Scope of the Book

This book will explore and interpret from a gender perspective the empirical shifts between privileges and vulnerabilities in highly educated migrants in the framework of another conceptual transformation related to the terms and phenomena of the highly skilled/educated international migration and human mobility in the last two centuries, with a special emphasis on the period from 1960s to 2021.

The study of different mobility regimes in which migratory careers of highly educated women are embedded since the 1960s have a high impact on the invisible sway between privileges and vulnerabilities in situated sociopolitical contexts. Between 1960s and 1990s, highly educated women began moving on their own, but, despite their qualifications, they nonetheless faced big challenges, some of which have not completely disappeared. The mobility and immobility swing in women's projects claims for an identity re-adjustment, addressed to a meaning reconstruction process, related to two main dilemma: 1) migration and mobility dilemma; 2) migrant and alternative conceptualization of "people on the move" (I will explore in the Introduction). The dilemma continues to evolve opening glimmers for future studies on still unexplored horizons.

The history explored in this book shows that highly educated migrant women experience a vicious cycle based on objective/subjective overqualification, unemployment and deskilling. Qualitative and quantitative studies on highly educated migrant women in a job-matching situation are limited. A critical understanding of the structures of opportunities/constraints influencing women's mobility is relevant. Thus this book is a contribution to the scientific knowledge on highly educated migrant women's socio-professional inclusion from an historical perspective, more specifically by analyzing the historical evolution in which migrant women come out as working agent in a more globalized world, from the post-industrial era in 1960s.

It will be structured in three historical sections:

- The first section will cover the history of the highly skilled migration before 1960s.
- The second section will cover the history of the highly skilled migration and highly educated women's mobility from the 1960s to the 1990s.
- The second section will cover the history of the highly skilled migration and highly educated women's mobility from the 1990s at the present (2021) and I will present a case-study.