

DRAFT AGENDA

A Common European Approach to Labour Shortages and Talent Attraction

One day conference 09.00-16.30

08:30 Registration. Coffee and sandwich.

09:00-09:10 Welcome address by **Anders Hall**, State Secretary to the Minister for Migration

09:10-10:30 Session 1 – Initiatives on a European level to attract talent and retain skills

- A representative from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (tbc)
- **Micheline van Riemsdijk**, Professor in Human Geography at Uppsala University
- **Jasmijn Sloodjes**, Deputy Director, Migration Policy Institute Europe
- **Shawn Mendes**, Director of International Affairs, Swedish Public Employment Service

Moderated by: **Bernd Parusel**, Senior Researcher in Political Science, SIEPS – Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies

10:30-11:00 Coffee break – fruit/a light snack

11:00-12:30 Session 2 – Attracting talent and facilitating labour migration – Examples from EMN Member and Observer Countries

- **Leila Hadj Abdou**, Deputy Head, Policy Research and Migration Law Unit, International Organization for Migration (IOM) / EMN Austria
- **Vydūnas Trapinskas**, Director of Global Talent Attraction Department, "Work in Lithuania" Programme, Invest Lithuania

- **Santeri Ojala**, Manager, International Operations, Business Finland, Work in Finland
- **Silvia Rager**, Senior Expert, Department for International Relations, German Federal Employment Agency Headquarters

Moderated by: **Jonas Hols**, expert, EMN Sweden

12:30-13:30 LUNCH

13:30-13:45 Introduction to break-out sessions and moving to break out rooms

13:45-15:00 Break-out sessions

- Break-out 1: Ready to employ? Challenges and needs in employing labour migrants.
 - **Anders Barane**, Senior Advisor, the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR)
 - **Paula Kossack**, Lead Analyst for the Government Assignment "Work in Sweden" at Statistics Sweden

Moderated by: **Hanna Geurtsen**, Deputy Head of the Special Focus Area on the Work Permit Process, the Swedish Migration Agency

- Break-out 2: EU-internal movement of third country nationals – Moving to a new employer
 - **Eva Englund**, Senior Advisor, Greater Copenhagen
 - **Helena Renström**, Head of Society Expo 2026, Skellefteå municipality, Sweden

Moderated by: **Elin Jansson**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Justice, Sweden

- Break-out 3: Student and researchers – How can the transition from talented student to valuable employee be facilitated?
 - **Anna Broeders**, Talent & Community Manager, Switch to Sweden
 - **Therese Lindkvist**, Project Manager, EURAXESS Sweden

Moderated by: **Erik Litborn**, National Contact Point for Horizon Europe (HEU), Sweden's Innovation Agency (Vinnova)

15:00-15:30 Coffee break and return to joint conference room

15:30-16:20 Conclusions/Next steps

- **Hanna Geurtsen**, Deputy Head of the Special Focus Area on the Work Permit Process, the Swedish Migration Agency
- **Mats Wessman**, Project Manager for the government assignment “Work in Sweden”, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth

16:20-16:30 Closing remarks by **Anna Lindblad**, Head of the Office of the Director General, Swedish Migration Agency