

Improving the Health and Well-being of Migrants in Europe: Shaping a Comprehensive EU-Wide Strategy

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium



Wednesday 21st September 2011

The Silken Berlaymont Hotel
Brussels

"An International Symposium for gathering knowledge, discussing the latest challenges and sharing best practices in migration and integration policy in Europe"

In partnership with



Centre for
Parliamentary
Studies

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE



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Overview

As they sought to implement the goals of the Lisbon Process, EU Member States acknowledged the crucial importance of workforce quality and productivity in the drive to promote economic growth and employment in Europe. However, from the outset, the existence of migrant workers as a key driver of economic development has posed as many challenges as solutions for Governments across the continent, not least in terms of health, well-being, security and social integration.

Recent migration data reveals that citizens of the EU27 have become increasingly mobile. After rapid growth in 2003, the rise in immigration has slowed in the last few years to 3.5 million people migrating within the EU27. However, the latest Commission communication on improving quality and productivity in the workplace identifies the large flow of migrants towards Europe as an increasingly complex phenomenon that must be addressed as part of a coherent EU-wide migration and integration policy framework. Furthermore, the recent instability in Neighbouring Maghreb and Mashriq States is set to stimulate intercontinental migration even more.

Migrant workers typically gain employment through temporary work agencies, often securing monotonous, physically demanding jobs with irregular working hours. The Framework Directive offers such job-seekers little protection from exploitation, and studies have highlighted disquiet in immigrant communities due to this paucity of support. Research into market segregation largely presents migrants as holding jobs categorised by the '3Ds': dirty, dangerous and demanding.

Continuing our migration platform for the discussion and exchange of good practices, this special international symposium focusing on at-risk groups (such as young, female workers), will seek to highlight the working conditions, safety and well-being of migrant workers in the EU. The symposium will consider these issues in the context of growing labour demands across all relevant sectors, in order to construct more effective initiatives for the integration and inclusion of the European migrant working population.

Public Policy Exchange, in partnership with the Centre for Parliamentary Studies, welcomes the participation of all key partners, responsible authorities and stakeholders. The symposium will support the exchange of ideas and encourage delegates to engage in thought-provoking topical debate.

“From a fundamental rights perspective, it is key to improve the situation of all domestic workers in the EU - whether they reside regularly or irregularly in an EU Member State. This is reinforced by the ILO Convention Concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers, which was adopted in June 2011, and which applies to all domestic workers. It is up to the governments to decide what labour force to bring into a country from abroad. But once a person is in the country and employed in spite of being in an irregular situation, core labour law and human rights standards must apply. In practice, the fear of deportation or dismissal deters victims of abuse or exploitation from going to court. Because possible deportation is the price of access to justice, often those who mistreat irregular domestic workers go unpunished”

- Morten Kjaerum, Director, EU Fundamental Rights Agency, July 2011

Venue and Accommodation

**The Silken Berlaymont Hotel,
11-19, Boulevard Charlemagne
1000 Brussels - Belgium**

Through our partnership with the Silken Berlaymont Hotel we are pleased to be able to offer our delegates specially negotiated accommodation rates. These discounted room rates are subject to availability and are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.



Why Attend?

- ✓ **Explore the economic and social policy landscape associated with the health and well-being of migrants**
- ✓ **Raise awareness of existing safety and well-being challenges for migrants in Europe and shape scenarios for the future**
- ✓ **Highlight market segregation processes which affect women and young migrants and hamper their inclusion in society**
- ✓ **Trigger policy debate at EU level on how we can tackle the increasing influx of both EU and non-EU migrants**

Who Should Attend?

- Public Health Authorities
- Border Agencies and Control Services
- Ministries of Health
- Health and Safety Executives
- Social Services
- Migration Authorities
- Asylum Team Managers
- Sheltered Housing Scheme Managers
- Local, Regional and National Health Services
- Social Care Professionals
- Academics and Research Institutes
- International Associations
- Public Health Agencies
- Hospitals
- Human Resource Professionals
- Training Managers
- Recruitment Advisers
- Organisational Development Professionals
- Equal Opportunities Officers
- Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Practitioners
- Immigration Advisers
- Employee Relations Advisers
- Police and Fire Service
- Private Sectors Employers
- Public Sector Employers
- Small Business Owners
- Central Government Departments and Bodies
- Regulatory Bodies
- Citizen's Advice and Third Sector Practitioners
- Trade Union Representatives
- Academics
- Religious and Faith Groups
- Housing Associations
- Tenants and Residents' Associations
- Local Strategic Partnerships
- Neighbourhood Renewal Teams
- Social Exclusion Officers

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Programme

09:15	Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:00	Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks Mr. Richard Lewis , Migration and Diversity Specialist, The Institute for European Studies, Vrije Universiteit Brussels (confirmed)
10:15	Session One: Improving the Safety, Health and Well-being of Migrants Workers in Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employment Conditions of Migrants in Europe – Latest Developments and Existing Challenges• Health and Well-being of Migrants – Exchanging Some Best Practices• Inequalities in the European Labour Market – What Have we Learnt so far?• The Role of Relevant Organisations in Improving Working and Health Conditions of Migrants• Recommendations
11:15	Morning Coffee Break
11:35	First Round of Discussions
12:05	Networking Lunch
13:05	Session Two: Migrant Women at Work – Raising Awareness of the Key Challenges in Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Between Integration and Exclusion – Economic and Social Integration Challenges• Integration of Marginalised Women: Sex Workers and Victims of Trafficking• Migrant Domestic and Care Workers – Challenges and Solutions• Naturalised Migrant Women, Legal Residents and the Unauthorised• Skilled and 'Elementary' Occupations• Recommendations for Future Policy Actions
13:55	Second Round of Discussions
14:25	Afternoon Coffee Break
14:45	Session Three: Improving the Safety and Well-being of Young Migrants in Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education and Employment for Youth Migrants in Europe• Existing Segregation of the European Labour Market• Discrimination and Unemployment• Integration and Social Inclusion• Recommendations
15:10	Third Round of Discussions
15:40	Chairman's Summary and Closing Comments
15:50	Networking Reception
16:20	Close

Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice

Event Details

Date: Wednesday 21st September 2011
Time: 10:00am – 4:30pm
Venue: The Silken Berlaymont Hotel, Brussels



Speakers include

- ✓ **Dr Piroska Ostlin**, Ph.D, Associate Professor, Special Adviser, Social Determinants of Health, Regional Director's Office (RDO), WHO Regional Office for Europe (confirmed)
- ✓ **Mr. Costas Constantinou**, Head of Unit - Health, Safety and Hygiene at Work, DG EMPL, European Commission (tbc)
- ✓ **Mrs. Anna Ludwinek**, Project Manager, Eurofound (confirmed)
- ✓ **Roumyana Benedict**, Senior Regional Migration Health Manager for the European Region and Liaison to the EU International Organization for Migration (IOM) MRF Brussels, MHD (confirmed)
- ✓ **Dr. Maria Kontos**, Institute of Social Research, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany (confirmed)
- ✓ **Mr. Adriano Silvestri**, Project Manager, EU Fundamental Rights Agency (tbc)

“**The EU's Europe 2020 strategy initiatives provide the framework for efforts to increase employment and reduce poverty but to tackle the demographic challenge we also need to anchor our priorities in areas like health, migration and regional policies.**”

- **Lazlo Andor** Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, April 2011

“**Migration remains an important source to rejuvenate the age profile of the European work force and can help bridge anticipated overall labor shortages in the long run.**”

- **Lazlo Andor** Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, May 2011

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For further information please contact:

Parvin Madahar on +44 (0) 20 3137 8630

or email parvin.madahar@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk