

Resettlement and other pathways of admission: Success factors for protecting refugees

Workshop at International Metropolis Conference

Aichi-Nagoya, 25 October 2016

Workshop outline:

The chaotic refugee situation in Europe in 2015-2016 has shown that the unregulated arrival of asylum seekers involves many risks and uncertainties. Refugees have put their lives at risk to reach Europe; and receiving states have struggled to cope with strongly increasing, and fluctuating, numbers of asylum seekers. Many Member States responded by restricting access to their asylum systems, lowering the standards of protection, or closing their borders.

While a credible, long-term solution to the EU's asylum crisis is still missing, resettlement, humanitarian admission programmes and other pathways of admission have time and again been discussed as more orderly and manageable ways of providing protection to those who need it most. Such programmes, if working well, could therefore serve as complements to territorial asylum systems, and as a way of easing the burdens on countries of transit and of first asylum.

The goal of this workshop is to present and discuss examples for national resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes and to identify success factors. What experiences have countries made, and to what extent can resettlement and humanitarian admission serve as useful complements to territorial asylum systems?

The workshop will discuss lessons learned by countries that have engaged in resettlement for a long time (e.g. Sweden, Canada), as well as countries that have recently launched new schemes or scaled up their programmes. It will also look into potentially "new" resettlement countries and examine how and why resettlement has come up on their national policy agendas.

The workshop will draw on a comprehensive study undertaken by the European Migration Network (EMN) in 2016. Speakers/participants shall then discuss how the international community could work to enhance resettlement as a key instrument of global responsibility-sharing for large-scale refugee situations.

Workshop organizer and moderator/chair:

Bernd Parusel | EMN | Swedish Migration Agency

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Programme and speakers:

- **Introduction** by workshop chair
- Case study **Austria**
Katerina Kratzmann | Expert | Austria
- Case study **United Kingdom**
Roger Clarke | Head of International Team | UK resettlement programme,
and *Jenny Cann* | Head of Research | Migration and Border Analysis Unit |
United Kingdom
- Case study **Netherlands**
Michiel Besters | IND Research and Analysis | Ministry of Security and
Justice | Netherlands
- Case study **Lithuania**
Audra Sipaviciene | Head of Vilnius Office | International Organization for
Migration (IOM) | Lithuania

Questions and answers

- Break 30 minutes -

- Case study **Sweden**
Marie Bengtsson | EMN coordinator | Swedish Migration Agency
- Case study **Canada**
Dawn Edlund | Associate Assistant Deputy Minister | Immigration,
Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- **Resettlement as a global solution?**
Aurvasi Patel | Senior Resettlement Coordinator | United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Questions and answers