

**DG EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION  
(DG EMPL)**

*Last update: 20.11.2018*

Recent, ongoing and planned initiatives on integration of asylum seekers and refugees

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	DATE
<b>Policy Guidance</b>		
European Semester	Increased focus in the framework of the European Semester on integration challenges (i.e. related to labour market, education, skills, social inclusion, second generation, gender, discrimination, and refugee-related aspects) experienced by people with a migration background	Yearly, ongoing
The New Skills Agenda for Europe	Among the 10 key actions announced, a few aim to assess, recognise and upgrade skills of third country nationals. These include: the EU Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals (launched in June 2017); the revision of the European Qualifications Framework (adopted in May 2017); a proposal for a Council Recommendation to establish a Skills Guarantee (adopted in December 2016 as Upskilling Pathways); a proposal for a Council Recommendation on a European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships; online language learning for newly arrived migrants.	June 2016-ongoing
European Partnership for Integration	Jointly signed by COM and the European Economic and Social Partners (EESP), it lays down key principles and commitments to support and strengthen opportunities for refugees and migrants legally residing in the EU to integrate into the European labour market. Dissemination across networks and Committees in 2018.	2018
<b>Data and analysis</b>		
ECE country articles on the emigration of skilled labour	European Centre of Expertise in the field of labour law, employment and labour market policy (ECE) prepared country articles analysing the emigration of skilled labour and its impact on labour market conditions in the countries of origin. The published articles cover 13 Member States.	September 2018
2016 Employment and Social Developments in Europe (ESDE)	ESDE 2016 includes a comprehensive chapter on refugee integration outcomes and policies based on 2014 Labour force survey ad hoc module.	December 2016
Joint COM-OECD paper	Joint COM-OECD paper on labour market integration of refugees based on 2014 Labour force survey ad hoc module on labour market situation of migrants and their descendants.	September 2016
Joint COM-OECD paper on children of immigrants	Joint research project with OECD Exploring integration and intergenerational social mobility of children of immigrants published with an accompanying conference in Brussels in December 2017.	December 2017
Unlocking the potential of migrants through vocational education and training	OECD study looking at various issues concerning vocational skills development for migrants.	Ongoing – Q1 2019
Mapping of Asylum Seekers	The two tables provide a mapping of the availability of labour market and social integration policies across	December 2016

and Refugees Integration Policies across EU Member States	EU and EFTA Member States to asylum seekers and refugees.	
EEPO study on refugee integration into the labour market	The European Employment Policy Observatory (EEPO) prepared country and synthesis studies on challenges that asylum seekers and refugees face in integrating into the labour market in the EU-28, Norway and Turkey, reflecting the situation in 2015/2016.	June 2016
ESPN Analysis and Flash Reports	The European Social Protection Network (ESPN) has published analyses and flash reports on social protection measures available to asylum seekers and refugees.	Ongoing
<b>Communication</b>		
DG EMPL webpage on integration	Creation of the webpage on <a href="#">Social and labour market integration of refugees</a> on DG EMPL website	December 2016 -ongoing
<b>Peer Learning and Knowledge Exchange</b>		
Promising practices	Collection and publication of " <a href="#">promising practices</a> " in form of a online repository.	June 2016 - ongoing
PES Network	The European Network of Public Employment Services (PES Network) set up a Working Group on the refugees situation in December 2015 which has been actively working on the topic until then, delivering <a href="#">PES Key Considerations on the Labour Market Integration of Refugees</a> in 2016 (endorsed by the PES Board) and two mutual learning events in Germany and Sweden in 2017.	December 2015 - ongoing
MLP Conference	Mutual Learning Programme (MLP) high level thematic event on "Measures to support the integration of asylum seekers and refugees" in Brussels. It focused on labour market and social integration, skills profiling, upskilling, skills recognition, the role of the private sector and civil society in facilitating the integration of asylum seekers and refugees.	22 June 2016
European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA)	Some members of the European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA) already engaged to employ a number of refugees through apprenticeships schemes combined with language training. The stakeholder meeting of the EAfA on 15 September 2016 has organised for the first time a workshop on migration: "Integration of migrants and refugees through work-based learning and apprenticeships".	Ongoing
Joint COM-EESC Conference on Lessons Learned	Conference "From Crisis management towards everyday practice – Lessons from refugee integration for future labour market and social policies" organised in Brussels by COM and EESC. Its goal was twofold: (i) to take stock of recent developments in social and labour market integration policies triggered by the arrival of asylum seekers and refugees and (ii) to discuss whether and how these developments can contribute to the overall modernisation of social protection systems and labour market institutions.	6 November 2017
<b>Funds</b>		
European Social Fund (ESF)	Asylum seekers and refugees are explicitly mentioned as target groups in the ESF 2014-2020 regulation. The ESF provides support to the social inclusion and swift integration into the labour market of all those who are legally able to participate in vocational training and employment-targeted measures. Said measures include language courses, skills assessment and vocational training.	2014-2020 programming period
Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)	The FEAD can support migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, provided these groups belong to eligible groups and individuals as defined by Member States. Indeed, the scope of FEAD support is defined at national	2014-2020 programming

	level. FEAD support entails immediate relief measures such as food, material assistance and access to basic services and the wider promotion of social inclusion, regardless of the beneficiaries' legal status.	period
HOME-ESIF DGs forum on "EU funding for integration of third-country nationals"	More than 260 participants coming from all Member States, participated in the event bringing together national managing and responsible authorities, regional and local level actors and stakeholders as well as different Commission's services, EU institutions, bodies and partners in the integration area.	29 March 2017
ESF Transnational Thematic Network on Migrants	Within the <a href="#">ESF Transnational Platform</a> the European Commission has set up a <a href="#">Thematic Network on Migration</a> . 13 Member States (BE, BG CZ, DE, EL, FI, FR, IT, NL, SE and SK, SI, PL) have participated in the discussions and study visits (the latest one in Essen, Germany, where the network visited four projects around employers' engagement in refugee integration) together with representatives from the Commission (DG EMPL, as well as HOME and JUST), social partners and NGOs in order to set up sustainable activities to reinforce the capacity of the ESF to respond to migrants' needs.	2016 – ongoing
2016 EaSI Call for Proposal	Social innovation call for the "Fast track integration into the labour market for third country nationals – targeting exclusively asylum seekers, refugees and their family members" under EaSI (with a particular focus on labour market integration of women), budget EUR 14.2 mln. 5 projects were selected.	Call open from 21/12/16 to 30/03/17, kick-off meeting 23/2/18
ADMin4ALL project	The Preparatory Action "Supporting Active Inclusion of Disadvantaged Migrants in Europe" (ADMin4ALL), develops the capacity of local administrations and local service providers to deal with the challenges related to the socio-economic inclusion of migrants in 14 municipalities in four Member States (IT, AT, PL, RO). EUR 0.5 mln direct grant to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). The second phase of the project, EUR 1 mln, direct grant to the IOM will start in Q3 2018.	First phase: March 2016 – December 2017  Second phase: Q3 2018
ESIRAS project	"Employability and Social Integration of Refugees and Asylum Seekers" (ESIRAS) project: EUR 3 mln direct grant to the Red Cross, it aims at supporting the establishment and operation at municipal level of Integration Centres in 7 cities in 7 countries: Bornholm (DK), Glasgow (UK), Graz (AT), Ljubljana (SI), Milan (IT), Nicosia (CY) and Paris (FR).	January 2018 – June 2019
<b>International initiatives</b>		
ILO	In 2016 and 2017, DG EMPL was involved in the work concerning the "Guiding principles on the access if refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to the labour market"; "General principles and operational guidelines for fair recruitment"; revision of ILO Recommendation 71 "Transition from War to Peace" from 1944 (now "Employment and decent work for peace and resilience Recommendation"); "Resolution concerning fair and effective labour migration governance".	2016-2017
G20	Labour market integration of migrants/refugees was one of the four priorities of German G20 Presidency. G20 ministers called the Employment WG to "discuss policy choices to support the integration of refugees and migrants into the labour market in accordance with national law". DG EMPL contributed to the work of the German G20 Presidency in this area.	2017
G7	DG EMPL contributed to the work of the Italian G7 Presidency towards the adoption of an approach to tackle	2017

	international migration based on the concept of human mobility, for the G7 Taormina Summit in 2017.	
<b>UN Compacts on migration and refugees</b>	The “New York Declaration “ – outcome of the UN Summit on Refugees and Migrants of 19 September 2016 - opened the way towards a global governance of migration to be operationalized notably through a Global Compact on Migration and a Global Compact on Refugees, both to be adopted in 2018. EMPL contributes to the work of the ISG (lead by EEAS). Council Conclusions on the matter are expected under BG Presidency.	2016 – 2018

<b>Studies and related outputs</b>			
1	Exploring integration and intergenerational social mobility for the children of immigrants	2017	This OECD-EC project analyses the employment and social outcomes of children of immigrants in EU countries (and other OECD countries), to compare them with both their parents and children of non-immigrants and to identify the factors and policies that can contribute to 'social mobility' among children of immigrants.
2	Upskilling, reskilling and employing adult refugees/migrants (forthcoming)	2017	A joint Cedefop-OECD briefing note following the Expert Forum on upskilling, reskilling and employing adult refugees in 2016 will be soon published.
3	The "Employment and Social Developments in Europe" 2016 Annual Report	2016	The report devoted a chapter to the integration of refugees, complementing the chapter in the 2015 report (see below).
4	Inferring Migrations: Traditional Methods and New Approaches based on Mobile Phone, Social Media and other Big Data	2016	This project aims at exploring possibilities at-using social media data and big data in general for estimating (labour) mobility and migration in the EU. The report is published online. As results were promising, a pilot project will be launched on its basis sometime in 2017.

5	Migration-Demography Database (Mig-Dem) project	2017	The project - launched in September 2015 with a duration of 24 months - is an OECD-EC project that will contribute to the monitoring the demographic impact of migration and mobility, by creating an online database of population breakdowns by migration status (native-born; other EU-born; non-EU-born), informing of skill levels, occupations.
6	Labour market situation and social inclusion of migrants – trends in living conditions of migrants & social attitudes among migrants	2016	This study, prepared by the Social Situation Monitor, examines whether the income, living conditions and social attitudes of the migrant population have been converging towards those of the native born population since 2007.
7	Annual Report on Intra-EU Labour Mobility	(2014-) 2016	The main aim of this report is to provide key quantitative information to the European Commission and EU/EFTA Member States to ensure better implementation and initiatives to support workers' right to free movement.
8	Online repository of promising practices in the social and labour market integration of refugees and asylum-seekers	2016	Online repository to enhance mutual learning of the most effective policies in the area of social and labour market integration of refugees and asylum-seekers, as well as skills.
9	Challenges in the labour market integration of asylum seekers and refugees - country studies and synthesis study	2016	The country studies and synthesis report prepared by the European Employment Policy Observatory (EEPO) describe some of the challenges that asylum seekers and refugees face in integrating into the labour market in the EU-28, Norway and Turkey.

10	Key Considerations on the Labour Market Integration of Refugees	2016	Key considerations of the European Public Employment Services Network (PES) on four decisive aspects for the (labour market) integration of refugees: language, skills and qualification, partners and institutions, and employers.
11	Measures to support the integration of asylum seekers and refugees	2016	Overview and report on the “Thematic Event on Measures to Support the Integration of Asylum Seekers and Refugees”, held in Brussels on 22.June 2016.
12	European Social Policy Network	2016 (ongoing)	Various reports on refugees and migrants conducted by the European Social Policy Network’s (ESPN) country experts.
13	How are refugees faring on the labour market in Europe – an in-depth analysis of the 2014 LFS Ad Hoc Module on Migrants	2016	Joint paper by OECD and DG EMPL to make a first evaluation of the labour market outcomes of refugees based on the 2014 EU LFS ad hoc module on migrants.
14	Measures to support the integration of asylum seekers and refugees	2016	Executive Summary of the thematic event under the umbrella of the Mutual Learning Programme addressing the integration of asylum seekers and refugees. It discussed relevant practices on how to integrate asylum seekers and refugees in European labour markets and their specific social integration needs.
15	Social Agenda 44 - Integrating refugees	2016	This Social Agenda publication looks at the refugee issue from an employment, social affairs and inclusion angle. It also deals with other very topical issues such as the <a href="#">targeted review of the 1996 posting of workers directive</a> , the <a href="#">public consultation on the outline of the European Pillar of social rights</a> for the Euro zone.
16	The "Employment and Social Developments in Europe" 2015 report	2016	This report has a chapter focusing on migration and mobility, which explores migration and labour mobility from an angle of optimal factor allocation and the EU's growth potential, and will provide evidence for the need of higher mobility across intra-EU borders, and also for well-qualified external

			migration.
17	Pension Adequacy Report	2015	This report includes a section on the share of people with migration background today and in the future and factors that contribute to a higher risk of old-age poverty among migrants.
18	The Labour Market Integration of New Arrivals	2014	The research evaluates the conditions under which new immigrants are able not only to find employment, but also to progress into middle-skilled jobs.
19	Filling the gap in long-term professional care through systematic migration policies	2014	This report summarises the main contents of the Peer Review on the role of migration policies to tackle staff shortages experienced in the long-term care (LTC) sector by EU Member States.
20	Study on Mobility, Migration and Destitution in the European Union	2014	<p>The overall objectives of the present study are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To gain a general understanding of the causes of destitution among different categories of non nationals, with reference to:</li> <li>- To provide information on the extent of homelessness among non-nationals and on characteristics of homeless migrants;</li> <li>- To assess national and local policy responses which address the problem of destitution and more specifically homelessness among non-nationals and the identification of good practices;</li> <li>- To evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of EU policies and legislation in tackling the problem of destitution among non-nationals.</li> </ul>

21	Matching Economic Migration With Labour Market Needs In Europe	2014	Joint EU - OECD Policy brief: This policy brief synthesizes the main results of the project 'Matching Economic Migration with Labour Market Needs' and offers some lessons relevant for European countries.
22	Improving Access to Labour Market Information for Migrants and Employers	2013	Funded by EMPL, done by IOM. The purpose of the study was to identify the main information related obstacles which hamper jobs-skills matching for migrants, and propose appropriate policy responses, including at the pre-departure stage, to overcome those obstacles and enhance the potential of international migration to respond to labour and skills shortages
23	Recognition Of Qualifications And Competences Of Migrants	2013	Funded by EMPL, done by IOM. The purpose of this study was to investigate the existing national practices for assessing, validating and recognizing formal, non-formal and informal learning of migrants based on selected experiences within and outside the European Union (EU). National practices were reviewed against the complex requirements of modern labour markets and differing needs of various skill groups of migrants with the aim of exploring the possible policy approaches to counteract brain waste of different groups of migrants resident in the EU Member States.
24	Labour Shortages and Migration Policy	2012	Funded by EMPL, done by IOM. The study investigates and assesses the existing pathways for identification of labour and skill shortages, as well as linking labour market needs and labour immigration policy development based on the experience within and outside the European Union (EU).
25	Labour market inclusion of less skilled migrants	2012	Funded by EMPL, done by IOM. The purpose of this study is to draw attention to these two groups of less skilled migrant workers that are often treated differently from the highly skilled. Furthermore, it will try to identify the relevant labour market integration challenges and patterns. To this end, the study will map and assess the respective policy measures in various fields attempting to regulate migration and to support integration of this category of migrants.
26	Study on Active Inclusion of Migrants	2011	This study provides the European Commission with (i) an expert assessment of the main trends in the situation of migrants with regard to social assistance and access to social services, (ii) an in-depth analysis of the main determinants of these trends, and (iii) a comprehensive account of the mutual interaction of



			migration policies and broadly defined social assistance policies.
27	Migration, Employment and Labour Market Integration Policies in EU	2010	Funded by EMPL, done by IOM. This publication is an annual review of new data and analysis to complement the two LINET studies on the impact of migration and employment and outcomes of labour market integration policies for migrants carried out in 2009-2010.
28	Migrant women in the European labour force. Current situation and future prospects.	2008	This research was commissioned by the European Commission to improve understanding of the labour market outcomes of migrant women in the EU, and of the policies that affect these outcomes.