

WS23 – Migrants (both internal and from abroad)

Session 1

The Chinese vision

- The need to study and know the reality of Chinese society as far as migratory flows within the country are concerned
- Improve the living, social, and working conditions of urban and rural migrants.
- Slow down demographic growth with the goal being zero growth.
- Recognize the identity of peasants who come to the city.
- Reform the census system so that everyone has the same rights.
- Ensure peasant children the right to free education in public schools.
- Rethink the Houko system (set up in the 1950s to regulate rural migration)
- Allow free circulation of rural dwellers without loss of their acquired rights (such as social security)
- Distribute wealth equitably between the city and the countryside
- State policies must be in harmony with the logic of economic development
- Need for progressive reform of Chinese society to ensure equal rights and obligations. Give men and women equal standing.
- Define and respect the rights of rural children.
- Train workers in their place of origin.
- Peasant workers must be allowed to defend their rights to improve their living conditions and gain NGO support.
- Change society by involving all players (civil society, state, etc.)

The European questions addressed to Chinese

- Q : How will China negotiate the transition from a rural society to an urban society ? A: Hope for progressive change by recognizing everyone's rights.
- How will the children of peasants be integrated into the city ?
- Q : Are there feminists in China ? A: Yes, there are feminist movements. They belong to the intellectual class and are related to international movements.
- Q : Is there a movement for the respect of rights and equality of rights? A: Yes, since peasants are becoming aware that they have the same rights as other citizens. NGOs help peasants to have their rights recognized. Migrant workers are slowly recognizing themselves as citizens. In the 90s, peasant workers joined together to find solutions to their problems, today they are conscious of the law and therefore appeal to the State.
- Q : Does child limitation exist ? A: No, because families themselves do not want to have several children.
- Q : What is the situation of non-Chinese residents ? Has their status been analysed? A: There is not a lot of research on this subject.
- When a Chinese person goes to live in the city and then returns to the countryside, how is he viewed by his family? A: Because of the money he has earned and the work skills he has developed, he can be of extra assistance to them and win the recognition and respect of his peers.*

Session 2

The European vision

- Establishing a multifaceted identity
- What is an identity? What is a “cosmopolitical” identity?
- Successful integration by way of the job market and by way of socio-cultural integration
- Allowing foreigners to participate in politics and to vote
- Encouraging civic duty
- Developing a mutual interest between the local and immigrant population
- Developing suitable policies for solving immigration and illegal employment problems
- Involving the European Commission in the creation of an adequate migration policy
- Improving the status of migrants

The Chinese questions addressed to Europeans

- Q: What does transatlantic mean? A: This refers to countries separated by the Atlantic Ocean. There is a link between the countries that practiced triangular trade during the colonial era, and this link is becoming increasingly important.



Session 3



Session 4