



### Conversations on Europe

# Cementing the Boundaries of Frenchness: Race/Ethnicity and Belonging in a Non-Color-Blind French Republic

Thursday, November 19, 2020 | 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm EDT | Remote

France is often portrayed as a case of color-blind civic 'assimilation' despite a shift to 'integration' since the 1980s. However, the creation of institutions such as the High Council for Integration (1989-2013) and the first ever census-based survey on the assimilation of immigrants and their France-born children (Mobilité géographique et insertion sociale, Tribalat 1993) signaled starting from the 1990s the foregrounding of cultural differentiation in public life and the promotion of ethnic origin as a framework and primary principle of classification (Bertaux 2016:1496).

The panel casts light on the utopia of a color-blind French Republic that, in its efforts at treating citizens equally before the law, makes it impossible for them to belong.

#### Panelists:

- **Jean Beaman**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of California Santa-Barbara
- **Cécile Evers**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Pomona College
- **Zsuzsanna Fagyal**, Associate Professor of French and Italian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- **Christina Horvath**, Senior Lecturer in French Literature and Politics, University of Bath

**Moderator:** **Jae-Jae Spoon**, Director of the European Studies Center, University of Pittsburgh

► This event is free but you need to RSVP at [calyc@fiu.edu](mailto:calyc@fiu.edu) and register [here](#)

#### Affiliation:


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