Abstract
Both in public and academic discourse, migration is often studied and debated from a “South-North” perspective, despite the fact that most migration is “South-South” oriented. We will focus on Morocco during this presentation. Morocco is transforming from a migrant sending and transit country to a destination country. In a context where Europe wants migration agreements with North African governments, I ask what migrants’ legal rights in this North African kingdom are, and how this receiving state and migrants deal with them in practice. Given that many migrants in Morocco experience major life events—marriage, birth, divorce, death—, the presentation deals with family law in particular. Family law plays a crucial role in legal identity and in securing basic human rights. Ultimately, the aim is to obtain a legal-anthropological understanding of one of the least understood issues of our time: migrants and their legal rights as non-citizens on the other side of the Mediterranean.

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Dr Nadia Sonneveld has an academic background in anthropology, Arabic, and law. She is affiliated to the department of Islam Studies, Radboud University, The Netherlands. The common factor in all her research activities is the focus on gender and law in the Muslim world, particularly in Egypt and Morocco. She authored Khul’ Divorce in Egypt: Public Debates, Judicial Practices, and Everyday Life (2012), and has co-authored Women Judges in the Muslim World: A Comparative Study of Discourse and Practice, with Monika Lindbekk (2017) and Women and Social Change in North Africa: What Counts as Revolutionary?, with Doris Gray (2018).

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LIVING ON THE OTHER SIDE: AN ANALYSIS OF MIGRATION AND FAMILY LAW IN MOROCCO
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