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The Newsflash is a weekly round up of publications, information, events, funding and jobs relating to asylum seekers, refugees and migrant workers for anyone who wants to keep up to date with the latest developments.

The newsflash is produced in partnership with the East of England Local Government Association - Strategic Migration Partnership, the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) and the Partnership Development Project (MENTER).

Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Review into ending the detention of children for immigration purposes

The UK Border Agency has published the terms of reference for the review into ending the detention of children for immigration purposes and has asked for views, relevant evidence or research on alternatives to detention. Responses may be submitted directly to the Review team at ChildDetentionReview@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk or to the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund at ChildDetentionReview@memfund.org.uk. Please note the deadline for feedback is **1 July 2010**.

Further information:

[Ending child detention review.pdf](#)

COMPASS update

COMPASS (Commercial and Operational Managers Procuring Asylum Support) procurement was likely to commence in March 2010 but in view of the General Election the programme timescales have been revised with procurement expected to commence in July 2010.

At this point no decisions have been made about the timescales the COMPASS programme will apply to the competitive process, but as a minimum it will comply with the European Directives on Procurement. The UK Border Agency will be in a position to provide further information towards the end of June 2010 in respect of revised timescales.

Further information on COMPASS:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/workingwithus/workingwithasylum/compassprogramme/>

Ipsos MORI survey of refugees and asylum seekers

Ipsos MORI has interviewed refugees and asylum seekers in advance of 'Refugee Week' (14-20 June 2010). The survey was commissioned by Refugee Action on behalf of the Refugee Week partnership. The survey shows that refugees and asylum seekers are fans of The Queen, Princess Diana and David Beckham. It also shows that a majority feels welcomed by the average Brit.

Press release:

<http://www.internationalresearch.co.uk/researchpublications/researcharchive/poll.aspx?oltemId=2623>

Topline results and computer tables:

[Download the topline results \(PDF\)](#)

[Download the computer tables \(PDF\)](#)

UK public understand asylum - but many still hold negative beliefs

One in four British people still believe asylum seekers come to Britain to claim benefits, according to an ICM poll for the British Red Cross. The results of the poll – which surveyed over 2,000 people – show conflicting opinions and a lack of knowledge about the legal definition of asylum.

Press release:

<http://www.redcross.org.uk/news.asp?id=104347>

Justice at Risk: quality and value for money in asylum legal aid

This interim report was undertaken by the Information Centre about Asylum and Refugees on behalf of Refugee and Migrant Justice, in partnership with Asylum Aid and Immigration Advisory Service. It has found that the quality

of legal representation is of paramount importance to asylum seekers whose cases routinely raise issues of life and liberty. 'Justice at risk' analyses the legal aid payment system introduced by the Legal Services Commission (LSC) under the previous Government. The scheme replaced hourly rates with fixed fees for most cases, and now means practitioners are only paid after cases are closed. The research focuses on asylum but there are wider implications for all legal aid practitioners.

Press release:

[press release](#)

Full report:

[Justice at Risk: quality and value for money in asylum legal aid](#)

Becoming Vulnerable in Detention: Civil Society report on the detention of vulnerable asylum seekers and irregular migrants in the European Union

This study from Jesuit Refugee Service highlights how asylum seekers and undocumented migrants who are held in detention centres quickly become susceptible to hazardous psychological stress. The longer they are detained, the worse their conditions become.

Press release:

<http://www.jrs.net/news/index.php?lang=en&sid=5513>

Report and summary:

[Becoming Vulnerable in Detention - Full Report \[3.97 KB\]](#)

[DEVAS REPORT Executive Summary](#)

No going back: lesbian and gay people and the asylum system

In November 2009, Stonewall interviewed lesbian, gay and bisexual asylum-seekers, legal professionals, asylum support workers and UK Border Agency (UKBA) staff. The interviews covered all aspects of the asylum process and considered how lesbian, gay and bisexual people move through the asylum system and how decisions are made and communicated. The results of those interviews are presented in this report.

Full report:

[No going back](#)

Migration

Compulsory English language tests will be introduced for migrants applying to come to the UK to join their partner or marry, the Government announced today.

From autumn 2010 all non-European migrants will have to demonstrate a basic command of English that allows them to cope with everyday life before they are granted a visa.

The rules will apply to spouses, civil partnerships, unmarried couples, same sex partners and fiancés, and will be compulsory for people applying from within the UK, as well as visa applicants from overseas.

Press release:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/press-releases/migrants-learn-english>

Early Day Motion – Protecting English Language Schools

A cross party group of Members of Parliament have signed an Early Day Motion (EDM) calling on the UK Government to abolish 'flawed and rushed' legislation brought in by the previous administration requiring overseas students wishing to study English in Britain to first pass an English test. The group of 14 MPs, including Lib Dems, Labour, Green Party and Conservative members, said the rules would deter 100,000 overseas students from studying in the UK.

Early Day Motion:

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=41056&SESSION=905>

More misleading claims about migration – ippr article

This article by Sarah Mulley from the Institute for Public Policy Research is a response to the publication of a Migration Watch briefing that purports to show that migration to the UK from outside the EU for work has increased by 20 per cent since the introduction of the Points-Based System in 2008.

Article:

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/articles/?id=4016>

Advising third-country nationals: A training resource for EU Employment and Careers Services

IMPACT (Integrating Migrants through the Provision of Adaptability and Competence Training) has published a new training resource entitled "Advising third-country nationals: A training resource for EU Employment and Careers Services". The resource is aimed at public employment agencies and local/regional authorities helping their staff to better understand the needs of third-country nationals and to become familiar with helpful approaches that can be used to support their integration into the labour market.

The training resource is based on the methods developed by the IMPACT project partners from five EU countries (Austria, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and UK) aimed at addressing high rates of unemployment among particular groups of third-country nationals legally residing in the EU.

Training resource:

www.interculturexpress.at/sites/IMPACT_02_Advising.pdf

Health Inequalities Intervention Toolkit

To support Primary Care Trusts and local authorities, the Association of Public Health Observatories and Department of Health have developed the Health Inequalities Intervention Toolkit. This is designed to assist evidence-based local service planning and commissioning, including Joint Strategic Needs Assessments.

Toolkit:

http://www.lho.org.uk/LHO_TOPICS/ANALYTIC_TOOLS/HEALTHINEQUALITIESINTERVENTIONTOOLKIT.ASP
[X](#)

Health of Migrants – the Way Forward: report of a global consultation

World Health Organisation, International Organisation for Migration and the Ministry of Health and Social Policy of Spain organized a Global Consultation on the health of migrants in Madrid on 3–5 March 2010. This publication provides a synthesis of the key discussion points of the Consultation, its outcomes and the background materials prepared for the event.

Full report:

http://www.who.int/hac/events/consultation_report_health_migrants_colour_web.pdf

'Migrants: developing a sense of belonging' – article in Foundation Focus

Quality of life and integration of migrants are two closely related issues. Successful integration can not only boost migrants' quality of life but also helps to prevent or ease tensions between newcomers and long-standing residents. This leads to a more cohesive society with a higher quality of life for all.

'Migrants: developing a sense of belonging' article (p.16):

[Download](#)

European Local Authorities Competition: Good Practices in Supporting Migrant Elders' Initiatives

The Ministry for Generations, Family, Women and Integration of North Rhine-Westphalia, in cooperation with the Committee of the Regions and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions, calls upon European cities and municipalities to present best practices which promote active ageing and integration of elderly migrants in the following sectors:

- housing;
- leisure and culture;
- social and intergenerational activities;
- support of economic activities related to culturally sensitive products and services;
- support of volunteering by and for migrant elders.

Applications must be sent by **31 October 2010** and the winners will be awarded on 9 February 2011 in the Committee of the Regions. For further information and application forms please go to the website of the organisation office at: <http://www.aktioncourage.org/ELACinenglish>

PhD studentship opportunity – Anglia Ruskin University

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Social Care

Supervisor(s): Prof Shula Ramon, Dr Claudia Schneider, Dr Deb Holman

Location: Cambridge

Funding availability: Directly Funded Project (European Students Only)

Application deadline: Monday **21 June 2010**

Migration from Poland into the UK and Germany since 2004: An investigation of a specific social policy area Migration of Polish citizens into the UK and Germany (which is after the UK the second major destination country for Polish citizens) since 2004 is still a fairly new research area and opens up a new perspective on migration within the EU. Migration from the Accession countries is in many respects different to previous migrations due to the geographical location of countries of origin, migrants' skills potential and aspirations, the age distribution of migrants, the availability of cheap transport, the relative fluidity of migration and the legal context of European citizenship. The migration process from the Accession countries is especially dynamic, changing on a continuous basis since 2004 and the situation of an economic down turn will create in itself an original context in which the migration experience can be analysed.

Outline of Research Proposal:

The project focuses on the migration of Polish citizens to the UK and Germany. Existing literature on the migration from Accession countries has especially dealt with employment, skills and/or housing issues. The proposed project gives the opportunity to either expand on a social policy area which has been analysed more extensively since 2004 or to focus on a social policy area which has been less investigated (such as education or health). The proposal for this project is purposefully kept fairly general as it depends on the applicant's background and interest which specific social policy area he/she would like to cover in the PhD. It is expected that the successful candidate will carry out his/her own primary research within the UK and Germany, possibly using a longitudinal approach to complement existing data from a longitudinal study on migrant workers in the East of England which is currently carried out by Dr Claudia Schneider and Dr Deb Holman (funded through EEDA and ESF). During the three year scholarship the student will spend some time in Germany at one of Anglia Ruskin's partner universities to gather primary data for Germany. There is likely to be some Erasmus/ Socrates funding available for the exchange and travel.

For further information please contact Claudia.schneider@anglia.ac.uk

Funding notes:

The start date for this project is 20 September 2010

£12,940 stipend plus fees paid (UK & EU). Non EU overseas Applicants are welcome to apply but are required to pay the difference between the tuition fees. Successful applicants will be expected to undertake up to 6 hours teaching each week during term time.

Applicants should hold a Master's degree awarded by a UK University, or an overseas Master's of equivalent standard, provided that the Master's degree is in an appropriate cognate area and that the Master's degree included training in research and the execution of a research project.

For application information please email admissions@anglia.ac.uk giving your contact details.

Please ensure that your application is clearly marked 'Migration PhD Studentship'.

Events

Migrant Workers' Rights in the Global Economy seminar

This one-day seminar, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, is the second in the Middlesex University series examining emerging issues of global labour regulation. The seminar will be held at the International Slavery Museum (<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ism/>) in Liverpool's dockside on Thursday **2 September 2010** from 10am until 5.30pm.

The purpose of this seminar is to examine migration from a rights-based perspective. We hope to explore aspects of civil, human and social rights of migrant workers as well as labour and economic rights. Migrant labour is thus viewed from within perspectives of forced, slave and child labour as well as economic labour. As such the seminar welcomes the participation of those academics, practitioners and migrant worker activists who wish to develop new agendas for regulating migrant labour through a variety of agency and policy initiatives.

The seminar will be divided into two sessions. The first, thematic session, will examine alternative perspectives on migrant workers' rights. The second session will present case studies from different world regions. If you are interested in participating in the seminar please register your interest with Denise Arden at d.arden@mdx.ac.uk [<mailto:d.arden@mdx.ac.uk>](mailto:d.arden@mdx.ac.uk). Lunch and refreshments are provided and the seminar is free to attend, but registration in advance is necessary. More information can be obtained from the seminar organisers, Professor Martin Upchurch (m.upchurch@mdx.ac.uk [<mailto:m.upchurch@mdx.ac.uk>](mailto:m.upchurch@mdx.ac.uk)) and Professor Miguel Martinez Lucio (Miguel.MartinezLucio@mbs.ac.uk [<mailto:Miguel.MartinezLucio@mbs.ac.uk>](mailto:Miguel.MartinezLucio@mbs.ac.uk)).

Funding

Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust – humanitarian grants

Sir Jules Thorn was a great humanitarian and whilst his endowment was provided primarily for medicine and medical research, he was content for some funds to be allocated to appeals of a humanitarian nature.

The Trust has two programmes:

1) Small Grants Programme

The Trust receives numerous appeals from fund-raising charities. Those which are successful are awarded grants of up to £1,000. Many charities have received grants over a number of years.

Requests are considered for contributions to core funding or for specific projects, but this programme does not provide substantial sums for capital appeals.

2) Larger Humanitarian Grants

Although this programme is not a major part its grant-making activities, the Trust has been a consistent supporter of the humanitarian work of a limited number of charities who have received funding over a period of years.

There are no specific dates for submitting applications. Requests may be made at any time and will be considered by the Trustees as soon as possible, depending on volumes.

Further information:

<http://www.julesthorntrust.org.uk/GrantProgrammes/Humanitarian/tabid/67/Default.aspx>

Jobs

There are no job updates in this edition

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