

***“And then they said: Don’t worry, next summer you will come to visit” –***  
**A participatory research on a young woman’s process of flight and**  
**Migration**

An Abstract of the Thesis by  
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This thesis aims to take countermeasures against the homogenization of refugees and their reduction to indigence in general and against the invisibility of women in similar contexts specifically.

Within a participatory research process, a joint truth of the participant’s experience of flight and migration has been constructed, paying special attention to gender specific conditions and identity transformation.

The results of this study show that flight is a complex process similar to a crisis. As such it consists of various stages that lead to an eruption of roles and transformation of identity. Previously unknown resources and skills on the part of the person in flight are activated and a new perception of their personality evolves. For the participant in this research her journey was an aspect of her growing up, resulting in the intertwining of her adolescence and migration. By the end of it she had redefined her intra- and interpersonal relations and developed a strong identity as a woman and an autonomous self along with an abiding and strong emotional bond to her family.