

PROF. NEHA JAIN

**The Market
Metaphor in
Refugee Law
and Policy**

28.05.2026

17:00

Moot Court- und
Verhandlungsraum



The lecture identifies marketization as a phenomenon in international refugee policy. It argues that transactional migration management schemes, in which states receive migrants in exchange for legal tender, obscure responsibility for refugee protection. Such market proposals replicate colonial practices that shield states from accountability, while commodifying asylum seekers and signaling their negative value. Drawing on mobilization efforts by overlooked actors, the lecture advocates using existing legal tools to resist the normalization of market thinking in refugee policy.

The **GILDS** is founded and chaired by **Professor Erika De Wet**, Head of the Department of International Law and International Relations. erika.de-wet@uni-graz.at

We work for
tomorrow

**UNI
GRAZ**