls, 8- Development aid can deter emigration from low- and middle-income countries, 9- Migration policies are largely ineffective in producing desired outcomes, and 10- Migration restrictions affect migration flows in unintended ways.

Following the presentation, participants had the opportunity to ask questions and offer their reflections on how these propositions can be applied to understanding migration. The Q&A session was moderated by Prof. Jakub Bijak, joint Head of Department of Social Statistics and

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Demography and Professor of Statistical Demography at the University of Southampton.

### 3. Links to watch the webinar

The webinar can be accessed through the websites:

QuantMig: [http://www.quantmig.eu/activities/news & events/?story\\_id=10](http://www.quantmig.eu/activities/news_&_events/?story_id=10)

Population Europe: <https://population-europe.eu/webinar/webinar-translating-migration-theory-empirical-propositions>

Population Europe's Youtube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=731MsctVxNY>

