

## Five concurrent perspectives on the governance of migration

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I would like to share with interested members and guests of the Centre some preliminary results of my postdoctoral lecture qualification thesis. The working title of the project is "*Aufenthaltsrechtliche Steuerung der Migration*", which roughly translates into "Governance of migration by means of residence law". The subject matter of my research is a legal reconstruction and a critical appraisal of the actual state of German residence law. It aims to discover how the conceptual shift from policing foreigners to managing migration translates into legal doctrines applicable to the detailed regulations of the new Residence Act.

At the lunch meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> of June, I would like to discuss the first part of the study which lays down the theoretical framework and develops the analytical devices. Reconstructing residence law from a governance viewpoint, one faces very different social constructions of the meaning of migration, and a corresponding plurality of perspectives on the governance of migration. Using social sciences and history of law as sources of inspiration, my research has identified five paradigms of public intervention in the social fabric of migration, each corresponding with characteristic legal concepts. I shall argue that a major task of migration law is to couple and accommodate this multitude of perspectives.