

The Perils and Possibilities of Using Technology for Migration Management

Side-Event at the International Migration Review Forum
May 18, 3PM-4PM, YouTube Livestream

Background

In 2022, nearly four years after the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), governments, stakeholders and the United Nations system will meet to discuss the successes and challenges of implementing this landmark cooperative framework. The first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) is being held under the auspices of the General Assembly, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, at the United Nations (UN) Headquarters in New York from 17-20 May 2022, with a preparatory stakeholder hearing taking place on 16 May.

A series of IMRF side-events will be organized in the margins of the IMRF. They will provide an opportunity to discuss good practices, challenges and recommendations to further the implementation of the GCM. Side-events will take place on 16-20 May 2022.

Description of the Side-event

Over the last nine years, conflict and state fragility have triggered an increase in global displacement: [82.4 million people at the end of 2020](#). The total number of international migrants is several orders of magnitude higher. Technological “solutions” are increasingly being used to manage unprecedented levels of human mobility quicker and more efficiently. Humanitarian organizations, civil society groups, and governments are leveraging digital tools as cost-effective means to deliver assistance, automate processing, and predict future migration trends. Digital connectivity also enables migrants to access information, resources, financing, and social networks essential to their safety and autonomy. At the same time, there are growing concerns about the human rights implications of expanded use of artificial intelligence, biometrics, and digital ID related to [data protection and privacy](#), [informed consent](#), and [automation bias](#).

This discussion is based on an ongoing project at CSIS jointly executed by the Human Rights Initiative and the Project on Fragility and Mobility. The goal of the project is to define and promote a human rights-respecting approach to the export and utilization of migration-related technologies by the US and EU member states in origin, transit, and destination countries through case studies on the Northern Triangle and West Africa. Through this IMRF side-event public panel discussion and a structured question and answer session, the panel will share insights into how these tools should be further exported and utilized given increased migration and human rights risks. We will ensure a dynamic, inclusive discussion by soliciting input from various perspectives, including participants from origin and transit countries where migration management technology is deployed, participants with experience working on these issues within the US and EU, and participants with expertise on specific migration management technologies. This hour-long event will take place in English.

The panel discussion will be in English.

Register here: <https://www.csis.org/events/perils-and-possibilities-using-technology-migration-management>

Agenda

May 18 Time: 3PM-4PM (New York) 9PM-10PM (Geneva) Venue: YouTube Livestream	
5 minutes	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>Opening remarks from the moderator, Erol Yayboke (CSIS)</p>
25 minutes	<p>Panel discussion</p> <p>Panel discussion with migration technologies experts will be discussing the human rights risks associated with migration-related technologies explore opportunities for their use in a more rights-respecting manner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica Bither, Senior Expert for Migration, Bosch Foundation • Santiago Navaez, Investigator/Researcher, R3D (Red en Defensa de los Derechos Digitale) • Petra Molnar, Associate Director, Refugee Law Lab <p>Moderator: Erol Yayboke, CSIS</p>
25 minutes	<p>Discussion / Q&A</p> <p>Panelists answer submitted audience questions</p>
5 minutes	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Erol Yayboke, CSIS</p>