



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TORINO



Il Dipartimento di Culture Politica Società,
in collaborazione con il Master AGIC – Global Studies for International Cooperation
Invita alla presentazione del

Seminario

Post-Development in Permanently Temporary Urban Spaces: Networks of Care and Livelihoods in Camp Assemblages of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon

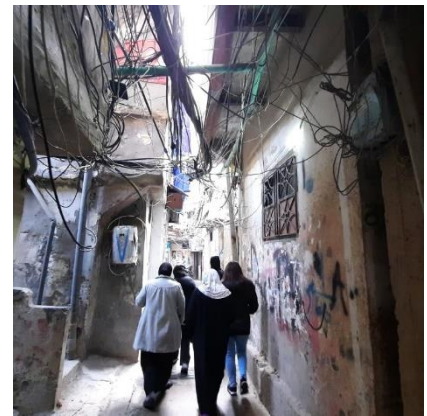
Giovedì 7 Aprile h.11-13, CLE, Aula B2



Introduce: Paola Minoia, UniTo

Presenta: Yafa El Masri,
Università di Padova

Discutono: Sallie Yea, La Trobe
University e Rosita Di Peri, UniTo



Bio: Yafa el Marsi is a PhD candidate in Geography at the University of Padova. She has recently published: *Decolonizing education in Bourj Albarajenah: cosmologies of a Palestinian refugee camps, Globalizations* (2022); *Women, Displacement, and Refugees in Lebanon, Capire* (2021); *72 Years of Homemaking in Waiting Zones: Lebanon's "Permanently Temporary" Palestinian Refugee Camps, Frontiers in Sociology, Migration and Society* (2020).

Abstract: Research has been increasingly and critically deviating from the study of protracted refugees as victims stuck in limbo, and has been rather addressing them as campzens and local sovereigns while addressing their spaces of refuge as neighbourhoods and urban entanglements. My work examines protracted refugees in the pluriverse, and how their relationalities guide them in shaping their camp space and reclaiming their place in the city. I specifically observe permanently temporary Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut, Lebanon. I look at the assemblages between the compressed camp space and the collective human agency as a cosmology by which refugees understand their place in this world and negotiate everyday spaces for livelihood. I use Donna Haraway's feminist concept of situated knowledge, to reflect on my own positioned rationality of growing up as a stateless Palestinian refugee in Bourj Albarajenah refugee camp. I find that we negotiate the one squared kilometre camp space by expanding vertically, while we negotiate home by embodying ancestral memories of Palestine into the narrow hallways. We materialize our spatial negotiations through community-based dynamics such as sisterhoods and crowdfunding, which allow us to construct commons, decolonize knowledge of Palestine, redistribute resources and even rescue other refugees of the city during the pandemic. This study on assemblages and solidarities in refugee communities can provide us with a few lessons on grassroots cooperation by which we can advance post-development literature, but also by which we can better understand the gender inequalities and capacity limitations of such mechanisms.

