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Supporting Professional Development of Migrant-related Educators (SUMIGRE)

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SUMIGRE'S PROGRESS

THE MIGRATION REPORT

The Migration Report is the first intellectual output the SUMIGRE project has already generated. The purpose of the report is to provide an overview of the current situation of the migrant population in the partner countries. In addition to the qualitative and quantitative data, the Report includes information about national legislation and policies concerning migration and the role of private organizations in managing the issue. Further on, we will provide some information about the migrant situation in each country. The Migration Report can be found [here](#).

TURKEY

Turkey continues to host the largest number of refugees worldwide. By April 2018, almost 3,9 million refugees and asylum-seekers were registered in Turkey, more than 3,5 million of which were Syrians.

HUNGARY

In 2015, asylum applications from Syrian citizens and Afghan citizens were 64 587 and 46 227 respectively. Between 2015 and 2016, there was a drastic decline in applications, probably as a result of the border fences along the Hungary-Serbia and Hungary-Croatia borders and legal amendments, as well as various international factors including the EU-Turkey agreement.

UNITED KINGDOM

Around 1 in 7 (14%) of the usually resident population in the UK were born abroad, and 1 in 11 (9%) had non-British nationality in 2016. Poland is the most common non-UK country of birth (an estimated 911 000 residents) and Polish is the most common non-British nationality in the UK.

CZECH REPUBLIC

The Czech Republic is an ethnically homogenous country with a small proportion of foreigners. At the end of November 2017, the number of foreigners with an authorized stay in the Czech Republic was 524,132 which accounts for almost 5% of the Czech population (largest inflows are from the Slovak Republic, Ukraine and Vietnam).

NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands counted in total 17 081 507 people in 2017 of which there were 3 862 753 people who had a migrant background. Most of the asylum seekers in 2016 and 2017 came from Syria and Eritrea.

BULGARIA

Before 2013, Bulgaria was neither a preferred entrance to Europe nor a transit destination for migrants. While in 2012 only 1 387 asylum seekers were registered in Bulgaria, in 2014 their number had increased to 11 087 and reached up to 10 664 new asylum applications in the first eight months of 2015. According to the State Agency for Refugees (SAR), 19 418 asylum applications were registered in Bulgaria (mainly by Afghan, Syrians and Iraqi nationals) in 2016.



SCHOLA EMPIRICA



The Training Curriculum: “Migrant- Related Educators’ Training” and the e-Learning Platform

The Training Curriculum: “Migrant-related Educators’ Training” and the e-Learning Platform are the next deliverables of the SUMIGRE project after the Migration Report. They are being developed at the moment. The 30-hour online training course aims to upskill the adult educators who are working with migrants or are likely to do so in the future. It is expected that, on successful completion of the training, adult educators will acquire and/or improve key skills and competences they need in their work with migrants. The training curriculum will be translated into the partner languages and will be available on the project website to facilitate its use by wider beneficiaries in future.

Those interested in the Training Curriculum will be able to download it as a PDF file and to use it as an Open Educational Resource. The most important and relevant space for the online training material will be the e-Learning Platform, to which the trainees will have access via a password.

During the third SUMIGRE partner meeting in Leeuwarden (the Netherlands), the project partners decided to develop the following modules for the Training Curriculum:

- Module 1: Human rights of immigrants
- Module 2: Intercultural awareness
- Module 3: Intercultural competences
- Module 4: Intercultural communication’
- Module 5: Addressing discrimination in education
- Module 6: Cultural enterprise in education
- Module 7: Second language teaching

Besides the modules mentioned above, there will be educational and training opportunities & resources provided within the Training Curriculum, along with the links to relevant national authorities and institutions for refugees & asylum seekers.

Good practice examples

There are already a few examples of what goes well in the professional development of migrant-related educators and in integration processes, you can read about them below.

In Hungary, an organization called Menedék (Hungarian Association for Migrants) created the **Training portfolio for professionals working with foreigners**. They offer trainings which cover a uniquely wide range of topics, methods, tools, participants, trainers and duration.

For example, Menedék focuses during the trainings on tackling the issue of personal encounter of people with different backgrounds which is conflicting most of the time. For this reason, they simulate situations in which the participants can practice how to cooperate effectively with people with different cultural heritage and social habits creating a platform for mutual understanding.

As part of the trainings, participants also learn to develop an open, inclusive attitude and gain competencies that help them identify and manage culture-rooted conflicts in the future.

The **Health Inclusion and Wellbeing Project** at the Migrants Resource Centre in collaboration with the borough of Westminster was about reducing isolation, improving the quality of life and providing help to MRC’s service users, who were having difficulties in accessing health services or health-related information, and was also about supporting health service providers.

The Project aimed to support refugees, asylum seekers and migrants to secure improved health and well-being activities through an equitable access to services and to have healthier lifestyle choices, as well as to train organisations in the borough. Additionally, the Project was providing training, workshops and information to other organisations, who were providing health services in the borough.

More Good practice examples can be found [here](#) in these languages: English, Turkish, Dutch, Czech, Hungarian and Bulgarian.

Transnational partner meetings



Second meeting in Prague

The second project meeting was organized on the 16th and 17th of April in the beautiful city of Prague in the Czech Republic. The first day of the meeting was devoted to the organizational issues. The partners also discussed the final version of the Migration Report and the translation of Good Practice Examples into the partners’ languages.

During the second day of the meeting, the participants visited two non-governmental organizations that deal with the support of foreigners in the Czech Republic: InBáze, z. s. and META, o. p. s.

The representatives of both organizations gave the participants information about their activities and equipped them with the materials they published. At META, the partners had an opportunity to get to know about the project which offers the following free services to young migrants for integration to Czech educational system and labour market: social counselling, tutoring, Czech language courses and One Year Preparatory Course for enrolling the secondary school. The second organization which the partners visited was InBáze. The purpose of InBáze is to help immigrants and their families to integrate in the Czech Republic.



Third meeting in Leeuwarden

On the 12th and 13th of July, the third SUMIGRE partner meeting took place in Leeuwarden, The Netherlands. The most important aim of this meeting was to define the modules of the Training Curriculum: “Migrant Related Educators’ Training” and to distribute it among the project partners. This was done successfully.

Also, there were two guest speakers during this SUMIGRE meeting to tell about the situation in the Netherlands, regarding to immigrants and refugees. The challenges the migrant-related educators face when doing their jobs was a very interesting subject during the presentations of the guest speakers. The first guest speaker was Marije Drogendijk, who is a migrant-related adult educator at a VET institution and a university. The second guest speaker was Wouter Schollema, a migrant-related adult educator at VluchtelingenWerk, a Dutch Council for Refugees.

Local workshops

To introduce our Migration Report among the migrant-related educators, local workshops were held in each SUMIGRE partner country. This was very successful! A couple of workshops are presented below and the rest of them will be on the [SUMIGRE website](#) soon.

Local workshop in Czech Republic

In the Czech Republic, the workshop took place on September 13, 2018, in Jablonné nad Orlicí. On the workshop, social workers working with children and youth, the employees of Schola Empirica, an academic worker from Faculty of Humanities, Charles University, and crime prevention manager participated. Within the Agenda, the project, its goals, and outputs were introduced and the participants discussed the contribution of the first annex on Good Practice Examples of the Migration Report (1st output) to their work. They rated most of the good practice examples positively. They just criticized the system limits which often doesn't allow any bigger change.



Local workshop in Turkey

KOGED organised an interactive thematic workshop in Izmit on the 20th October to further disseminate the project & the Migration Report, the 1st intellectual output. While the primary aim of the workshop was to spread word about its progress and outcomes, part of it was dedicated to intercultural awareness, one of the topics of the training curriculum all partners have been currently working on. It will be complete by the end of 2018 and accessible on www.sumigre.eu next year.

The workshop activities provided a good opportunity for the participants to reflect on their understanding of own culture and attitudes towards people from other cultures, how intercultural awareness is a life skill and what individuals can do to acquire and nurture it.

We will keep in touch! You can also follow SUMIGRE on:



www.sumigre.eu



<https://www.facebook.com/Sumigre>

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