



**Caribbean communities in Europe and the Americas:
Ethnicity, integration and transnationalism**

*Les communautés caribéennes en Europe et dans les Amériques :
Ethnicité, intégration et transnationalisme*

Organisation: EURESCL / ANR Afrodasc/ Migrinter

Panel Chair: Cédric Audebert ; *Panel Participants:* Souley Hassane, Terry-Ann Jones,
Dwayne Plaza, Cédric Audebert

In the perspective of a dialogue between the main immigration contexts of Caribbean populations, their incorporation will be analysed in the social as well as the geographical and political arenas. The diverse experiences of Caribbean communities in the US, in Canada, in Britain and France will thus be investigated through a specific approach:

1°) The social insertion of Caribbeans will be conceptualised and contextualised with a general presentation of macro-level socio-economic (employment status, occupation, industry) and educational indicators (educational attainment, drop out rates). In addition, qualitative insights on reciprocal interethnic perceptions and discrimination will be part of the discussion.

2°) The panel will then explore the possible relation between social incorporation – i.e. the relative position on the socioeconomic ladder –, residential patterns and political representation of Caribbean communities in the many contexts studied. A particular attention will be given to segregation, which will be critically assessed.

3°) Political representation at the local level constitutes one of the many ways to address the challenge of social disadvantage of Caribbean minorities in Western societies. In this perspective, we will investigate the possible connection between residential patterns and empowerment of these population. Similarities and differences between the four contexts will be analysed.

4°) The Caribbean migration experience will also be analysed beyond the mere immigration contexts, within the broader scope of transnational return migration of English-speaking Caribbean populations. A strong case will be made for the use of a transnational approach to understanding the current return migration phenomenon with the possibility to move back and forth between “home” and abroad.

Cédric Audebert: ‘Introduction’

Souley Hassane: ‘Caribbean communities in Great Britain and France: social incorporation and political representation’

Cédric Audebert: ‘Caribbean communities in the United States and Canada: social characteristics, spatial patterns and ethnic politics’

Terry-Ann Jones: ‘Jamaican immigrant incorporation in Miami and Toronto’

Dwayne Plaza: ‘Transnational return migration to the English-speaking Caribbean’



FRENCH VERSION/VERSION FRANÇAISE

Dans une logique de mise en dialogue des contextes nationaux d'immigration des populations caribéennes à deux niveaux – intra-européen et transatlantique –, l'intégration des Caribéens est appréhendée dans sa dimension sociale, géographique et politique. Les expériences variées des communautés caribéennes dans les contextes états-unien, canadien, britannique et français sont ainsi analysées à travers une démarche spécifique servant de fil conducteur aux interventions de l'atelier. Cette démarche consiste à :

1°) problématiser et contextualiser les enjeux de l'insertion sociale des Caribéens dans ces divers pays en présentant un panorama général de cette insertion à travers quelques indicateurs quantitatifs de base socio-économiques (insertion sur le marché de l'emploi, niveau de revenu) et éducatifs (niveau d'instruction, échec scolaire, etc.). En complément de cette approche quantitative globale, une large part sera laissée dans la discussion à la dimension qualitative des représentations interethniques réciproques et vécus de la discrimination.

2°) explorer l'existence d'une éventuelle relation entre ces conditions sociales d'insertion – notamment la position dans l'échelle socio-économique locale – et la forte concentration géographique de ces communautés observée dans tous les contextes étudiés. Une attention particulière sera portée aux processus et effets de la ségrégation résidentielle, dont la réalité sera discutée et observée de manière critique en fonction des contextes.

3°) La représentation politique à l'échelon local étant un moyen parmi d'autres de répondre aux enjeux posés par la situation sociale des Caribéens en Europe et en Amérique du Nord, nous nous intéresserons à la manière dont la géographie résidentielle singulière de ces communautés a été valorisée dans l'optique d'une meilleure visibilité politique dans les sociétés d'accueil. L'accent sera notamment mis sur les similitudes et différences observés d'un contexte national à l'autre.

Il s'agira donc en définitive d'explorer la relation théorique entre les conditions sociales, la géographie résidentielle et la représentation politique pour offrir un panorama le plus large possible des enjeux de l'immigration antillaise dans les sociétés « postindustrielles » de part et d'autre de l'Atlantique. **Souley Hassane** (Migrinter) analysera les contextes britannique et français à partir du cas des Antillais anglophones et français ; en reprenant les mêmes questionnements, **Cédric Audebert** (Migrinter) mettra en perspective les situations canadienne et états-unienne à partir du cas des Caribéens anglophones et des Haïtiens (également appréhendés dans le contexte français) ; **Terry-Ann Jones** (Fairfield University) se focalisera plus précisément sur la situation des Jamaïcains à Toronto et en Floride. Dans l'optique d'ouvrir la réflexion sur le destin des migrants au-delà du simple cas des sociétés d'installation, **Dwaine Plaza** (Oregon State University) s'interrogera sur leur devenir à travers la dynamique transnationale des migrations de retour des Antillais anglophones.

Souley Hassane: *'Caribbean communities in Great Britain and France: social incorporation and political representation'*



Cédric Audebert: *'Caribbean communities in the United States and Canada: social characteristics, spatial patterns and ethnic politics'*

Terry-Ann Jones: *'Jamaican immigrant incorporation in Miami and Toronto'*

Dwaine Plaza: *'Transnational return migration to the English-speaking Caribbean'*

Title of panel: Caribbean communities in Europe and the Americas: ethnicity, integration and transnationalism (European program EURESCL/ANR Afrodosc/Migrinter)

Discipline: migration, identity

Number of presenters: 5

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Panel Description

This panel will present Caribbean migrant communities in a comparative perspective in different contexts in Europe, North America and the Caribbean. Ethnic identity formation will be articulated with integration, residential processes and transnationalism, linking local patterns with global forces. A special attention will be given to Jamaican migrations. Caribbean migrations will be compared in France and Great Britain. They will also be compared in the U.S. and Canada. In Florida, Jamaican and Haitian migrations will be compared. In addition, return migration to the English-speaking Caribbean will offer a complementary perspective which is crucial to get a broad and comprehensive picture of the experience of Caribbean migrants.

Presenter 1

Dr. Souley Hassan, Faculty, Migrinter, University of Poitiers. hsouleymane@hotmail.com

Title: *'Caribbean communities in Great Britain and France: social incorporation and political representation'*

Abstract:

This presentation will deal with the differential social incorporation of Caribbean communities compared to other ethnic groups in Great Britain and France and its impact on representation in the public space. I will demonstrate that this representation takes on different forms in both settings.

Presenter 2

Dr. Cédric Audebert, Faculty, Migrinter, Poitiers. cedric.audebert@univ-poitiers.fr

Title: Caribbean socio-spatial patterns in the Miami-Ft. Lauderdale area: a comparison between Jamaicans and Haitians.



Abstract:

Geographical patterns of Haitians and Jamaicans will be analysed in a comparative perspective and in relation with their differential modes of social integration in Canada and the United States. The socio-economic status and the dynamics of ethnicity of both communities will be compared in this process. An analysis will also be conducted on their political representation.

Presenter 3

Dr. Terry-Ann Jones, Faculty, Fairfield University, Connecticut. tjones@mail.fairfield.edu

Title: Jamaican immigrant incorporation in Toronto and Miami.

Abstract:

The structural contexts of Miami and Toronto vary widely and the variations produce different social and economic outcomes for Jamaican immigrants. This paper investigates such characteristics as immigration policies and practices, policies relating to immigrant incorporation into local societies. The characteristics of the labour market are also taken into consideration.

Presenter 4

Dr. Dwaine Plaza, Faculty, Oregon State University, Corvallis. dplaza@oregonstate.edu

Title: Transnational return migration to the English-Speaking Caribbean.

Abstract: This paper presents a review of the return migration literature as it applies to the English-speaking Caribbean. By doing so, we make a strong case for the use of a transnational approach to understanding the current return migration phenomenon which has changed due to the ease with which migrants can move back and forth between “home” and abroad.