

Ms. Shahar Shoham

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Curriculum Vita

EDUCATION

2017- today **Ph.D. candidate, Area and Global Studies**, The Institute for Asian and African Studies, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany.

Dissertation title: "I'm only a worker: Narratives of mobility between Thailand and Israel".

First supervisor: Prof. Dr. Manja Stephan-Emmrich (The Institute for Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University, Germany)

Second supervisor: Dr. Sine Plambech, (Senior Researcher, Department of Migration & Global Order, Danish Institute for International Studies, Denmark and Yale University Research fellow, USA)

2014-2017 **M.A in Global Studies**, The Institute for Asian and African Studies (IAAW), Humboldt University of Berlin in cooperation with: FLACSO Argentina, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) India and Chulalongkorn University Thailand.

Thesis title: "Pickers and Packers: Translocal Narratives of Returning Thai Agriculture Labor Migrants from Israel". (**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**).

Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Manja Stephan-Emmrich (Humboldt University, Germany) and Dr. Rosalia Sciortino (Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand).

Final nominee for **outstanding thesis award** for the academic year 2016/17 at the Institute for Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University of Berlin.

2006-2009 **B.A Double Major in Philosophy and East Asian Studies**, Tel Aviv University, Israel. (**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**)

2005-2006 **B.A in Sociology and Anthropology**, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Tel Aviv University, Israel. (not completed),

2001 **Photography Studies**, School of Visual Arts, New-York, USA.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

2019-today **Visiting research fellow** at "TraffLab (ERC): Human Trafficking from a Labor Perspective", The Buchman Law Faculty, Tel-Aviv University, Israel (P.I. Prof. Hila Shamir) <https://www.trafflab.org>

Research project: "Intersectional perspective of women labor migrants employed in men-dominated occupations: The agriculture sector case" (with Dr. Yahel Kurlander).

2017- 2020 **Hans Böckler Stiftung:** Promotionsförderung fellow- full PhD scholarship in Germany

2014-2016 **DAAD - The German Academic Exchange Service:** Full scholarship for M.A studies in Germany

PUBLICATIONS:

Peer-Reviewed Journals:

Nakash Ora, Benjamin Langer, Mayaan Nagar, Shahar Shoham, Ido Lurie, Nadav Davidovitch (2015). "Exposure to traumatic experiences among asylum seekers from Eritrea and Sudan during migration to Israel". *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, Volume 17, Issue 4, pp 1280-1286. doi:10.1007/s10903-014-0022y

Birger, Lior, Liat Bolzman, and Shahar Shoham. "Psycho-social dimensions of externalization policies: Journey narratives of Eritrean Refugees who left Israel for Rwanda and reached Europe." (In submission, equal contribution of authors).

Yahel Kurlander, Shahar Shoham and Matan Kaminer. "Crucial Yet Disavowed: Three Decades of Relations between Israeli Farmers and Thai Migrant Workers." (In submission)

Selected Reports and Policy Papers:

Shoham, Shahar and Hanny Ben Israel (2020). Chapter 9: Family and Community. In: Hila Shamir and Maayan Niezna (eds.), **An Alternative Anti-Trafficking Action Plan: A Proposed Model Based on a Labor Approach to Trafficking**, TraffLab(ERC) Research Group Policy Paper, Tel Aviv University. [[Hebrew](#)] [[Abstract in English](#)]

Birger, Lior, Shahar Shoham and Liat Bolzman (2018). "'Better a prison in Israel than dying on the way' - Testimonies of refugees who 'voluntarily' departed Israel to Rwanda and Uganda and Gained Protection in Europe." Humboldt Universität zu Berlin <http://dx.doi.org/10.18452/20087> (equal contribution of authors)

Human Rights Watch and Physicians for Human Rights-Israel (contributor). "Israel: Asylum Seekers Blocked at Border Eritreans Pushed Back to Egypt, Despite Risk of Abuse" 28 October 2012, U.S. <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/10/28/israel-asylum-seekers-blocked-border>

Hotline for migrant workers and Physicians for Human Rights Israel (co-author) "Tortured in Sinai, Jailed in Israel- Detention of Torture and Slavery Survivors under the Anti Infiltration Law." October 2012, Israel <http://hotline.org.il/en/publication/tortured-in-sinai-jailed-in-israel/>

Articles:

Shoham, Shahar, Liat Bolzman and Lior Birger (2018). "Moving under Threats: The Treacherous Journeys of Refugees who 'Voluntary' Departed from Israel to Rwanda and Uganda and Reached Europe." In Border Criminologist Blog, Oxford Law Faculty, England. <https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/research-subject-groups/centre-criminology/centreborder-criminologies/blog/2018/10/moving-under>

Shoham, Shahar, Liat Bolzman and Lior Birger (2018). "Coded Journeys: Using MAXQDA to analyze testimonies of refugees who "voluntary" departed Israel to Rwanda and Uganda and gained protection in Europe." Guest blog post. <https://www.maxqda.com/coded-journeys>

Shoham, Shahar (2015) "What Syrian Refugees Have to Say about Coexistence with Israel." The Forward, 6.September 2015, U.S. <http://forward.com/author/shahar-shoham/>

Shoham, Shahar (2015) "They're butchering us—only open borders will save us." +972 Magazine, 9 September 2015, Israel <http://972mag.com/theyre-butchering-us-only-open-borders-will-save-us/111557/>

SELECTED CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND LECTURES

Papers Presented at Academic Conferences:

- 2021 **"The Superman college: Migration as development agenda in Thailand yo Israel labor migration regime"**. AAS 2021 Annual Conference, Association for Asian Studies, USA.
- 2020 **"I'm Only a Worker: Rural to rural migration narratives of returning Thai farmworkers from Israel"**. 22nd South East Asia Program Graduate Conference, Cornell University, USA.
- 2020 **"On Being (only) a Worker: Thai migrant workers in Israel's agriculture sector"**. 16th European Association of Social Anthropologist" (EASA) Biennial Conference. Lisbon University, Portugal.
- 2019 **"Working and Living in the Rural Margins: Understanding 30 years of Thailand-Israel labor migration through return narrative"**. Institute's curriculum, Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR), Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand.
- 2019 **"Images from the Fields: Representations of Thai Migrant Labor in Israel"**, Trafflab (ERC) colloquium, Tel Aviv University Law faculty, Israel. Part of the session on "Visual Ethnography: On visual documentation of your research"
- 2018 **"Participation from Afar: Rural to Rural Translocal Acts of Solidarity between Thai Farm Migrant Workers in Israel and their Village Community in Isaan"**. Trans Re conference: "Adaptation in Motion: Linking Climate Change, Migration and Resilience". Bonn University, Germany
- 2018 **"'Nowhere to Go': Rural to Rural Agriculture Work Migration from Thailand to Israel"**. 15th European Association of Social Anthropologist" (EASA) Biennial Conference:" Staying, Moving, Settling". Stockholm University, Sweden.
- 2018 **"Merit making from the fields: Translocal acts of solidarity and belonging between Thai migrant farmworkers in Israel and their community of origin."** The 5th Ruppin International Conference on Immigration and Social Integration: "Migration in a changing global world". Ruppin Academic Center, Israel
- 2017 **"Pickers and Packers from Thailand to Israel and Back: research presentation"**. International Summer Academy: "Labour, Rights, and Mobility" of "Re: Work: Human Life Cycle in Global History", Käte Hamburger Collegia for research in the social sciences (BMBF). Taken place in Buenos Aires, in cooperation with the National University of General San Martín in Buenos Aires.

- 2017 **“Translocal narratives of Thai farm migrant workers in Israel”**. Seminar for Researchers on Thai Migration in Israel. Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel.
- 2012 Panelist at the panel **“Voices from the field- round table on social integration of refugees in Israel”** The 2nd Ruppin Academic Center International conference on Migration and Integration, Israel.

Invited Non-Academic Conferences and Lectures:

- 2018 **“Migration experiences from Thailand to Israel and Back”**, Center for International Migration and Integration (CIMI), Jerusalem, Israel.
- 2018 **“30 years of migration from Thailand to Israel”**, SEA Junction, Bangkok, Thailand.
- 2015 **“Refugees struggle for rights in Israel”**, New Delhi, India.
- 2014 **“Refugees in Israel”**, FLASCO, Buenos-Aires, Argentina.
- 2011-2014 **“Annual reporting to UNHCR headquarter on verity issues related to refugees in Israel”**, annual participation as the representative of Israeli Human Rights organizations, the annual UNHCR consultation with NGOs at the UNHCR world headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2013 **“The history of NGOs promoting refugees and migrants’ rights in Israel”**, Minister of health conference on promoting access to AVR treatment to HIV/AIDS migrant patients in Israel, Shiba Hospital, Israel.
- 2013 **“Unhealthy Status: Ten years for the amendment to the citizenship law and its effect on Palestinian women in Israel”**, Physicians for Human Rights conference about the 10 years anniversary of the amendment to the citizenship law, Tel-Aviv, Israel.
- 2013 **“Social Residency: securing access to public health and welfare services for refugees and migrants in Israel”**, Special meeting of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament committee for foreign workers with the Minister of Health Yael German, Jerusalem, Israel.
- 2012 **“Hostage, Torture and Rape in the Sinai Desert: Human Trafficking of Eritrean refugees on the way to Israel”**, Regional conference on Migration (Encuentro Confederal De Migraciones) held by Caritas Spain, Madrid, Spain.
- 2012 **Three weeks speaking and advocacy tour around the USA promoting refugee rights in Israel** on behalf of “Physicians for Human Rights-Israel”, organized by the New Israel Fund, in NYC, Washington DC and San Francisco, USA.
- 2011 **“Tortured in Sinai, Jailed in Israel”**, part of the lecture series "Transparent Patients-health-related issues of status less migrants and refugees in Israel", Shiba Hospital's Refugee rights course, Israel.

Selected Media Interviews:

- Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Germany:** Tomik, Stefan and Jochin Stahnk “*Auf der Welt Verloren*”, 5 February.2018 <http://www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/fluechtlinge-aus-eritrea-abschiebung-aus-israel-nach-ruanda-15433849.html>
- +972 magazine, Israel:** Leifer, Jushua :“*Asylum seekers sent to Rwanda warn: 'If you don't want to die, stay in Israel'*” 2 February 2018 <https://972mag.com/asylum-seekers-who-left-israel-warn-if-you-dont-want-to-die-stay-in-israel/132847/>
- Haaretz, Israel:** Zur, Yordan and Shai Zilber: “*Theft, Extortion and Death: The Agonizing Stories of Refugees Israel Deported to Africa*”.25 November 2017 <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/.premium.MAGAZINE-the-agonizing-stories-of-refugees-israel-deported-to-africa-1.5626827>
- Medico International:** Cohen, Tsafrir: “*Die Offene Klinik der Ärzte für Menschenrechte - Israel Afrikanische Folteropfer aus dem Sinai, Flüchtlinge, Migranten und das Recht auf Gesundheit- interview mit Shahar Shoham*” (German), Medico International,14 August 2013, Germany <https://www.medico.de/die-offene-klinik-der-aerzte-fuer-menschenrechte-israel-14623/>
- Hinuhit 23,**Israeli T.V. channel: Gabai, Gal (T.V. interview- Hebrew) Gabai, Gal “*Transparent Patient, Ten of Thousands Refugees with no Medical Treatment*” , November 2013, Israel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rK3D0nEwU38>
- Haaretz:** Even, Dan.: “*Health Ministry: Israel Immigration Police 'Ambushing' Africans*”, 10 January 2013, Israel <http://www.haaretz.com/news/national/health-ministry-israel-immigration-police-ambushing-africans.premium-1.492991>
- New York Times :** Lynch, Sarah. “*Sinai Becomes Prison for African Migrants*”. New York Times, 31 October 2012, U.S http://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/01/world/middleeast/01iht-m01-sinai-migrants.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0
- The Guardian :** Greenwood, Phoebe. “*Egyptian authorities look the other way as Bedouin kidnap refugees*”. The Guardian, 14 February, 2012, U.K <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/feb/14/egypt-bedouin-kidnap-refugees-israel>
- A.P.:** Hadid, Dia. “*African migrants tortured in Egypt's Sinai desert*” A.P., 16 February 2012, Israel http://www.boston.com/news/world/middleeast/articles/2012/02/16/african_migrants_tortured_in_egypts_sinai_desert/?page=full
- BBC Radio** (radio interview) “*Sinai camps*”. BBC Radio, January 2012, U.K <https://soundcloud.com/phr-israel/shahar-shoham-sinai-camps-bbc>

MEMBERSHIPS:

Member of “The European Association of Social Anthropologist” (EASA)

Member of “The European Assassination for South East Asia Studies” (EUROSEAS)

Member of “Academy for Equality” (Israel)

Member of “Assassination for Asian Studies” (AAS- USA)

NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE:

- 2015 **Intern** in the Agriculture worker’s department, Kav Laoved (Worker’s Hotline), Tel Aviv-Jaffa, Israel
- 2011- 2014 **Director** of Migrants and Status-less Persons Department, “Physicians for Human Rights-Israel”, Tel Aviv-Jaffa, Israel
- 2009 – 2011 **Intake Coordinator** at the Open Clinic for migrants, “Physicians for Human Rights-Israel”, Tel- Aviv Jaffa, Israel
- 2005-2009 **Volunteer** at “Physicians for Human Rights”- Open Clinic for Migrants and Refugees, Jaffa, Israel.
- 2005 – 2007 Administrative Director, "Muzik" Music School, Tel-Aviv Jaffa, Israel:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Hebrew: mother tongue

English: fluent

German: intermediate

Thai: basic

Chinese: basic

Spanish: basic