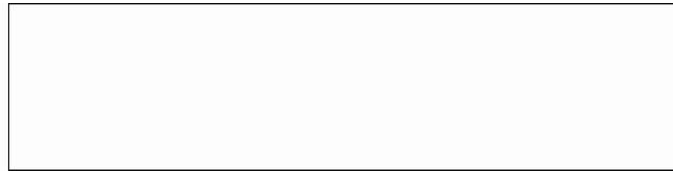




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Study information sheet for the dissertation project of Dennis Odukoya M.A.

Health and Security: Systematic Screening of Newly Arrived Migrants for Infectious Diseases in Germany and the UK

(Working title)

Background

The systematic screening of newly arrived migrants for infectious diseases is a common practice in most states of the European Union. The actual procedures, however, vary in respect to where the screening takes place, which diseases are tested for and what groups are targeted. In some cases, the practices not only vary between national contexts, but are also not coherently regulated within states. Currently there are attempts on the European Level to develop guidelines and thus harmonize the divergent approaches.

Project Aims

The aim of my thesis is to analyse the systematic screening of newly arrived migrants from a sociological perspective. Using two infectious diseases (HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis) as examples, I want to compare approaches to screening in Germany and the UK and trace back the sociohistoric contexts of their emergence. Furthermore, I want to scrutinize, how current debates in epidemiology, politics and ethics influence the further development of the respective procedures. In my thesis, the screening of migrants for infectious diseases is thus not understood as a mere public health measure, but an effect of a complex interplay of various discourses and structures. Finally, I want to discuss my findings with regard to the securitization of health, which seems to have a growing impact in the management of mobility and migration worldwide.

Methodology

The project's methodological approach is based on the research programme of the sociology of knowledge approach to discourse analysis (SKAD). It further integrates elements of grounded theory and situational analysis. It includes document analysis (health reports, guidelines, legislative texts etc.) and expert interviews.

Supervision

Prof. Dr. Hella von Unger (primary supervisor)

N.N.