

**University Grenoble Alpes
Graduate School EU Values**

**“*As they lay dying*. European values
defeated by restrictive migration management policies”**

3h CM, 15 September 2023

**Marie-Laure Basilien-Gainche
Professor Dr. of Law
University Jean Moulin Lyon III
Member of the *Institut Convergence Migrations*
Senior member of the *Institut Universitaire de France***

As the shipwreck that occurred on 14th June 2023 exemplifies it, the Mediterranean, the *Mare Internum*, appears to have become the graveyard not only of desperate populations on the move, but also of international obligations and European values. The crisis is three-fold, that will be examined contemplating the migration management and border control policies that are in part externalised to third countries such as Libya, Turkey or recently the Tunisia of President Saied: a crisis of the principle of responsibility as the European Union and its Member States are reluctant to comply with their legal international and European obligations, in particular the duty to rescue and the duty to protect; a crisis of the imperative of solidarity as the EU and its Member States are unwilling to alleviate the burden of the most vulnerable ones and to support each other, insofar as the very European integration seems affected; a crisis of the requirement of rationality as the EU and its Member States are promoting policies causing issues more than offering solutions, such as the fight against irregular migration or the obsession for an effective return policy. Examining how Europe is ensuring migration management and border control leads to scrutinise the situation of lost migrants and of defeated European values *as they lay dying* to quote the title of the very famous novel of William Faulkner.