

Transits "in" Cape Verde Islands: A Look about the Migrations from West Africa

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Here I present some insights about the processes and migratory dynamics surrounding the archipelago of Cape Verde. This is the pronouncement that the migration towards this country has come significantly complex over the past two decades. Beyond the empirical interest in this new scenario in which the archipelago is announced, I try to demonstrate that migration originated in West Africa have proved to be a complex phenomenon and that, in my view, should be analyzed towards exemplary cases. In this sense, albeit in a very generalized manner, there is some experience with diverse patterns as: a) expanding on the archipelago migratory movement as a springboard to Europe, with greater intensity from the nineties, b) that has some sedentary was recorded several decades ago, c) small businesses that strengthen transnational linkages, d) or we may point to the expression of a long process of intra-regional migration dynamics in the African continent, in this case, the West African region, and now intensifies covering the Cape Verde archipelago.

Therefore, we see several challenges that the state and Cape Verdean society face at the moment, confronted with the characteristics of contemporary migration in a game of continuity, persistence and flexibility of the borders. However, with these strengths that Cape Verde is facing in this era of globalization, it is indeed essential to work profoundly in order to have answers and solutions for the new and complex challenges. For example, looking the crucial role of gender as an analytical category it should be interesting to understand the migrants' practices and the decisions to migrate, confronting the issues to the normative view of regulation the migratory flows. Indeed, the normative approaches may sustain the argument of an ambivalence in the dominant discourse on migration, pointing to an epistemological persistence of the colonial past on the contemporary national states (Hesse and Sayyid, 2006; Sarró and Mapril, 2009).

For instance, this work tries to broaden the debate on migration leaving some clues for thought on the manner and time in which migration is interwoven involving the Cape Verde Islands, advancing some of the challenges that the country confronts on the social and political level.

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