



**Freitag, 16. Juni 2023 / Friday, 16 June 2023**

**Workshop 2 Sofyan Essarraoui PhD** *Discourse of Moroccan youth towards Sub-Saharan African migrants (English)*

**Institution:** Eotvos Lorand University

**Place:** Budapest, Hungary

**Abstract**

As of 2000, Morocco's migration system took a significant turn by transforming into a destination for a diverse migrant class, especially from Sub-Saharan Africa. Many factors contribute to the influx of these migrants, mainly the proximity of Morocco to Spain, a European country with a failing migratory system. Other factors are primarily related to the increasing security across the Borders linking Morocco and Spain. Intensified border control prompted many migrants to settle in Morocco rather than return to their socially unstable, economically stagnant and politically corrupted countries. This increase has been accompanied by a reform of the Moroccan migration policies, in an attempt to contain the increasing numbers of migrants and in order to guarantee their inclusion into mainstream society. On another level, the increasing presence of Sub-Saharan African migrants in Morocco has led to the emergence of a fierce reaction moulded by racist, discriminatory and xenophobic reactions. This research seeks to investigate the reasons behind Moroccan's racist attitudes towards Sub-Saharan immigrants drawing from a variety of available literature and reports from Non-Governmental organizations such as 'Human Right Watch', 'GADEM' and 'Medecins Sans Frontiers'. The findings of this research contribute to the scholarly debate and discussions on migrants' integration in Morocco and in other countries with similar migration contexts.

**CV**

Sofyan Essarraoui is a Sociology PhD student at the University of Eotvos Lorand of Budapest, Hungary. He is currently working on research on Migration with a special focus on the immigrants' integration in Morocco. Sofyan is a Moroccan FLTA alumna who taught Arabic and studied at Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina for the academic year 2019-2020. While at Bennett College, Sofyan, along with other colleagues, wrote a study abroad program to Morocco, entitled "Introducing a global aspect of women and democracy in Morocco. The program was awarded the scholarship by the U.S. government and 13 participants are expected to go to Morocco in June 2022. Sofyan is currently working as an Arabic teacher at The Contemporary Arab World Centre in Budapest. Besides, he is also an accredited tour guide working for the Moroccan ministry of tourism. Sofyan holds a Master's degree in Linguistics and Advanced English studies from Cadi Ayad University, Marrakech. He also studied at The University of West Bohemia in The Czech Republic while on Erasmus Scholarship.