

The International Summer School on Migration and Asylum:
Labour Integration of Migrants and Refugees

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

Labour Integration of Migrants and Refugees

9-14 July 2018 – BOLOGNA, Italy

<http://www.migrationschool.eu/>

*The International Summer School on Migration and Asylum will be held in **Bologna** from **9 until 14 July 2018**. After two successful editions, to which **around 300 people from more than 40 countries** have applied and **more than 100 participants** were selected, the main focus of this year edition will be the **labour integration of migrants and refugees**. Participants will be social workers, researchers, students, journalists, members of international organizations and NGOs, national and European public officials, who will have the chance to be involved in moments of training and sharing of experiences, best practices and knowledge on the topic of labour integration of migrants and refugees under the direction of international experts, academics and professionals in the field.*





1. Context of Reference

The new 2018 edition of the International Summer School, organised within the Italian project “Voci di Confine”, AID 011039 project co-financed by Agenzia Italiana Cooperazione allo Sviluppo, will focus on economic integration of migrants and asylum seekers in European Member States. Indeed, after a few years of monopolizing the issue of “landings” and the organization of reception, the issue of professional integration of migrants and asylum seekers in Europe is beginning to take hold, recognizing that participation in the labour market is the most important step towards successful integration into host societies.

As stated by the European Parliament (Directorate general for internal policies, study for the EMPL Committee 2016: *Labour market integration of refugees: strategies and good practices*), there is a widely shared consensus among experts that **participation in the labour market is the most important step** towards successful integration and a positive economic impact into host societies, as it is presumed a large number of asylum seekers and refugees will remain in the EU for several years.

Member States' priorities have moved from the first reception to longer-term actions aimed at the social and **economic integration of migrants into the European productive fabric**. In 2016, the European Commission set up an action plan to integrate third-country nationals (European Commission, *Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Action Plan on the Integration of Third Country Nationals*, 7th June 2016) that established the basic principles for responding to the challenges of integrating migrants into the labour market. Since then, the issue has been at the heart of European debate. According to the document, **education and training are among the most powerful tools to promote employment**, and access to them should be guaranteed and promoted as quickly as possible.

2. Objectives

The theoretical and practical sessions of the School will offer **thorough and multidisciplinary training** on several aspects of professional integration of migrants and asylum seekers. Training sessions will focus on five principal broad topics, which will be the starting points for further discussion between participants and lecturers.

This year, the Summer School will focus on:

- European legal framework of labour integration of migrants and asylum seekers;

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- Competences, skills and certifications;
- Circular migration and migration-development nexus;
- Discrimination at work and diversity management;
- Self-employment and self-enterprise.

The training will provide new perspectives and enhance the effectiveness of those who work, or who are willing to work, in the professional sector of the integration of migrants, as well as in academic research related to this topic. Moreover, participants will be able to share their practical and academic experiences during **specific sessions dedicated to networking**, with the aim of establishing fruitful relations among people active in the field at the international and local level.



3. Method and structure

Starting with this approach, the Summer School will be structured according to the following guidelines:

- The proposed panels will be finalised to form a **multidisciplinary analysis** of the various themes connected to **labour integration of migrants and refugees**. The Summer School will particularly delve into the following topics: Policies and statistics on the professional integration of migrants in

Europe; Analysis and comparison of active labour policies adopted in some EU countries. The overlap of demand and supply: how to integrate migrants and refugees (critical issues, positive elements, good practices); Certifications and recognition of qualifications and skills; Professional training; Discrimination in the world of work and psychology; Circular migration and the development of the countries of origin; Self-employment and self-enterprise;

– As for the previous years, the International Summer School will adopt a **methodological approach that is rooted in praxis**. Lectures and seminars will be complemented with **field visits and meetings with experts and professionals working in the field**, offering contributions and training on how labour integration of migrants and asylum seekers can be translated into practice in different social and economic contexts.

The Summer School will last 6 full days in Bologna.

4. Beneficiaries

The ideal candidates for the Summer School are master students, social workers, researchers, students, journalists, members of international organizations and NGOs, national and European public officials.





5. Previous editions

- 300 applications received from more than 40 countries worldwide;
- 110 participants selected;
- 32 international professors and experts;
- 6 full-days of training on forced migration and asylum along with field visits in the territory;
- 20 national and international partners (donors and media partners).

6. Partnership

The Summer School is organised by Africa e Mediterraneo. Also for this third edition, the Summer School has obtained the patronage of the **Emilia Romagna Region** (ref. numb. PG/2018/0199883) and the patronage of the **Municipality of Bologna** (ref. numb. PG 120087/2018).

Also, **BMW ITALY** has continued to support our School as sponsoring partner.

As the previous years, the School involves high profile professionals in the Scientific Committee:

- Alessia Lefebure, Direction Des Etudes, **Ecole des hautes études en santé publique (EHESP)**;
- Vincenzo Fano, “Carlo Bo” **University of Urbino**;
- Pierluigi Musarò e Paola Parmiggiani, **University of Bologna**
- Alessio J. G. Brown, co-director of the **Centre for Population, Development and Labour Economics (POP) United Nations University**.

Among the collaborations and organisations already involved are the following:

- **ECRE (European Council on Refugees and Exiles)**

The European Council on Refugees and Exiles is the organisation that unites the main national associations dealing with asylum and migration. ECRE is the main voice of the third sector on asylum issues within European Institutions.

- **ENAR (European Network Against Racism)**

Founded in 1998, ENAR represents the most authoritative voice at a European level in the battle against racism on the continent. Primary interlocutor of the European institute on the issue of antiracism, ENAR serves as research, advocacy and coordination organisation for the European NGOs that work within the framework of antiracism;

- **Fondazione ISMU**

ISMU Foundation is an independent scientific institution born in 1991 and having its headquarters in Milan. Its main activities range from consultancy services and collaborations on multicultural



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and migration with government institutions both at national and European levels, public administrations and private actors.

- **Ethical Journalist Network**

The Ethical Journalist Network is an international coalition born in 2011 and composed of international professionals on media and ethical communication governance;

- **ARDI (European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup)**

ARDI exists to promote racial equality, counter racism, and educate about non-discrimination in the work of the European Parliament;

- **BJCEM (Association Internationale pour la Biennale des Jeunes Créateurs d'Europe et de la Méditerranée)**

BJCEM is an international network founded in Sarajevo on July 2001, with a registered office in Brussels and an executive one in Turin. The Association has been created with the aim to give an institutional frame and an organised management to the Biennale event, held for the first time in Barcelona in 1985. Nowadays, the Network is composed by 58 members from 22 countries, gathering together cultural institutions as well as independent organizations.

- **Asylos**

Asylos is a pan-european network of researchers in the field of asylum and international protection.

7. Presentation of the leading organisation

The Summer School is organised by Africa e Mediterraneo. Africa e Mediterraneo has played a pioneering role in the study and promotion of African cultural expression and production within and outside Europe, choosing to collaborate with artists and creative talents of African and migrant descent as a way of promoting intercultural dialogue and the coexistence of different cultures.

Communication projects, research, cultural and artistic initiatives in schools and with the public, have been put in place by working in broad European partnerships and within small territories. Our idea of coexistence stems from principles of responsibility and participation, that can support change by involving migrant citizens and natives, but also the public services and civil society. In addition to the last two successful editions of the Summer School on Migration and Asylum, recent projects include:

[Welcoming Bologna](#): the project seeks to involve players from different public and private sectors in a process of inclusion directed at both residents who have been well-established in the area of



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Bologna for many generations, and those who have arrived more recently.

Voci di Confini: the project aims to deepen the critical understanding of the complex causes and factors behind the migration flows, promoting a positive storytelling and enhancing the voice of positive testimonies in the Italian context.

Snapshots from the borders: the project aims to improve the critical understanding of European, national and local decision makers and of public opinion about global interdependencies determining migration flows towards European borders.

Africa Comics: the project intends to introduce the broader public to artistic productions of African cartoonists, paying special attention to the younger ones.

CONTACTS

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