

The Agora – JPI Urban Europe Stakeholder Involvement Platform Workshop:

## The effects of recent migration dynamics and forced displacement on urban areas in Europe

14 November 2017; Berlin.

### Book of Abstracts

[www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu](http://www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu)

twitter: @jpiurbaneurope - #AgoraWS

<



This activity is part of the EXPAND project which has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 726744.

# List of Participants

| Name  | Affiliation   | Page |
|---|---|------|
| <b>Group 1: Arrival Cities/Arrival Neighbourhoods</b>                           |   |      |
| Amalia Zepou ( <i>cancelled</i> )   | Vice Mayor for Civil Society and Innovation<br>Municipality of Athens | 4    |
| Andreas Netz  | VINNOVA   | 8    |
| Klara Odberg  | Malmö University  | 9    |
| Sabine Beißwenger   | ILS – Research Institute for Regional and Urban<br>Development        | 11   |
| Stefan Goellner   | Place/making  | 13   |
| Stephen McNair  | JPI More Year Better Lives  | 13   |
| Yvonne Franz  | University of Vienna  | 14   |
| <i>Rapporteur: Johannes Riegler</i>   | JPI Urban Europe  | //   |
| <b>Group 2: Managing Migration: Multi-Level Governance, Policy and Research</b> |   |      |
| Agita Luse  | Riga Stradiņš University  | 18   |
| Anila Noor  | ISS / Betterfuture  | 19   |
| Bernhard Perchinig  | International Centre for Migration Policy Development                 | 21   |
| Elaine Chase (Pevsner)  | University College London   | 24   |
| Kristian Tronstad   | Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences              | 25   |
| Michael Keith   | University of Oxford  | 28   |
| Tycho Walaardt  | Ministry of Security and Justice NL                                   | 28   |
| <i>Rapporteur: Margit Noll</i>  | JPI Urban Europe  | //   |
| <b>Group 3: Urban Planning and Housing Provision</b>                            |   |      |
| Andrzej Klimek  | Research and Innovation Centre Pro-Akademia                           | 31   |
| Frank Eckardt   | Bauhaus University in Weimar  | 32   |
| Michael Fäustlin  | City of Augsburg  | 33   |
| Susanne Søholt  | Oslo and Akershus University  | 25   |
| <i>Rapporteur: Jonas Bylund</i>   | JPI Urban Europe  |      |
| <b>Participants from Funding Agencies</b>                                       |   |      |
| Gabriela Echegoyen-Nava   | ESRC  | //   |
| Felicia Gustafsson  | VINNOVA   | //   |

**Group 1:**

# **Arrival Cities / Arrival Neighbourhoods**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Name</b>         | Amalia Zepou  |
| <b>City</b>         | Athens, Greece  |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Vice Mayor for Civil Society and Innovation, Municipality of Athens |
| <b>Project</b>      | Urban Innovation Action Curing The Limbo                            |

#### Personal:

I am vice-mayor of civil society and innovation at the municipality of Athens. We recently received the UIA award for the 2nd Call, on integration of migrants and refugees. My team was responsible for the idea and writing of the project, based on the experience and work we are doing with community groups and active citizens related to the humanitarian crisis that Athens has gone through in the last 2 years

The social innovation sector in Athens was recently founded after we received the Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge award in 2014 for setting up a platform connecting the municipality to its active citizens. The implementation of this platform, check it out [www.synathina.gr/en](http://www.synathina.gr/en) has been our main innovation project in the last years.

#### **Abstract: Urban Innovative Action, CURING THE LIMBO, Athens 2017**

*Below, I am copying a short summary of the idea that Athens submitted at the UIA 2<sup>nd</sup> Call, on April 2017 and recently received it. I would be very grateful to share ideas, challenges and alternative solutions with other similar European approaches presented during the seminar.*

#### **Project Summary**

Recently arrived refugees and vulnerable locals equally share a state of being un-occupied, without daily activities, without a sense of being useful citizens or recognized as such: They are “in limbo”.

In the last decade, Athens is a gradually shrinking city suffering from a crisis that has also emptied a large surface of its buildings. “Curing the Limbo” is about empowering stranded refugees who have been granted asylum to get out of their state of “limbo” by allowing them to act along and with local citizens, addressing various city and social needs in exchange of housing affordability. Key to the Municipality’s effort is to come up with a positive solution for the whole city, help it move out of its own limbo, and make its new citizens champion citizens along with its own public-spirited actors, in a transformative process for all. Addressing the state of inertia and the sense of exclusion through a mechanism that ignites housing affordability is both original and equally important along other traditional pillars of social integration.

## What was the Challenge we identified?

Newly arrived refugees have landed in a society struck by a deep financial crisis. Athens is a city where unemployment rates are high (31%) while many local inhabitants have gradually moved out, leaving back 30% of vacant flats in the center of Athens. Despite many forms of social support, an increasing number of people remain in a condition of recipient passivity. This state of vacancy and passivity referred to as “limbo” is the crux of the issue Athens has to face.

A recent census in a hosting camp in Athens showed that 99% of refugees have had no occupation in the past year, while 69% have not started learning Greek, revealing their unrealistic hope to be relocated elsewhere in Europe. The long-term inactive population of Athens similarly suffers from a state of exclusion that needs to be overcome. This shared condition between locals and non-locals is challenging the city not to re-produce conditions of inequality deeply embedded in the prevailing social structure.

Recent refugees arrived in Greece as a pass-through, not a destination country, and unlike other European cities, there was not even partly a selection process. Although arrivals and departures are still in flux, among the 18.000 currently estimated to be living in the city, it is the under-skilled and those less desired by other countries that will remain. The same survey showed that 70% had no economic activity in their country of origin, and 42% had no schooling at all. Athens does not only have to identify skills, but create the motivation to develop new ones.

The housing issue to date has been largely supported by ECHO through UNHCR. However, housing for those granted asylum in Greece has not yet been secured beyond 2017. The lack of social housing processes further generates economic inequalities and social problems. Another challenge is to match vacant spaces to the needs of vulnerable populations.

But Athens is also a city where local activities and engaged citizens are generating solutions. The initiatives are being led by a broad spectrum of actors from international to local grass roots organizations. The municipality will have to ensure that needs are met, duplication avoided, and that local actors are building on the international expertise of organizations that may soon exit the country.

Key to the municipality's effort is to come up with a viable solution beneficial to the entire city, moving it out of its own “limbo”, with new citizens who cooperate with the local public-spirited actors in a transformative process for all.

## the Solution we proposed

The “Curing the Limbo” project capitalises on the vibrant civil society of Athens, helping refugees and the local unemployed overcome their state of inertia and their sense of exclusion, by becoming more active and more socially engaged. The program lies on a cycle of activities that trigger a system of social exchange where refugees receive subsidized living

spaces, formerly abandoned publicly and privately owned properties in return for community service.

This social exchange is ignited by a series of spiraling steps, interconnecting the expertise of the proposed partnership:

1. The partnership creates the “Limbo Exit Lab”, a space hosted by the municipality for designing the project in which beneficiaries will be received.
2. A “menu of options” for various activities is offered, tailored to fit different individual situations.
3. One basic item in this “menu” is to provide affordable housing, by piloting different possibilities based on the housing resources available. The Housing Facilitation Unit established by the international NGO “Catholic Relief Services” will capitalize on the city vacancy, in exchange for limited hours of community service work from refugees moving into the housing.
4. To offer community service, the “menu” provides the beneficiaries with a training program supervised by the University of Athens where language learning, psychological support, Street Law knowledge and other basic social skills are offered.
5. The above basic social skills will be offered in an integrated way, during which other parallel activities can be gradually introduced. The parallel activities of the “menu” respond to city needs, both social and urban, matched along actual initiatives of existing community groups.
6. At the end of this tailored process in each individual situation, the beneficiaries will have some or all of the following benefits: the possibility to afford housing, access to a network of active and engaged local people, and ultimately the possibility to move on with some form of employment related to their newly acquired skills.

The project offers inclusive integration, helping to move its beneficiaries from a state of apathy into action, allowing the creation of strong bonds with the local communities, acquiring new skills, solving local problems and improving quality of life in neighbourhoods. It therefore also responds to urgent needs of the city, struggling itself in the last years to stand on its feet. This spiralling cycle of steps leads beneficiaries and local unemployed out of their limbo by triggering the housing opportunity out of its deadlock.

### **The Innovation contained in the proposal**

“Curing the Limbo” addresses the wider population’s state of uncertainty and powerlessness giving to the project a focus that adds a new aspect in the effort of several cities to recognise the importance of cultural integration and bottom up processes. Although many schemes attempt to overcome either the medical aspect of the refugees’ traumatic experience, or cultural discrimination in employment, we were not able to identify in the available social innovation data an integrated process that joins skill vacancy and building vacancy with city needs in an inclusive conscious process to build quality citizenship. This is an opportunity to re-think citizen identity for both locals and non-locals under the current pressure to sustain and promote European values in our cities.

With regards to social occupancy, the innovation aspect lies on interconnected processes leading to compensatory exchange, substituting for the lack of financing, creating incentives to tax-paying owners of vacant units, or upgrading the function of unused city spaces. The proposed type of multicultural social occupancy combines social and urban challenges and correlates unexploited human resources and building resources.

Although our partners are “usual suspects” bringing international expertise from their own respective fields, the implementation stakeholders are selected from a wide range of “unsuspected” community actors, collected in the field, from all ranges of public-spirited activity surfaced in the recent humanitarian crisis in spontaneous ways.

“Curing the Limbo” draws its inspiration from small-scale innovations from past local and European examples, but ties them in cycles that generate further possibilities. Embedded language learning, cultural and psychosocial support, are already done, but their integrated combination into mechanisms that generate social exchange is an experiment drawn from an original partnership of national and international institutions.

For the city of Athens, and Greece generally, partnering for such purposes with external bodies is in itself completely new, but it is long needed and extremely important to unlock the city’s rich dormant potential. By combining a cyclical bond between each step, the project could claim an “evolutionary typology”. We could equally argue for a “revolutionary” aspect in awakening the capacity of the city to inspire participation and responsibility of its own citizens in a mutually transformative process.

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Name         | Andreas Netz  |
| City         | Stockholm, Sweden   |
| Organisation | Vinnova   |
| Project      | Program Manager with a portfolio of approx. 20 migration related projects |

#### Key Messages:

- Education and labour policy is key in order to enable new arrivals to be educated, hired and able to quickly get settled in the country.
- The transition time from arrival to integration must be shortened, which entails changes in policy, agencies processes and silo structures.

#### Abstract:

My role, Program Manager, as well as Vnnova's, the Swedish Innovation Agency, is that of an enabler in terms of being a research and innovation financier. We have funded many projects within the areas of migration, integration as well as segregation. All challenges affected by demographical changes in the Swedish society.

What we can see as key factors of success in the projects we fund are:

- High level of involvement of the affected target group (i.e migrants, immigrants, unemployed etc.). Those affected by a problem are involved in both describing the actual need as well as developing and testing solutions.
- Enable innovations that, by challenging existing structures and systems, contribute to positive social effects. Innovations that are scalable, with great potential to improve people's lives.
- New sustainable models for collaboration, networking, finance, impact measurement and business are needed in order to generate long-term sustainable changes that actually matter.
- Intersectoral cooperation, collaboration and co-design is necessary:
  - o Allowing new actors and grassroot initiatives that challenge the system
    - Civil society, social entrepreneurs and concerned individuals
  - o But enable upscale, long-term and system changes
    - Collaboration projects with the public sector, businesses and universities

Transnational corporation/exchange: Very beneficial. Need to import best-practices, knowledge and proven innovations to each other. Not everybody need to invent the wheel. Systems/processes for knowledge and best-practice sharing must be developed.



|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Name         | Klara Ödberg   |
| City         | Malmö, Sweden  |
| Organisation | Malmö University   |
| Project      | JPI UE: GLIMER [University of Edinburg (main coordinator), Universities of Calabria, Malmö University, Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies and University of Stirling] |

#### Abstract: GLIMER

The Governance of Local Integration of Migrants and Europe's Refugees (GLIMER) project marks a collaboration between researchers in southern and northern Europe. Supported by JPI Urban Europe Horizon 2020 ERA-NET Cofund scheme, its purpose is to generate theoretically informed but empirically grounded data that is able, through best practice sharing and reporting, to support policymakers in finding durable solutions to the governance and local integration of displaced migrants and refugees.

Recently characterised as the 'new normal' by the European Commission (2016), according to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) over 1.6 million migrants and refugees entered Europe in 2015 (IOM 2015). This 'refugee crisis' is felt both by frontline and final destination states. Despite the principle of sharing numbers of people according to relative economic strength and country size, as outlined in the EU Task Force for the Mediterranean and wider EU Strategic Guidelines, countries in both southern and northern Europe are being forced to find innovative solutions at local and city levels to manage the arrival, flow and settlement of people.

One of the overlooked outcomes of this development is that new modes of governance are observable and which are characterised by two striking features. The first is that local and city level migrant and refugee reception are sometimes diverging significantly from national level policy and rhetoric. Possibly an illustration of 'decoupling' across geographies of policy delivery (Pope and Meyer 2016: 290), this variation is patterned by ground-level politics, local strategic incentives, and pre-existing economic resources in a manner that invites further scientific investigation through live cases. The second is that local and city level approaches to reception are leading to patterns of successful early integration. These include those cultivated by associations from the third sector which have assumed a key role in what Elia (2013: 36) has termed 'bottom up welfare'. In this respect a number of towns in the southern Italian region of Calabria have led pioneering schemes to welcome migrants, incorporating them into the local labour market (Bruckner 2016), while further examples in educational and housing settings can also be found in Glasgow, Malmo and Nicosia.

The methods and structure of GLIMER are informed by the following project goals:

- To combine qualitative research with action research, bringing academics together with end-users to provide innovative solutions to displaced migrant and refugee integration;
- To convey the research results in operational ways through the elaboration of site-specific strategies able to generate an immediate impact within the research project's development;

- To disseminate the results as widely as possible, in the EU and worldwide, devising strategies to involve relevant communities, stakeholders, practitioners, policy makers, housing and educational institutions;
- To involve local stakeholder and populations in the strategies of co-production, especially through the use of Urban Living Labs (ULLs) within the research to support the creation of inclusive and vibrant communities; and
- To offer coherent and sustainable policy recommendations to urban governance institutions to support diversity and the development of vibrant urban communities.

In this respect, the GLIMER project will examine emergent systems of co-responsibility between local and national agencies in their responses to managing the integration of displaced migrants and refugees. Of central importance here will be the utilising of what have become known as Urban Living Labs (ULLs) across each of the cases. ULLs are emerging as a means through which to gauge local governance at a time when 80% of the population of Europe are expected to reside in urban settings by 2020 (European Commission 2014).

Briefly, ULLs are diverse and can (i) take the form of partnerships that span public, private and voluntary sectors; (ii) serve as tools for industry to pilot commercial technologies in specified areas; or (iii) name other kinds of partnerships that fall around participation, collaboration, experimentation and learning in the governance of urban spaces (Voytenko *et al.*, 2016). GLIMER will develop an approach to ULLs based on this third kind as elaborated by Schliwa (2013), seeing ULLs as collaborative ventures between citizens, companies, local governments and researchers.

These will be guided by the following key research questions - taken up across each thematically specific work-package – to ascertain:

1. To what extent - and why - are cities adopting approaches to the governance of migration and refugees that diverge from national level positions?;
2. How and in what ways are cities and localities cultivating innovative approaches in the reception and integration of migrants and refugees?; and
3. Which approaches are proving successful and how can we model this for other contexts to learn from?

These three core research questions will be empirically pursued across the substantive work packages dedicated to data collection on Regeneration and Urban Exclusion (WP3), Education and Linguistic Competences (WP4), Labour Market and Skills Training (WP5) and Gender Dynamics across Reception and Integration (WP6).

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Name</b>         | Sabine Beißwenger   |
| <b>City</b>         | Dortmund, Germany   |
| <b>Organisation</b> | ILS – Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development   |
| <b>Project</b>      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Successful integration in neighbourhoods</li> <li>2) Social integration within urban neighbourhoods: promoting networking and encounters in disadvantaged areas</li> <li>3) Evaluation of the project „Refugees and urban redevelopment in Altena“</li> <li>4) ILS Research network on 'Spatial aspects of flight, immigration and integration</li> </ol> |

#### **Key Messages:**

- Successful integration processes depend on stable and integrated organisational structures, they work best in urban spaces where these structures were established even before the recent migration increase; therefore, previous, decade long learning processes of some cities and municipalities are a resource others can build on.
- Cities and municipalities stress the importance of neighbourhood and community spaces when discussing the effectiveness of integration concepts and funding; no parallel but integrated refugee targeted funding schemes and concepts are considered helpful here.
- Experts interviewed in our studies' cities and municipalities stress the need to not only consider and provide services and spaces for persons who are recognized as refugees but also for those with more precarious and unsecure status of residency.

#### **Abstract:**

*Which challenges or research questions does your project address in regard to the effects of recent migration into cities?*

By comparing the challenges and strategies of eight cities of different size within the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia (Germany) the project 'Successful integration in neighbourhoods' appraised different ways of coping with the high numbers of arriving refugees in 2015/16. It looked at various aspects that were effected and had to be coordinated by city administrations, specialised companies and civil society such as housing and first arrival shelters, education, labour market, leisure clubs and charity organisations.

The project aimed at identifying structures and mechanisms that contribute to successful integration processes. Special attention was given to the neighbourhood level, its institutions, stakeholders and spaces.

*How does your project/research contribute to overcome these challenges?*

The project collected best practice narratives as well as discussions on problematic issues and remaining challenges and distilled policy recommendations. These concerned the transparent communication of challenging issues; the importance of positive role models especially in the

person of the mayors; the caution to see the recent immigration as remedy for problems brought about by demographic change; the need for horizontally and vertically integrated concepts; the coordination, budgeting and recognition of volunteer involvement; the strengthening of local integration centres; decentralising of refugee housing and increasing efforts to build affordable housing; strengthening of the role of 'arrival neighbourhoods' and of institutions for education and labour market integration.

*Are urban stakeholders (city administration, civil society, NGOs, etc.) involved in the project? If yes, who and how?*

In this study we interviewed various stakeholders involved in refugee issues across the eight case study cities. They shared their insights on the situation at one point in time in 2016 looking backwards on how the situation had developed. In other projects, however, we follow different research methods, involving different stakeholders: a) accompanying the course of a refugee initiative over three years repeatedly taking part in meetings of the involved stakeholders (city administration, refugees, civil society participants); b) taking a closer look at the role of housing companies and house owners with regards to immigrant and refugee integration.

*From your point of view, which research issues/questions would benefit from transnational cooperation/exchange?*

As we have and will further focus on the role of house owners, housing companies and (dis)integration mechanism of the housing market this would be a topic of special transnational comparative interest for us. This would be interesting to link up with concepts of arrival neighbourhood, whether these concepts exist in spatial and urban policies in formal or more informal ways and which functions are attributed to these spaces in relation to refugee incorporation.

#### Links:

- 1) [https://www.ils-forschung.de/index.php?lang=en&s=forschungsprojekte\\_details&sub=&id=161](https://www.ils-forschung.de/index.php?lang=en&s=forschungsprojekte_details&sub=&id=161)
- 2) [https://www.ils-forschung.de/index.php?lang=en&s=forschungsprojekte\\_details&sub=&id=170](https://www.ils-forschung.de/index.php?lang=en&s=forschungsprojekte_details&sub=&id=170)
- 3) [https://www.ils-forschung.de/index.php?lang=en&s=forschungsprojekte\\_details&sub=&id=193](https://www.ils-forschung.de/index.php?lang=en&s=forschungsprojekte_details&sub=&id=193)

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>Name</b>         | Stefan Göllner   |
| <b>City</b>         | Berlin, Germany  |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Place-making.org |
| <b>Project</b>      | InfoCompass      |

#### **Abstract: InfoCompass**

Since 2015 place/making is developing project »InfoCompass«, an information infrastructure based on an online information platform and network of local hubs for information and consultation to support refugees and supporters in Berlin. In 2016 the project received funding by Lotto Foundation Berlin and is since then run in cooperation with a neighbourhood house organization. Currently, five running information hubs in- or close to- refugee homes are regularly providing information for their visitors in multiple contexts – work, living, education, recreation, ... – the primary focus of the InfoCompass Network is to guide people to easier participate in the existing offers, provided in their living environment by multiple organizations and to help them to make use of more specialized consultation services.

**Project Blog:** [www.info-compass.berlin](http://www.info-compass.berlin)

**Digital resource:** InfoCompass Berlin ([www.info-compass.net](http://www.info-compass.net)).

|                     |                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>         | Stephen McNair               |
| <b>Organisation</b> | JPI More years: Better lives |

Our main interest in this event is to identify areas of common interest between our two JPIs.

The primary interest of our JPI is in the policy implications of demographic change, especially in the ageing of societies, and population decline in some parts of Europe. Like other JPIs our concern is to help identify and meet research needs, and to encourage alignment between funding and policy agencies.

For this reason we have recently undertaken a review of policy and research on migration in 10 EU countries (plus Canada), with particular attention to public attitudes to migration, to the health of an ageing migrant population, migrants' role in the health and social care workforce, and migrants in pension systems. We were particularly concerned to identify future research needs. The draft report is currently being finalised, so conclusions at the moment are very provisional.

We are planning some further work on the long term demographic implications of current and possible future migration patterns.

**Website (personal):** <http://www.stephenmcnair.uk/>

**Website (JPI MYBL):** <http://www.jp-demographic.eu/>

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Name         | Yvonne Franz  |
| City         | Vienna, Austria   |
| Organisation | University of Vienna, Department of Geography and Regional Research<br>(prior: Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Urban and Regional Research) |
| Project      | JPI UE “Interethnic Coexistence in European Cities (ICEC)”  |

#### Key Messages:

- Argument #1: We run risk to loose social cohesiveness in urban neighbourhoods.
- Argument #2: Becoming an active citizen implies the ability for political and societal participation.
- Argument #3: Urban neighbourhoods have the potential to serve as a place for integration.

#### Abstract: UNDER PRESSURE? SOCIAL COHESIVENESS IN DIVERSIFYING NEIGHBOURHOODS.

Urban neighbourhoods are becoming more diverse not only due to fragmented urban lifestyles, but more significantly due to external effects such as population growth, densification of the built environment, or the restructuring of the labour market affecting also the economic landscape. At the same time, urban neighbourhoods serve as an arena for daily social interactions impacting individuals' sense of place and place attachment.

#### **Argument #1: We run risk to loose social cohesiveness in urban neighbourhoods.**

Drawing on research results on interethnic coexistence in European cities, we argue that coexistence in ethnically diversified neighbourhoods is positioned as the middle of a continuum between neighbourhood disconnection and neighbourhood attachment (see Dahlvik et al., 2017: 48). On the one hand, there is the potential to increase coexistence as a ‘peaceful living side-by-side’ by investing into the neighbourhood and supporting local integration measures. On the other hand, decreasing possibilities to meet, interact and create social – even superficial – ties may result in disconnection from the neighbourhood. Based on the findings for Vienna, I argue that we run risk to loose social cohesiveness in urban neighbourhoods that face rapid change within the local context. The effects of recent transformations in the socio-demographic makeup of neighbourhoods touch on a rethinking of local policies that complement political responsibilities at the city and national level including the topics of housing, education, access to public space, mobility and economic empowerment.

#### **Argument #2: Becoming an active citizen implies the ability for political and societal participation.**

In recent years, concepts such as active citizenship or co-responsibility became popular and indicate a shift in the public debate within the realms of (social) welfare state thinking. However, the notion of “making people more responsible” for their living environment has to be questioned critically. Becoming an active citizen implies also the ability for political and societal participation. For this workshop, I argue that in diversifying neighbourhoods both fields of participation have to be facilitated by public stakeholder to connect residents to their neighbourhood. Otherwise, the aim of integration and creating socially cohesive neighbourhoods will remain an ‘empty rhetoric’.

**Argument #3: Urban neighbourhoods have the potential to serve as a place for integration.**

Developing a sense of place and neighbourhood belonging requires the commitment and support by policymakers and public stakeholder both at neighbourhood and city level. One crucial result from our research project is the finding that peaceful living side-by-side has to be valued as an important achievement in diversifying neighbourhoods (see Dahlvik et al., 2017: 49). Coexistence is the result of long-term support and investment by policymaker and public stakeholder into these neighbourhoods. Consequently, I argue that we can build on positive examples that neighbourhoods still have the potential to serve as a place for integration as long as policymaking processes allow for adaption towards local needs in order to facilitate the local community to give something back.

**References:**

- Dahlvik, J., Y. Franz, M. Hoekstra, J. Kohlbacher (2017): Interethnic Coexistence in European Cities. A Policy Handbook. ISR Forschungsbericht 46. Austrian Academy of Sciences. Vienna. 1-89.
- [www.icecproject.com](http://www.icecproject.com), Project Website “Interethnic Coexistence in European Cities (ICEC)”.

***Which challenges or research questions does your project address in regard to the effects of recent migration into cities?***

- Which political measures best support and strengthen the integrative power of an urban neighbourhood as a place of living and identification for a diverse urban population?
- How does participation in such local measures and initiatives impact neighbourhood belonging of local residents – or not?
- What kinds of differences can be found between (non-)participation in top-down and bottom-up organised initiatives?
- 

***How does your project/research contribute to overcome these challenges?***

Creating an environment for mutual learning exchange at the local level with the potential for co-created local policies; providing policy recommendations at the local and citywide level; providing knowledge at the EU level.

***Are urban stakeholders (city administration, civil society, NGOs, etc.) involved in the project? If yes, who and how?***

Consortium partner:

- Vienna Urban Renewal Office for the Districts 6/14/15.
- Vienna Urban Renewal Office for the Districts 7/8/16.
- Municipality of Amsterdam, City Council Amsterdam, Department of Research and Statistics (Bureau Onderzoek en Statistiek).
- The Growth and Regional Planning Administration, Stockholm County Council.

Contributing partner in Vienna:

- District mayor of the 6<sup>th</sup> district (Mariahilf), Vienna.
- Volkshochschule Wien (adult education centre) in the 16<sup>th</sup> district (Ottakring), Vienna.
- Verein Matznergarten (community garden) in the 14<sup>th</sup> district (Penzing), Vienna

***From your point of view, which research issues/questions would benefit from transnational cooperation/exchange?***

1. How can urban neighbourhoods provide access to low-threshold societal and political participation to create social cohesiveness?

2. How to overcome conceptual limitations of ethnicity and country of origin in creating more inclusive urban environments?

Which services support the integration of individuals going beyond the notions of “top-down integration policies”?

Links:

[www.icecproject.com](http://www.icecproject.com)



Group 2:

# **Managing Migration: Multi-Level Governance, Policy and Research**

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Name         | Agita Luse  |
| City         | Riga, Latvia  |
| Organisation | Riga Stradiņš University  |
| Project      | Developing responsible journalism in Latvia's national and regional media in order to facilitate integration of third country nationals into Latvia |

**Abstract: Framing of migration problems in Latvian mass media: argumentation, visual representation, and strategies of intolerance justification**

In 2015, 53 per cent of inhabitants of Latvia responded that “no refugees should be accepted in Latvia”. Middle-aged respondents and Russian-speaking population proved to be even more wary: more than 60 per cent of them were against refugee accommodation in the country (GfK Baltic, 2015). Latvia joined the EU emergency relocation scheme in 2016 and agreed to host 531 asylum seekers by 2018. A year later, a modest number of 207 people had been selected by Latvian officials from camps in Greece or Italy. To appease the local society's worries about threats to safety, preference was given to educated family people. The opposition to the asylum politics, nevertheless, rose even more: by April 2016, already 78 per cent of respondents claimed that “Latvia should not accept/ probably should not accept asylum seekers from the Middle East and Northern Africa” (SKDS, 2016). The widespread lack of tolerance among the general population has been paralleled by the country's ruling coalition opting for policy measures that not only have been inadequate for promoting refugees' integration in the local society but even for ensuring them basic subsistence and shelter.

The permanently high level of intolerance towards people seeking refuge in Latvia poses a number of questions also for media researchers. How have Latvian mass media reported on the events, attitudes and policies related to the current migration crisis? What has been the proportion of inclusive versus exclusive discourse in publications in press and electronic media? In what ways have media publications attempted to justify intolerant attitudes toward asylum seekers? To what degree have editors and journalists been devoted to lessening stereotypes about immigrants from the military conflict regions in the Middle East?

In mid-2017, a group of researchers from Riga Stradiņš University Communication Studies Department carried out a study on the representation and framing of migration in media publications in Latvia.<sup>1</sup> Quantitative content analysis was chosen as the main method of data collection and discourse analysis was used for interpreting the obtained data. 832 publications that had appeared in the mass media, both in Latvian and Russian, between 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2016 were selected for analysis. 13 mass media were represented: newspapers, radio, TV, as well as online news sites. Main topics, sources of information, modes and topoi of

---

<sup>1</sup> Project has been funded by the Latvian Ministry of Culture and its title is “*Developing responsible journalism in Latvia's national and regional media in order to facilitate integration of third country nationals into Latvia*”. The principal investigator is Anda Rožukalne, and the research team consists of Sergejs Kruks, Ilva Skulte, Agita Lūse, and Alnis Stakle.

argumentation, patterns of visual representation, media strategies of intolerance justification and explanation were identified in the selected publications.

According to the results of the study, Latvian media have mostly reported on the political process of asylum seeker relocation, assistance provision, attitudes towards refugees (racism, intolerance, tolerance, integration). Noteworthy, the main sources of information have been officials and politicians while asylum seekers, local NGOs or volunteer groups organizing assistance to immigrants were rarely the source. In media framing, refugees were primarily associated with burden, threat, and danger. Intolerance towards immigrants was justified mentioning insufficient resources and incapacity of political elites to adequately deal with the challenges posed by migration and the EU relocation policy. Equal percentage of support for intolerance and its refutation was observed in the Latvian mass media content. However, editorial stances have diverged: TV and newspaper publications have more frequently enticed intolerance, whereas refutation of intolerance has prevailed on radio programmes. In visual representation, refugees have been depicted as large groups rather than as identifiable persons. Illustrative images have been excessively used, misleading the audience and encouraging stereotype formation about asylum seekers.

|                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>         | Anila Noor                      |
| <b>City</b>         | The Hague, The Netherlands      |
| <b>Organisation</b> | ISS / Betterfuture              |
| <b>Project</b>      | Urban Planning for Asylum (UPA) |

#### Personal:

My background is embedded in forced migration; my father migrated to Pakistan in 1947 that initiated our migrant family history. As a human-rights advocate I want more positive stories of migrants to be heard. Building on my Masters, the best way for me to contribute was to become a professional refugee researcher. I believe I would be able to contribute as a migrant and for the migrants. I constantly strive to adapt, improve and innovate. My work helps me counter my disappointment that our perspectives are rarely included in the policies aimed at us.

While working with refugee and migrant communities I also reflect on my own journey as an immigrant, a woman of colour, an activist and researcher. My own work with refugee communities has been consistent, and started with my M.A. thesis where I studied Iranian Diasporic Women in Europe (2013). My work continued on this theme in collaboration with Dr. Helen Hintjens of the International Institute for Social Studies (ISS). We worked with and presented papers on various aspects of Refugee and Migration policies and advocacy, both in the UK and in The Netherlands on several occasions.

Additionally, in the area of forced migration and in light of the refugee crisis of the past few years, I have presented my own work in a paper to 3rd CDCDI International Conference Changing migration policies: national perspectives and supra-national strategies, in Romania in 2016. I was also part of an Panel Discussion on “Approaches to Advocacy (Campaigning)” at Oxford University (2016). I also presented a paper we co-authored at a “Governing Migration Symposium” Bristol University (2016).

More recently, I have conducted a survey with Tilburg University to analyze the relationship and impact of ‘TakeCareBnB Amsterdam’ between Dutch Host and Refugees guest. I was also invited this year, as guest speaker on the MA course on “Migration, Globalization and Livelihoods” ISS (2017). I contributed to a Dean Master Class ‘The City’ (2017) at the Erasmus Graduate School of Social Sciences (EGSH). Our talk was entitled: “Between walls and a warm welcome: urban responses in Europe to people in flight”. I am also member of The Kaldor Centre’s Emerging Scholars Network Australia (ESN).

When my family and I were housed in the AZCs (2014-2015), I worked as volunteer to research the situation of various asylum applicants from different countries. With PRIME - Participating Refugees in Multicultural Europe (an NGO in The Hague), together we identified new links to assist refugees and migrant in securing their rights. I have represented refugee communities in many events such as “WE Are Here”, “Know Your Rights” Re-Think Refugees, To The Point and many more over the past 3 years.

Presently, I am working as a coordinator for “Face the Future” a buddy program about learning inclusiveness in which refugees and employees of Dutch organizations learn and work together. I identify status-holders in urban cities and do their need-based assessment and then conduct leadership, capacity-building trainings so they can support each other effectively, learn at equal level and overcome their personal challenges. On 2nd October, I am working on to launch ‘Face the Future Club’ with Princess Laurentien and Better Future, to develop political discussion for promotion of “Inclusion as Practice”.

### **Abstract: Cities of Refuge, Between Walls and Warm Welcome: Urban Responses towards Refugees**

By examining the forms of local support of non state-actors for refugees during 2015-2017, this study will show how local actions can complement the policies of the State in defense of human rights of refugees. The recent increase in arrivals of refugees in Europe posed a major challenge for States to provide refuge and human rights. A range of non-state actors have come forward to provide their share of responsibility. The practices of non-state actors bring to the forefront questions concerning the role of non-state actors in realizing and implementing human rights principles. This involves the form of a debate, how European cities are headed. Are we returning to the walled cities of the mediaeval era? Or are popular civic

openness and a warm welcome winning out against the view that people in flight are undeserving of protection inside public and private civic spaces? We consider the growing networks of advocates and self-advocates seeking to accord refugees same basic rights as other urban residents. My inspiration and motivation arises out of several occasions when I directly experienced the complexities involved in those roles of civil society advocating for refugees during my work in different Asylum camps. I became aware of power that different actors have in advocating for and aiding refugees. Through that I became more aware of significance of these actors in shaping the refugee that needs to researched more. As, Refugees have complexity in 'Right to have rights' and the significant increase in the arrivals of refugees creates challenges to European countries. This refugee crisis has changed the political and EU countries within and out. European countries have reached a breaking point in their ability to meet European Union (EU) standards. In this challenging situation, there are non-state actors creating solution and working with refugees to achieve refugee's rights. The scholar argues that when Human rights are not provided by states, they achieved after struggles of non-state actors and emphasizes on new 'Insight into 'European Localities'. As cities are actively developing their own strategies to welcome refugee and to share best practices working looking at how civil society actors are enacting human rights. The discussion is aimed to generate debate about the contrasting faces these of EU urban spaces by studying selected 4 cities. And tries to identify, Do we extend a warm welcomes to new citizens, or do we exclude them by enclosing safe spaces that they cannot enter?

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Name</b>         | Bernhard Perchinig  |
| <b>City</b>         | Vienna, Austria   |
| <b>Organisation</b> | ICMPD - International Centre for Migration Policy Development |
| <b>Project</b>      | MC2MC, perspekt   |

### Key Messages:

- Urban policies on inclusion of refugees and displaced populations should be oriented to sustainable social cohesion of the total urban population, thus nationality or place of birth should not be a guiding category for policy measures.
- Urban administrations are main actors in urban social cohesion and thus have to prepare their services for a growing sociocultural diversity of their population. In this vein, mainstreaming of diversity into regular services should be the overarching paradigm, targeted measures for specific groups might be

necessary in different areas for a defined period of time, but should only complement and not replace mainstreaming.

- Whereas language training in the state language and socio-cultural orientation courses are important means to foster long term inclusion, urban authorities also have to prepare to make their services accessible for migrants lacking communication skills in the state language. To do so, they should make use of their knowledge and networks to produce local information resources for newly arrived migrants, including city information guides and electronic maps, the provision of translation services, and the inclusion of settled migrants in orientation programmes.

### Abstract:

The Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project (MC2CM) is no research project in the classical sense. It brings together researchers and urban policy makers in the field of migration and integration from four European and five MENA-cities. **These cities - Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangier, Tunis, Turin and Vienna - will participate in the different activities of the network and in particular the thematic learning and exchanges of best practices among peers linked to the inclusion of migrants at a local level.** The project is funded by the European Union and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and is lead by ICMPD (International Centre for Migration Policy Development). UCLG (The Global network of Cities, Local and regional Governments), UN-Habitat and UNCHR act as associated partner.

The research component of the project is based on nine city migration profiles written by research partners. Based on a common structure. Further to delivering information on migration flows and the demographic and socioeconomic structure of the (migrant) population, the profiles give an overview about main paradigms of urban migration and integration policies, the institutional structure of migrant policy making, main challenges associated with migration, and urban policies developed in reaction to migration.

Despite the huge differences in migration history, the institutional setting and the socioeconomic resources of the cities involved, major commonalities have been described as follows:

The situations of migrant populations in participant cities are characterised, to differing degrees, by:

- Social exclusion, particularly in terms of poverty and difficulties accessing basic rights and services.
- Poorer housing conditions relative to resident non-migrant populations.
- Discrimination, including in terms of restricted rights caused by legal status, and direct discrimination when accessing or using services.
- Higher levels of unemployment than non-migrant populations, underemployment and precarious or exploitative employment situations. Migrants are also disproportionately represented in employment sectors including commerce and services, manufacturing and industry, and construction.

Despite these challenges, no participant city considers migration to be problematic per se, and the majority understand it as an ongoing, historical feature of their local contexts. National policy approaches to migration and integration often shape those at the local level, most commonly in European countries (with the exception of Vienna). In countries which are newly developing such frameworks, or where humanitarian planning has provided a clearer delineation of multilevel roles and responsibilities, cities are becoming increasingly capable and confident in defining their role as migration actors within their national contexts. Many cities relatedly conceive of effective migration and integration policy as a tool to maximise economic opportunities for economic growth and development.

**Links:**

- <https://www.uclg.org/en/media/news/mediterranean-city-city-migration-network-and-running>
- <http://research.icmpd.org/projects/integration-non-discrimination/perspekt/>

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Name</b>         | Elaine Chase (Pevsner)   |
| <b>City</b>         | London, United Kingdom   |
| <b>Organisation</b> | University College London Institute of Education   |
| <b>Project</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principal Investigator - ESRC-funded The Becoming Adult Project (<a href="http://www.becomingadult.net">www.becomingadult.net</a>)</li> <li>• Co-Investigator ESRC- funded RELIEF Centre (at University College London Institute for Global Prosperity) (<a href="https://www.relief-centre.org/">https://www.relief-centre.org/</a>)</li> <li>• Co-Investigator ESRC/AHRC-funded Migration Leadership Team - (informing strategic direction of future research commissioning)</li> </ul> |

### Abstract:

I currently work on a range of research projects on migration and forced displacement including:

- Youth migration and in particular the wellbeing outcomes of former unaccompanied minors as they make the transition to 'adulthood' in the UK and Europe ([www.becomingadult.net](http://www.becomingadult.net))
- Education in the context of forced mass displacement (work primarily in Lebanon) (<https://www.relief-centre.org/>)
- The inter-relationships between education, migration and international development.

I am attending the workshop as part of the Migration Leadership Team (Principal Investigator: Laura Hammond at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Co-Investigator Kavita Datta, Queen Mary University London). This is a new two-year initiative funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and the Arts and Humanities Research Council in the UK. The project aims to develop a strategy for informing ESRC-AHRC migration funding that builds on the achievements thus far realised, addresses persistent gaps, and speaks to relevance in policy, practice, and/or public engagement and awareness. We aim to do this through a process that engages with policymakers and practitioners from the start. We have designed the project to ensure that the strategy is forward looking, anticipating areas in which information is likely to be needed to help frame policy responses and involves key stakeholders to ensure that the Councils' agenda reflects a wider consensus. The work includes engaging broadly with research, academic, policy and civil society organisations across Europe and globally in order to be able to situate current research funded in the UK within the wider research, academic and policy landscape.

We have identified a series of key themes which will be covered in our enquiry:

- 1) How can migration studies and refugee studies more effectively benefit from the theoretical, methodological, and empirical contributions that each is making?



2) How can research and policy better respond to the continued movement of people into and across the European Union, and between Europe and the UK?

3) How can research be used to better understand political and economic crises in countries and regions of origin and how can this research inform policy and practice?

4) What does emerging evidence tell us about the effectiveness of migration management and development policy which increasingly focuses on regions of origin?

5) What improvements and methodological innovations can be made in the collection and compiling of data about migration trends and demographics to improve the quality of information that drives migration and development policy?

|                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| <b>Name</b>         | Susanne Søholt  | Kristian Tronstad   |
| <b>City</b>         | Oslo, Norway  | Oslo, Norway  |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research: Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences   | International Studies and Migration: Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences |
| <b>Project</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed self-settlement among refugees. NIBR-report 2016-5. National project</li> <li>• Settlement of refugees. Municipal strategies in (different) housing markets (urban-rural). National project 2017-2018. Financed by the National Housing Bank and the Directorate of Integration and Diversity.</li> </ul> |   |

### Key Messages to tackle the challenge of Housing of Refugees

- Include settlement and housing of refugees in wider policies for local integration
- Develop policies for housing of refugees that enable integration in neighbourhoods dominated by the majority, like redistribution of affordable housing to affluent areas
- In the actual city, discuss what is an appropriate division of labour between nation, city and city district level when it comes to strategies that are good for the individual refugee, and strategies that are good for the social sustainability of the city

*Which challenges or research questions does your project address in regard to the effects of recent migration into cities?*

Background: The unexpected influx of refugees to Europe in 2015 stressed and challenged refugee reception systems in and between states and cities. The number of asylum seekers to Norway almost tripled, to 31 000 from 2014 to 2016. The number of refugees who got

permission to stay more than doubled from 2014 to 2016 (15.190), and the municipalities doubled the settlement of refugees from 2014 to 2016, to almost 16 000. The Norwegian policy for settling refugees is a case of multilevel governance including international regulations, national immigration (control) and integration policies, vs. local autonomy. At national level, there is an agreement between the state and the municipalities' association. The core of the agreement is spatial distribution of refugees in the whole country through a principle of "burden sharing" between the municipalities. (Because of recent dramatic falls in new arrivals, there are now 'competition among municipalities to get refugees to settle). The state requests the municipalities to settle a certain number of refugees, and the municipal council decide. Thereafter, refugees with a permission to stay, are assigned to a municipality. The municipalities get funding for five years for each refugee they settle. With some exceptions, refugees are not free to choose where to live in Norway, as long as they are in need of economic support. The municipalities are obliged to find housing to the refugees they have agreed to settle, but they are free to decide upon how to solve the housing question.

1. There is a tension between, municipal control on city level, (Oslo) vs. city districts control and local autonomy when it comes to *spatial distribution* of refugees on city, city district- and neighbourhood level. The city controls the distribution of refugees to city districts, while the city districts are rather autonomous in how to, and where to settle the refugees.

*Challenges:* How to balance need for immediate and decent housing, with the city's political intentions about spatial and social integration of refugees through housing and neighbourhood? How to house refugees decently without making it worse for other people in need of municipal housing support? What is the room of manoeuvre for the city vs. the state and vs. the city districts?

2. Numerous studies have underlined shortage of housing to refugees. The need for *increased number of dwellings to refugees* following 2015 encouraged cities and city districts to develop innovative ways of provision of refugee housing.

*Challenges:* How to develop systems for co-operation with the private market that:

- give affordability, stability and predictability to the refugees
- support intentions about spatial integration
- support the municipalities' preparedness for ups- and downs in arrivals and needs for refugee housing
- o The municipalities prioritise balanced settlement of refugees to unplanned ups- and downs, thereby challenging national immigration policy. The state has enforced the immigration control with dramatic falls in asylum-seekers, while the municipalities prefer a steady immigration of refugees on a certain level to keep up competence and

capacity in the integration field. The municipalities. Association has therefore requested the Government to resettle more refugees from UN camps.

*How does your project/research contribute to overcome these challenges?*

Through two research projects, including surveys (2016, 2017) to all municipalities and interviews with local stakeholders, we have/are mapping and analysing how the municipalities have managed to cope with the increased need for housing to refugees. The first survey focused on agreed self-settlement, the other on how the municipalities managed to double the settlement of refugees from 2014 to 2016, and even faster. The projects reveal local innovations in provision of housing, more ways for co-operation with the private rental market, effects of agreed self-settlement for refugees, effects of local market conditions for provision of housing, and results for the refugees when it comes to housing, neighbourhood quality and spatial integration. The first analysis includes good practices for agreed self-settlement.

NIBR work with in the field of applied science and deliver research result back to policy developers on national level, often taken further in white papers. Municipalities and other audiences get access to the results through seminars and open access reports.

*Are urban stakeholders (city administration, civil society, NGOs, etc.) involved in the project? If yes, who and how?*

First survey, a few municipalities participated in preparing questions to make them relevant. Both surveys, stakeholders responsible for settling refugees are involved through answering the surveys and through qualitative follow-up interviews/dialogues where they can add information and point of views.

*From your point of view, which research issues/questions would benefit from transnational cooperation/exchange?*

- How to solve the question of provision of sufficient housing in ways that enhance the overall integration of the refugees. What are the lessons learned from different countries/cities that can feed into a common tool-kit?
- How to balance immigration of refugees towards integration in ways that maintain municipal predictability in housing of refugees?

Municipalities, states and stakeholders often held that they cannot receive more refugees than can be absorbed in society. At the same time, it seems that what can be absorbed is to a large degree contextual. Comparative and international studies that develop and explore on this kind of questions would be fruitful together with other comparative studies of housing and integration of refugees.

|                     |                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>         | Michael Keith                        |
| <b>City</b>         | Oxford, UK                           |
| <b>Organisation</b> | University of Oxford                 |
| <b>Project</b>      | City costs and benefits of migration |

### **Abstract**

This talk considers the diverse patterns that define the migration to the cities of the 21st century. It lays out a framework for understanding the costs and benefits of new arrivals through migration's externalities and the challenges and policy trade-offs that confront city stakeholders. The talk suggests that a reframing of the calculus of welfare externalities is essential to an understanding of the contemporary metropolis. If we acknowledge the displacements of incidental costs and benefits of migration over time and across different geographical territories we can explain both the long term benefits of migration and populist opposition to it. We can also understand the challenges of migration better if we reflect on the dynamics of the city commons and how we might reconcile the rational actions of people in the present day with the ethical needs of future generations in the city that is yet to come.

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Name</b>         | Tycho Walaardt   |
| <b>City</b>         | The Hague, The Netherlands   |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Department for Migration Policy, Ministry of Security and Justice;<br>NL |

### **Personal:**

I have dealt in the past with various aspects of forced migration. - I have worked for two years with the Dutch Immigration Service, where I interviewed and assessed cases of individual asylum seekers. - I worked for four years with UNHCR in Ghana and in Eritrea, mainly dealing with individual cases that were going to be referred for resettlement in third countries, - I did a PhD (unfortunately in Dutch) relating to individual cases of asylum seekers. My main question was how the authorities have tried to solve in the recent past cases of asylum seekers who were - For the past four years, I work at the department for migration policy. I try to act as the liaison between the policy department and the outside world (NGO's, other ministries and the scholarly world).

### **Abstract:**

When we look at the research agenda of my DG – the DG for Migration - we can see three

clear lines of interest for the coming period. Most research that we have started is related or directly linked with one of those three questions:

1. **Return**. How can we make sure that those migrants who do not have permission to stay in the Netherlands return to their countries of origin?
2. **Participation and integration**. How can we make sure that those who are accepted, mainly asylum seekers, will integrate in and contribute to Dutch society?
3. **Attractiveness**. How can the Netherlands become an attractive destination for non-EU talent, for non EU-students and for non start ups?

When we look at the first question, we see that a number of studies are ongoing. One study focuses on the actual number of migrants staying in the Netherlands without residence permits. How many irregular migrants stay in the Netherlands? What is the best methodology to measure the number of individuals belonging to this “hidden population”? Another study focuses on the effectiveness of return. Do differences exist between Dutch communities? Do differences exist in return figures how migrants who have exhausted all legal procedures are lodged in different types of government shelters? (closed shelters, open shelters, no shelter). The aim of a final study is to list all policy changes introduced in the Netherlands during the high influx of asylum seekers. This study should look at the policy changes introduced for asylum seekers coming from safe countries of origin (Albania f/e). This study should reveal the effectiveness of the newly introduced measures (which is far from easy, the number of migrants depends on numerous aspects).

When we look at the second research question, we have recently started a clearly fascinating study, together with three other ministries (the ministries of Social Affairs, Education and Health). We will follow the coming five years (2015-2020) the whole group of asylum seekers who have arrived in the Netherlands in the period 2014-2016. By following all members of this group during a longer period, we can see their integration process in various fields: education, work, family reunification, social benefits, health, housing and criminality. It is possible in the Netherlands to ask our Statistical Agency (CBS) to combine the figures for all those different fields for specific groups of individuals. This research will give us insights in specific issues relevant for the whole group, but also it shows f/e the problems asylum seekers from specific countries do encounter in the Netherlands.

The third large group of studies stresses the importance of non-EU workers for the Dutch economy. One study will for example look into how better services can be provided to talent once arrived in the Netherlands (One stop shop, etc.). The relation with (urban) communities is of course crucial. Most migrants will end up in cities.

Probably, the biggest challenge is that the colleagues at my department will profit, will make use, of all of those revealing and wonderful researches!

**Group 3:**

# **Urban Planning and Housing Provision**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Name</b>         | Andrzej Klimek                                     |
| <b>City</b>         | Łódź, Poland                                       |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Research and Innovation Centre Pro-Akademia        |
| <b>Project</b>      | RIFUGIO – Rural Immigration for Urban Green Growth |

### Abstract: RIFUGIO

The process of migration from rural areas is as old as cities themselves. It is a key to understand the urbanisation in its all aspects: cultural, spatial, social, economic, even medical. Due to the unpredictable nature of individual human choices standing behind it, almost every process of urbanisation has some traits of overurbanisation, either in its spatial-infrastructure, in socio-economic dimension, or sometimes in both of them.

However, in recent years this process caused significant tensions in European societies and is often perceived as a problem. Despite in many cases it actually can be a problem, even regardless of the presence of cultural mismatches between new and old urban dwellers, political reaction of European societies for that causes a hazard of a disintegration of the EU. The problems cannot change the fact that the process of human migration from peripheral to central areas, regardless of the migrants' ethnicity, is essential for the entire urbanisation. Not all of the immigrants are able to find a job meeting their expectations, especially due to inevitable cultural differences, including the language barrier as the most important among them. Consequently, they become either working poor or illegal workers, either unemployed and seriously threatened by social exclusion or marginalisation. Every option of these is problematic and makes a negative synergy with the fact that rapid urbanisation usually means decreasing, or inhibiting the growth of the tempo of urban life quality, by an excessive pollution, traffic and another factors. Hence, it becomes probable that such immigrants will be regarded unwelcome in the cities.

There are also further major and non-anthropocentric problems induced by fast urbanisation. The Urban Heat Island effect, meaning that the average temperature in the cities is up to 3°C higher than in adjacent rural areas, not only has a negative impact on the quality of life, but apparently approaches the world to the critical level of global warming, not only by the increased emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>. To mitigate the UHI and the greenhouse effect, the cities of the future need a higher percentage of their surfaces covered by green areas, especially by their relatively novel types, such as green roofs, post-industrial parks, vertical and horizontal urban gardens, or urban farms. The reason is that although the reflection coefficient for a green-covered area is hard to be measured, it is estimated that its absorption is 2 to 9 times lower than for a concrete surface, which directly contributes to the UHI mitigation. Two latter types of green areas, as well as the phenomenon of urban grazing, reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emission also in

different ways than its absorption by plants, as they limit the fossil fuels incineration in the processes of food transportation and urban lawn mowing, respectively.

Coupling the ways of mitigating the UHI with the problem of rural immigrants in a big city has a potential to become a synergic solution, even though the process in its countrywide dimension seems to be diminishing in the developed countries as both zones are converging there into an urban-rural continuum and the agriculture is currently transforming into a branch of bioeconomy. Thus, the research requires global dimension because such is a character of contemporary migrations and the process can have completely different shape in various regions of the world. Furthermore, the synergies can be easier to achieve and their environmental effect is likely to be stronger in developing countries, where traditional forms of agriculture and urbanisation are still present, and the global warming mitigation is definitely a worldwide challenge. The immigrants are likely to have such skills as gardening, plant breeding, or livestock herding and employing them can be mutually beneficial, for them and the future branch of green economy, which will easily find the qualified employees. The project is necessary, as there is a knowledge gap and people without good education and high social status, let alone fluent language, may not realise the potential of the future job opportunities as convenient for them.

|                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>         | Frank Eckhardt                  |
| <b>City</b>         | Weimar, Germany                 |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Bauhaus University Weimar       |
| <b>Project</b>      | Urban Planning for Asylum (UPA) |

### **Abstract: Urban Planning for Asylum (UPA)**

The economic, social and cultural integration of refugees is highly depending on the place where they are hosted. Related to the opportunities of a city or a village, integration processes will develop different. In many cases, however, the management of hosting of refugees does not pay attention to the long term implications of the relevance of the location.

In this project, the research aims at identifying strategies for planning refugee hosting based on local integration potentials. It will firstly identify the different schemes of planning local asylums and frame them into the national planning systems. This way, the role of urban planning in the overall system of asylum politics in each country will be made comprehensible. It would identify the space of manouver for the local deparments of urban planning and different options for binding hosting refugees to a long term integration policy will be worked out.

The project works with the assumption that there are generally three different overall strategies for planning departments. Firstly, urban planning can aim at offering particular



housing for refugees (asylum strategy). Secondly, urban planning can increase the offer of social housing in general, which would be open for all underprivileged social groups. Refugees might still be given preference in this approach, but in general a social mixture is aimed at (mixture strategy). Thirdly, refugees can be offered housing in the existing social housing stock. This leads to an increase of spatial concentration of disfavored social groups (concentration strategy).

All three strategies have different impacts and work with a different understanding of the integration process. The UPA projects wants to undertake a case study approach to analyse the reasons why some urban planners chose one of these strategies. In this phase of the project, constraints of the juridical asylum procedure and the general competences of urban planning are taken as main focus point of research. Furthermore, the research will investigate in which way these strategies are effecting the integration of the individual refugees. It will in particular look at the problem of spatial mismatch. This means that it will look at the problem that the place of housing can avoid that refugees take advantage of economic, educational, and social offers in the city because of the physical distance to the place of offer.

As an overall objective, the UPA project wants to work out an integration approach and a guideline for urban planners that helps them to link the choice between different housing options to an effective integration plan.

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Name         | Michael Fäustlin  |
| City         | Augsburg, Germany |
| Organisation | City of Augsburg  |
| Project      | Grand Hotel       |

<http://grandhotel-cosmopolis.org/de/hotel/>

**More Information to be added!!**

|                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| <b>Name</b>         | Susanne Søholt  | Kristian Tronstad   |
| <b>City</b>         | Oslo, Norway  | Oslo, Norway  |
| <b>Organisation</b> | Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research: Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences   | International Studies and Migration: Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences |
| <b>Project</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed self-settlement among refugees. NIBR-report 2016-5. National project</li> <li>• Settlement of refugees. Municipal strategies in (different) housing markets (urban-rural). National project 2017-2018. Financed by the National Housing Bank and the Directorate of Integration and Diversity.</li> </ul> |   |

**PLEASE FIND THE CONTRIBUTION ON PAGE 23!**

Notes:

[www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu](http://www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu)

twitter: @jpiurbaneurope - #AgoraWS

Contact e-mail: [johannes.riegler@jpi-urbaneurope.eu](mailto:johannes.riegler@jpi-urbaneurope.eu)



This activity is part of the EXPAND project which has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 726744.