

## Reclaiming narratives - GENERATION II: Documenting second-generation voices in Denmark: A Focus on female migration and changing role models

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### ABSTRACT

Migration Museum of Denmark is currently developing a new co-creative initiative titled **GENERATION II**, which aims to document, share, and reflect on the lived experiences of second-generation immigrants in Denmark—the children of guest workers who arrived in the 1960s and 1970s. Building on the museum's critically acclaimed exhibition and publication "*Guest Workers – Stories from the 1970s*", this project shifts focus to those who grew up navigating multiple cultures, languages, and expectations, yet have been largely absent from official national narratives.

At the 35th AEMI Conference, we wish to present this project in its early stages, with particular emphasis on one thematic strand: *Female migration and changing role models*. This strand explores how women from second-generation migrant backgrounds have negotiated their identities, educational and professional ambitions, and gender roles—often in contrast to those of their mothers or dominant societal expectations. These intergenerational shifts offer deep insight into the complexities of belonging, self-determination, and societal change.

The project employs a variety of participatory and co-creative methodologies designed to foster trust, dialogue, and mutual reflection. These include:

- **Focus group interviews**, to create safe and nuanced spaces for shared storytelling and collective memory work.
- **Film screenings and moderated discussions**, using archival or documentary materials to prompt dialogue and historical context.
- **Creative workshops**, including writing exercises, the sharing of personal items, photographs, letters, music, and other memory objects as tangible talking points.
- **Interactive formats**, e.g. post-it note reflections, timelines, and participatory mapping, to encourage participants to express thoughts, emotions, and identity narratives in their own way.

These methods serve not only to collect testimonies but also to empower participants to see their stories as valuable parts of a broader collective history. The ultimate aim is to create a shared space of memory that centers these voices not as parallel histories, but as an integral part of Denmark's evolving national narrative.

**Status of the work:** This is a work-in-progress. Our presentation will share initial findings, methodological frameworks, and reflections from early-phase activities. We seek to engage with other scholars and institutions for dialogue, feedback, and potential collaboration, particularly around ethical co-creation, gendered migration histories, and the role of museums as platforms for societal dialogue.

### CV

**Fadime Turan** holds a Master's degree in Cultural Encounters and Journalism from Roskilde University. As a second-generation descendant of Turkish guest workers in Denmark, Fadime has been a prominent public voice on issues of representation, identity, and gender. Her work continues to challenge dominant narratives and amplify underrepresented perspectives in Danish society.