

Ilka VARI-LAVOISIER

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political economy of international migrations, cognitive sociology, mix-method research

EDUCATION

- Since 2015** **University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia (USA)
Postdoctoral research fellow
- July 2015** **École Normale Supérieure**, Paris (France)
Ph.D., Sociology

Dissertation title: “From Economic to Political Remittances. A Transnational and Interdisciplinary Approach of West African Migration to France”. Advisors: Philippe De Vreyer, Flore Gubert, Thomas Lacroix, Sylvie Lambert (chair), Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan, and Viviana Zelizer.
- 2014 – 2015** **Princeton University**, Princeton (USA)
Visiting Scholar, Office of Population Research.
- 2013 – 2014** **Princeton University**, Princeton (USA)
Visiting Student (Procter Fellow), Woodrow Wilson School
- 2009 – 2013** **École Normale Supérieure (ENS)**
École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris (France)

Master of Arts in Political Sciences and Sociology, *Summa Cum Laude*. MA thesis: “Managing Migrants’ Collective Remittances: a Transnational Approach”
- 2008** **Sciences Po** (Institut d’Études Politiques), Aix-en-Provence (France)

Bachelor of Arts in Political Sciences and Public Policy, *Summa Cum Laude*. BA thesis: “Organizations dedicated to Women’s entrepreneurship in India”
- 2006** **Hypokhâgne**, Khâgne classiques A/L (Preparatory classes).
- 2004** **Baccalauréat** scientifique (Lycée Buffon, Paris XV^e)

PUBLICATIONS

Book chapter:

2015 “Stepping Back From Your Figures to Figure Out More: From Linguistic to Cognitive limits of Transnational Surveys” in [*Observing Protest from a Place: The World Social Forum in Dakar*](#), dir.: Johanna Siméant, Marie-Emmanuelle Pommerolle & Isabelle Sommier, Amsterdam University Press.

Peer-reviewed journal:

2016 “Social Remittances And The Changing Transnational Political Landscape” with Thomas Lacroix and Peggy Levitt, *Journal of Comparative Migration Studies* (accepted)

2014 « Paris – Dakar – Bokidiawé : une aventure collective transnationale Retour sur l'enquête TIMME », with Inssa Sané, *Ethnographiques.org* (under review)

2011 « [Heurs et malheurs des chômeurs créateurs d'entreprises. De la complémentarité entre ethnographie et économétrie](#) », *Terrains et Travaux*, vol. 2/2011 (n° 19), p. 121-139.

Working Papers:

2015 “[Social Remittances as Mimetic Diffusion Processes: From Homophily to Imitation in Transnational Networks](#)” Transnational Studies Initiative, Harvard University.

2014 “[How Social Remittances Reshape Social Hierarchies. Following Migrants' Transfers between New York, Paris, and Dakar](#)” Working Paper series, Center for Migration and Development, Princeton University.

2014 “[The Circulation of Monies and Ideas between Paris, Dakar, and New York: The Impact of Remittances on Corruption](#)” Transnational Studies Initiative, Harvard University.

RESEARCH POSITIONS

2013 **Project manager**, Institute of Research for Development, Dakar – Senegal.

Project: TIMME (Multisited and Interdisciplinary Fieldworks on Migrants' involvements). Establishment of partnerships between French and Senegalese institutions. Design of questionnaires, supervision of pilot surveys and supervision of the multi-sited data collection. Recruitment and management of fieldworkers. Data analysis.

2012 **Project coordinator**, Institute of Research for Development, Dakar – Senegal, in collaboration with J.N. Senne (Paris School of Economics)

Project: POLECOMI (Political Economy Consequences Of international Migration for origin countries. Senegalese and Malian case studies). Survey design, recruitment, training and supervision of a team in conducting a multi-sited exit poll during Senegalese elections. Working papers.

2011 **Technical advisor**, Institute of Research for Development, Dakar – Senegal

Project: GLAMMS. Literature reviews, coordination between French and Italian teams, qualitative interviews and questionnaire design.

2011 **Research assistant & field interviewer**, University Paris 1 Panthéon – Sorbonne. Project : “Transnational activists”. Quantitative data analysis. Book chapter.

2009 **Research assistant**, Institute of Research for Development, Paris – France

2007 **Intern** “Entrepreneurs without Border”, New Delhi – India

RESEARCH GRANTS & AWARDS

2014 **TEPSIS Fellowship**, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, France

2014 **Research grant**, Institut of Research for Development, France

2013 **Procter Fellowship**, Princeton University, USA

2012 **POLECOMI** (Political Economy Consequences Of international Migration for origin countries. Senegalese and Malian case studies). National Agency for Research (ANR), France

2010 **GLAMMS** (Governance, Local Public Goods and HomeTown Associations in Mali and Senegal: the case of Migrants' Organizations in France and Italy). Funding of the "Emergences" program, Ville de Paris, France

2010 **ENS fellowship**, École Normale Supérieure (three-year research grant).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

2015

"The Economic Side of Social Remittances: the Circulation of Money and Ideas between New York, Paris, and Dakar", invited presentation, Transnational Studies Initiative, Harvard (USA), November 2015

"How Social Remittances Reflect and Affect Social Hierarchies between New-York, Paris, and Dakar", Regular Session of the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA), San Diego (USA), May 2015

"How Migrations Transform Social Norms. Following Migrants' Transfers between New York, Paris, and Dakar", Annual conference of the Sociology of Development, Brown University, Providence (USA), March 2015

2014

"How Persons Set Ideas into Motion: Transnational Conceptualization of Intangible Remittances", conference "Border, Mobility and Diversity: Old Questions, New Challenges", MiReKoc, Istanbul (Turkey), November 2014.

"When Migrants Fight Corruption and Challenge Local Authorities: Evidence from Translocal and Comparative Data from Senegal", workshop "Following the Flows", Princeton University (USA), September 2014.

"From Social Conditions to Mechanisms of Vernacularization", conference "Pushing the Boundaries of Migration Studies: Perspectives from the U.S. and France", Harvard University (USA). May 2014.

"Paris – Dakar – Bokidiawé : une aventure collective transnationale Retour sur l'enquête TIMME (Terrains Interdisciplinaires et Multi-sites : Migrations et Engagements)", colloque "Enquêtes collectives", INRA Dijon (France), May 2014

"A transnational and collective endeavor: TIMME project", conference at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (MSH), Poitiers (France). June 2014

"A transnational and collective endeavor: TIMME project", conference "Collective qualitative research In the social sciences", Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (MSH) in Dijon (France). Februray, 2014

« Un chercheur exemplaire : Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan », Groupe de Réflexion Interdisciplinaire sur le Politique, ENS (France). Februray 2014.

2013

« Bien plus que de l'argent ? Une approche interdisciplinaire des transferts », colloque annuel du Centre Maurice Halbwachs, Foljuif (France). June 2013.

« Les dynamiques communautaires des Sénégalais de France », colloque « Les communautés par les sciences sociales » EHESS (France). June 2013

« Migrations et diversité culturelle : la circulation de fonds et de normes entre Paris et Dakar », Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium). May 2013.

2012

« Des chômeurs-créateurs en quête de réseaux entrepreneuriaux », Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, Paris (France). December 2012.

“Politiques aux frontières, frontières du politique”, Conference “Mobility, Migrations, Development and Environment”, UNISA, Pretoria (South Africa). May 2012.

“How Migrants' Organizations Challenge State-based Conception of Citizenship and Contribute to the Diffusion of Political Norms”, Conference “Relationships between Diasporas and Their 'Homelands”, Migration Studies, Lebanese American University, Beirut (Lebanon). February 2012.

« Mathieu Hély : du bénévolat rémunéré au travail associatif », en présence de l'auteur, GRIP, École Normale Supérieure, Paris (France). January 2011.

SKILLS

Statistics and programming: Stata (SEM), R', LaTeX, HTML. Cartography: Quantum Gis, PhilCarto. Languages: French (native), English, and German. Hungarian. Wolof (notions).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association, Population Association of America

Réseau Migrinter, Collectif des Jeunes Chercheurs en Études Africaines

APAD (Association pour Anthropologie du Développement)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Organizer, workshops [Terrains Interdisciplinaires et Multisites Migrations et Engagements](#)
Venue : Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, Hann Maristes, Dakar (Senegal).
April 10 - 16, 2012.

Organizationnal committee, Conference "[Etats Généraux de l'enseignements de l'économie dans le supérieur](#)", collectif [PEPS](#). Venue: EHESS, Paris (France). April 6, 2013.

Organizationnal committee, secondes [Rencontres des Jeunes Chercheurs en Études Africaines](#) Venue: Science Po & EHESS, Paris (France). October 3 & 4, 2014.

Organizer, Conference "[Following the Flows"- From Economic to Social Remittances: an International Overview](#)". Venue: Wallace Hall, Princeton University (USA). September 19 & 20, 2014.

Co-organizer, Conference "[Pricing Practices, Ranking Practices](#)", Venue: PSL*/École Normale Supérieure de Paris (France). June 28 & 29, 2015.