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## Global Dialogue Lecture Series

### Migrants and COVID-19: Ethical and Political Perspectives Across Borders

[Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 1 pm EST](#)

During the COVID-19 emergency, migrants transitioning to life in Europe have faced increased difficulty. The pandemic and governments' responses to it have had significant effects on the poorest and most marginalized people in our societies in terms of their health and their economic and social struggles. These obstacles will be the focus of this conversation, as our speakers will highlight the many social and political issues that COVID-19 has exacerbated over the last six months.

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**Cecilia Emma Sottilotta, PhD**, is an Assistant Professor of International Relations and Global Politics at the American University of Rome (AUR), Italy. She is a frequent media commentator on Italian and international affairs. Her research interests focus on political risk for foreign investors, South European and Latin American politics. She is the author of "Political Risk: Concepts, Theories, Challenges" (London: Routledge).

**Leila Hadj Abdou, PhD**, specializes in migration governance and politics. Based at the European University Institute (EUI) where she is a researcher, Leila is also responsible for designing and delivering training on international migration through the Migration Policy Center within the School of Transnational Governance. Her latest publications include the book *Migration and Mobility in the European Union* (with A. Geddes, and L. Brumat), and the article 'Push or Pull'? Framing immigration in times of crisis in the European Union and the United States, in the Journal of European Integration. Leila has extensive experience working in the field of asylum/migration. Her previous positions include a project coordinator for an NGO working with unaccompanied minor asylum seekers, as well as in an educational centre working with adult refugees, and refugee care workers.