



# Department SEMINARS

"No one leaves home until home is  
a damp voice in your ear saying  
leave, run now, I don't know what  
I've become"

**DONATELLA BAIARDI**

University of Parma

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**THURSDAY, 30 MARCH 2023**  
**12:00 PM**

Seminar Room Bruguier Pacini, DEM



## A B S T R A C T

This paper aims to analyze how a succession of extreme climate events affect individual climate change awareness and thus personal intentions to migrate internationally. Using a wide cross-sectional, individual-level dataset covering most countries of the Middle East and North Africa, it distinguishes between individuals wishing to migrate and individuals wishing to migrate in an irregular way. Three proxies of climate change awareness are considered in order to capture the emotional and the cognitive components of mind.

Our results show that a repetition of fast-onset climate hazards raises concern about climate change, but a repetition of slow-onset climate disasters lowers the level of concern. Our findings also show that, when weather anomalies become more frequent, the emotional component of mind is the main driver of illegal migration intentions. On the contrary, people recognizing the relevance of national government in fighting climate change do not wish to migrate abroad. Lastly, the empirical analysis demonstrates that, among aware individuals, the increasing repetition of climate shocks is changing the gender dimension of international migratory flows. For countries more exposed to climate change, higher climate change awareness boosts irregular migration among women.