



European Union Governance of Forced Migration **Impact on Health and Dignity**



Hosted by:
ISS21 Migration and Integration Research Cluster
Supported by the University of Sanctuary

22nd Feb 2024
12 - 1.30pm
Dora Allman Room

Dr. Apostolos Veizis will examine the governance of forced migration and its effects on the health of people on the move, drawing on his experience in Greece and the Ukraine and on the global stage. He will address the role of the EU within an increasingly polarised political landscape, coupled with policy reforms that specifically affect migrant's access to healthcare systems. The presentation will highlight how beyond healthcare, contemporary approaches to people seeking asylum and safety increasingly normalise the harsh and dehumanizing treatment of people on the move. In his presentation, Dr Apostolos Veizis highlights how the so-called 'refugee crisis' is not so much about refugees, but more relates to a problem that arises within state borders in many host countries. Based on his field experience and research expertise, he illustrates that as refugees cross borders, they experience a deterioration of health, exacerbated by inhumane living conditions, lack of access to basic services and food poverty, experienced after arrival in the host country. Considering this, he argues, it is important expose the medical and humanitarian consequences of restrictive migration and asylum policies and the failures of states to adequately respond to the health and social needs of those on the move. Treating migration and asylum as a permanent crisis – where measures are only ever temporary arrangements made in response to overwhelming circumstances – precludes an adequate, long-term solution to providing care and improving health.



Dr. Apostolos Veizis



Bio: Dr Apostolos Veizis coordinates the Work of INTERSOS, Greece, an organisation supporting activities and protection services to improve the living conditions of people on the move. He has previously worked at the Head Quarters of Medecins Sans Frontieres, Greece, as Director of the Medical Operational Support Unit (SOMA), Programs and Institutional relations Director, and Medical Director.

He was also worked as Head of Mission and Medical Coordinator for Medecins Sans Frontieres and Medecins Du Monde in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Russian Federation, Albania, Egypt, Georgia, Greece, Turkey. He has also coordinated emergency interventions and evaluations in Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Armenia, Lebanon, Syria, Ukraine, Turkmenistan, Zambia, Malawi, Uzbekistan, North Macedonia, Cyprus, Jordan, Moldova, Poland, Bulgaria, Czechia and Tajikistan. His consultancy work includes consultancy work with the World Health Organization (WHO) and International Organization for Migration (IOM). He is a member of the Governing Board of the Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation (CCHN), Advisory Board Member of the Lancet Migration European Regional Hub and the Migrant Health Dermatology Working Group (MHDWG) of the International Foundation for Dermatology member.

He has presented widely on a global stage and participated in international and national medical congresses, for which he has published related scholarly articles.

Research Gate Profile: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Apostolos_Veizis

LinkedIn Profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-apostolos-veizis-29610524/?originalSubdomain=gr>

Programme Outline

12 Noon: Welcome: Dr Angela Flynn, Chair of University of Sanctuary

12.05: Opening Remarks: Prof Maggie O Niell: Director of ISS21 / Collective Social Futures

12.15 Keynote Speaker: Dr Apostolos Veizis

12.55 Q&A and Discussion: Moderator: Dr Claire Dorrity, School of Applied Social Studies / ISS21 Migration and Integration Research Cluster

13.25 Closing Remarks