

Transnational migration

Madam chairperson, Excellencies, distinguished members of the forum, sisters and brothers.

The anti-blackness and Racism of transnational, and especially transcontinental, migration are blatantly obvious for us living in Northern Europe.

This were highlighted during the first months of the Ukrainian conflict as we saw African and people of African descent residing in Ukraine being denied entry as refugees, while white Ukrainians were welcomed in a fashion never before seen in Northern Europe in modern times.

In several countries, including Norway there were private initiatives applauded by the government organizing transport of Ukrainian refugees thru Europe. Collected by bus at Ukrainian-Polish border to a swift and efficient asylum process, and in short time collective protection.

While initiatives to aid African refugees and migrants despairing in the Mediterranean, in refugee-camps or in living in limbo have been met with criminal procedures and accusations of human-trafficking.

The anti-blackness permeates European immigration institutions. As a former caseworker in the Norwegian immigration system I can testify to a pronounced Anti-blackness and racism towards all people of African descent.

African immigrants are distrusted as a default, the sentence; “all young African men are lying.” or similar uttered by decision-makers within the immigration authorities of Norway and associated states. African, Caribbean and Afro-Latinx governments are distrusted, their statements thought to be fabrications and issued identity documents considered not to have notoriety.

All immigrants from Africa to Europe are living with uncertainty as their residence permit, and even citizenship can be stripped off them. People of African descent are in many European countries the

majority of families with persisting low-income and living in poverty. This is a continuum of colonialism as the reasons for immigration are the continuing exploitation of African resources, and colonizing states need for cheap-labour.

As the European governments does to a large extent do not adhere to nor respect UNHCR and other UN recommendations on the question of immigration, discrimination and racial injustice, keeping in mind the morning session on Pan-Africanism, African states, Caribbean states, African descendant lead latin-American governments, as well as CARICOM and the African Union must address this issue. The issues must be stressed whenever European states strive for political influence or economic advantages in Africa, the Caribbean, and all governments lead by African descendants.

To paraphrase Pastor Murillo it's all about the money, and since we are in New York, cash, rules everything around me, as my generation would say.

Money is power, as we all know Malik El-hajj El-Shabazz said, "Power never takes a step back, only in the face of more power"

If we are to change the colonizing, discriminating and anti-black practices of European colonizers we need to show Pan-African power!