



GREET WEBINAR, Friday 15 February 2019 at 10.30-11.30 CET

Integration of highly-skilled refugees – the role of European higher education community

Integration of highly skilled refugees into the higher education has been particularly relevant question especially since 2015. At the same time, violent crises in Syria and Yemen, to mention only few, threaten the higher education systems and academia of these countries. A lot of support initiatives have been launched and they continue to be important.

This webinar focuses on the role of the European higher education community in supporting higher education in emergencies as well as integration of highly-skilled refugees in Europe. Why is this kind of support needed now more than ever?

The importance of institutional engagement, motivation behind commitment and links to strategy of the HEIs will be reflected by the speakers.

- 1) EU support for refugees in higher education and research

José Díez Verdejo, European Commission

- 2) Links to strategy

Elisabeth Fiorioli, Universities Austria (uniko)

- 3) Institutional level commitment and perspectives

Marita Häkkinen, University of Jyväskylä, SIMHE Finland (Supporting Immigrants in Higher Education in Finland)

Register to the webinar on the 14 February 2019 the latest:

<https://link.webropol-surveys.com/S/5DC53796AC7CB7C1>

GREET – Guiding Refugees via European Exchange and Training – is an 18-month Horizon 2020 Science4Refugees project that aims to contribute to better integration of highly skilled refugees in higher education across Europe through mutual learning and exchange of good practices. Project activities bring together national-level support structures and higher education institutions (HEIs) in 9 European countries (Austria, Belgium/Flanders, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Norway, Sweden, the UK) to share experiences in supporting refugee students and researchers and with a view to developing a community of practice at European level in order to support needs-based policy making. The project is implemented by the consortium comprising the Academic Cooperation Association (ACA, coordinator) and its two members - German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Finnish National Agency for Education (EDUFI). More information:

<http://www.aca-secretariat.be/index.php?id=1104>





SPEAKERS:



José Díez Verdejo works as a Policy Officer at the Directorate-General Education, Youth, Sport and Culture of the European Commission since 2016. He is in charge of Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange, a pilot project that fosters intercultural understanding and skills development among young people living in European and Southern Mediterranean countries. He also follows the integration of refugees in higher education and the international dimension of youth programmes. Previously he worked in the Commission's Spokesperson's Service, in DG Home Affairs and in DG Competition. José is a journalist and holds an MSc in Public Policy and Administration from the London School of Economics and an MA in European Politics from the Université Libre de Bruxelles.



Elisabeth Fiorioli works as the Secretary General of the Universities Austria since 2012. Prior to her current position, she worked at the Austrian Ministry of Education and Science and as the Director of the Austrian Accreditation Council. With a strong focus on quality assurance and accreditation, she has published various articles and conference papers and served in various international expert positions. She holds a MA from the Karl-Franzens University Graz.



Marita Häkkinen is a coordinator at University of Jyväskylä's Student and Academic Services. Since early 2016, she has been working in SIMHE (Supporting Immigrants in Higher Education in Finland) study counselling services for migrant and refugee prospective students, tasks including also integration training at academia and variety of functions to support migrants' study and career paths in Finland.





Instructions for using the Skype for Business web application (distance meeting)

- To attend the meeting go to the address:
<https://meet.lync.com/oph.fi/sini.piippo/TZKDB5NF>
- Download the SkypeMeetingsApp and sign in.
- Your name will be visible in the meeting.
- NB! This webinar will be recorded and the recording will be available on the GREET website
<http://www.aca-secretariat.be/index.php?id=1109>

Other tips:

- Should the connection be poor, please shut down all other programmes on your computer and sign in to the Skype for Business meeting again. It is recommendable to use a cable when connecting to the internet (wireless connections are more insecure).

At the Skype for Business meeting:

- The participants may pose questions in the chat or send them before the meeting by submitting the question(s) in the registration form.
- Please make sure that you formulate your question clearly, so that they may be answered also at a later stage of the webinar.

