

CCIS SEMINAR SERIES PRESENTS:

How Italy's Humanitarian Corridors Have Created Pathways to Protection in Europe

Wednesday, February 14th, 2018 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM

ERC Conference Room 115



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Dr Claire Higgins is an historian and Senior Research Associate at the Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law at UNSW. In 2017 she published her first book 'Asylum by Boat: origins of Australia's refugee policy' (NewSouth). Claire holds a doctorate in history from the University of Oxford and she is currently a Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar at the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University, researching in-country programs within the United States Refugee Admissions Program.

In late 2015 the Italian church community established a program of 'Humanitarian Corridors' - the Corridoi Umanitari - to fly 1000 mostly Syrian asylum seekers to Italy from Lebanon. Since then, the model has been expanded in Italy and adopted in France. This paper is a preliminary study of the Corridors, based on interviews with church representatives conducted in mid-2017 as part of Dr Higgins' Visiting Postdoctoral Fellowship at the European University Institute. The paper situates the Corridors within the context of protected entry procedures more broadly, and provides an overview of their origin and operation.

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