

3. Género e condições de vida

OC - (23153) - THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON MIGRANT WOMEN'S LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE UK: RECOVERY, RESILIENCE AND HOPE

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The COVID-19 pandemic has hit at a time of on-going economic and political crises globally and has since exacerbated existing gender inequalities, from precarious labour to the dislocation of family relationships. This paper reports on findings from GEN-MIGRA (www.genmigra.org), which examines the compounding impacts of Covid-19 pandemic and other crises, political and economical. GEN-MIGRA uses an intersectional perspective to explore migrant women's intersecting experiences of poly-crisis and the possibilities for renewal and regeneration, exploring what inequalities have emerged or worsened for them and what role have state policies have played in mitigating or increasing these inequalities.

The paper examines the gendered effects of polycrisis that have created specific vulnerable situations for migrant women. We draw on data collected with migrant organisations, women with different immigration statuses (refugee, asylum seeker, worker visa, settled status) and their family members to examine the extent to which personal crises (mental health challenges, bereavement, family breakdown, isolation, violence) were felt alongside the ongoing polycrisis. Acknowledging the important role of structural factors such as insecure immigration status, precarious work or welfare support, we explore how the pandemic has increased their risk of vulnerability. Given also reports in rising intersectional violence and xenophobia, we document the structural, institutional and interpersonal barriers that impact women's lived experiences across several domains. We show how pandemic-related restrictions have forced women's decisions and forced im/mobilities, in the context of increasingly challenging legal processes of regularization, increasing care obligations and limited access to social services and welfare. Simultaneously, we explore the role of individual and collective actions and strategies activated by migrantized women to navigate these unprecedented challenges. We focus this part of the presentation on women's agency and strategies of resistance, and their narratives of 'hope' in a better, brighter post-pandemic future for them and their families.