The speech focuses on the issue of border-crossing mobilities of refugees within Europe, looking at the mechanisms of bordering process within European territories and shedding light on the negotiating practices worked out by refugees. Based on 20 months of multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork between 2013 and 2015 in Germany and Italy, the empirical research examines the precariousness of refugees’ everyday lives as a strong effect of EU internal borders. Ultimately, the research has revealed how the border regime in Europe impacts mostly upon the temporal rather than the spatial dimensions of refugees’ lives, affecting their subjectivities and sense of self. This dispossession of time is advocated as the main problem with the experience of refugees in Europe, causing them to claim a “temporal justice”, which seeks to gain back control of their own lives and personhood.

*Elena Fontanari* has a PhD in Sociology (University of Milan/Humboldt University of Berlin) and she has the certificate of Doctor Europaeus. She is currently a post-doctoral researcher in Sociology at the University of Milan, living and doing research in Berlin. She has published her book “Lives in Transit. An Ethnographic Study of Refugees’ Subjectivity across European Borders” with Routledge (2018). Peer-reviewed articles published in journals like Sociology (SAGE), City (Routledge), PERIPHERIE (Westfälisches Dampfboot), Berliner Blätter (Panama Verlag), Mondi Migranti (Franco Angeli). She is a co-founder of the Coordinated Research Centre Escapes, a critical research network about forced migration in Italy.