

Series Preface

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To date, the *Global Migration and Social Change* series has included only single-authored research monographs. With *Postcoloniality and Forced Migration*, we are introducing something new in the series: an edited collection with twenty authors, a mix of early career and more established researchers from a range of disciplinary backgrounds and geographies, and five editors.

What we have not changed is our commitment to offer to our readers cutting-edge research on migration and forced displacement, one that challenges the canon and embedded migration and migration governance in broader societal, political, cultural and economic transformations. This collection contributes to an emerging body of literature in the social sciences that puts at the centre of scholarly research into contemporary forced displacement the legacies of colonialism, revealing and challenging the coloniality and Eurocentrism that shape migration and migration governance today. It is an ambitious project, one that reaches out towards multiple interconnected geographies and colonial histories and draws upon a range of disciplinary traditions and conceptual tools, one that arguably could be achieved only by a group of authors in close dialogue with one another.

Over the years, critical migration scholars have called researchers to challenge the politics of knowledge production in the field and criticized the presentism that underpins mainstream research on refugees, and migration more generally, as well as the limits of a scholarship which too often in its search for policy relevance ends up embracing the categories, frames and research priorities of policy makers in the Global North. This collection, researching the entanglements of forced migration with colonialism in the past and through to the present, contributes to this critical work by bringing forced migration research into conversation with postcolonial and decolonial studies through a fascinating mix of contemporary and historical case studies and theoretical and epistemological contributions. Through historical and

empirical research that trace hidden genealogies of migration control and surveillance, through uncovering the colonial legacies that inform the racialized hierarchies that underpin contemporary migration governance, the authors and editors of this volume are inviting all of us to reflect critically on the categories, concepts and questions we ask in our research and to uncover the hidden histories of contemporary forced displacement.

