

EMN MALTA NATIONAL CONFERENCE (HYBRID EVENT) – 28 OCTOBER 2022

MINISTRY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, SECURITY, REFORMS AND EQUALITY

THE NEW GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES IN MIGRATION TACKLING CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

In collaboration with

The EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR CHURCH AND STATE RESEARCH & THE FACULTY OF LAWS, UNIVERSITY OF MALTA

COINCIDING WITH THE END OF THE COVID PANDEMIC, THE WAR IN UKRAINE HAS ALREADY HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ACROSS EUROPE AND BEYOND. EUROPE FACES A CHALLENGING MIGRATION SCENARIO, WHICH IS VIRTUALLY UNPRECEDENTED IN SCALE. THE IMPACT OF MIGRATION FROM UKRAINE MUST BE ASSESSED IN CONTEXT, AS PEOPLE FROM OTHER REGIONS AND CONTINENTS, INCLUDING THE MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA, AND ASIA, CONTINUE TO MIGRATE INTO EU MEMBER STATES, SOMETIMES VIA IRREGULAR OR UNOFFICIAL CHANNELS, OFTEN TO SEEK PROTECTION.

THE CURRENT SCENARIO THEREFORE POSES RENEWED CHALLENGES IN THE MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FIELDS. THIS CONFERENCE EXPLORES THESE CHALLENGES AND THE MANNER IN WHICH THEY MAY BE ADDRESSED.

08:00		Registration and Welcome coffee	
09:00	Opening	Mr Emanuel Psaila Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality	
09:10	Keynote Speaker	Dr Alan Xuereb Lawyer-Linguist at the European Court of Justice, Political writer and thinker	No Peace without Truthfulness - Authentic knowledge as a Common Good pre-requisite
09:40	Session 1 Maltese Context	Mr John Testa Senior Manager, Ministry for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality	Moderator
09:40		Mr Malcolm Cutajar Chief Executive Officer International Protection Agency (IPA)	Tackling Cultural and Religious Diversity in the Asylum Process
09:55		Mr Mauro Farrugia CEO Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers (AWAS)	Open centres: Dealing with cultural and religious diversity -- from theory to practice
10:10		Dr Anthony Gatt Consultant Public Health Medicine	Supporting Ukrainian refugees in the field of Health
10:25		Dr Stephanie Pappalardo Senior Policy Officer, Ministry for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality	Malta's assistance to the Ukraine
10:40 - 10:50		Question Time	
10:50- 11:20		Coffee Break	
11:20	Session 2 European Context	Mr Joseph St John Senior Policy Officer, Ministry for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality	Moderator

11:20	Virtual Presentation	Mr Denys Shpak Ukraine EMN NCP Focal Point	Migration situation in Ukraine and challenges for the State Migration Service
11:35		Professor Balázs Schanda Judge of the Constitutional Court of Hungary	A fortress or a gateway? A landlocked country on the crossroads of migration
11:50		Professor Amalia Susana Creus Quinteros Deputy Director of Teaching Faculty of Information and Communication Sciences, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya	Crossing Borders to Connect Routes. Researching with educational communities to promote equity and fight racism towards immigrants in a post-pandemic world.
12:05-12:15	Question time		
12:15	Session 3 Culture and Religion in Migrant Integration	Dr David Edward Zammit Head of Department of Civil Law Director of the Law Clinic at the University of Malta	Moderator
12:15		Dr Jaafar Alloul Postdoctoral Research Fellow at NTU Singapore & Visiting Research Scholar in Residence at Georgetown University Qatar	Cultural Affinity as a strategy for integrating Second Generation Arab Migrants in Qatar
12:30		Dr Ibtisam Sadegh Department of Civil Law Faculty of Laws University of Malta	We moved to Ceuta as a compromise' transnational interreligious couples in Europe's external border
12:45		Dr Jeanise Dalli Department of Civil Law Faculty of Laws University of Malta	The role of Culture and Religion within FGM regulation in Malta and the UK
13:00-13:10	Question time		
13:10-15:00	Lunch		
15:00	Session 4 Recreating the narrative	Vincent A. De Gaetano Chief Justice Emeritus, Malta; Former Judge ECtHR, Strasbourg; Commissioner for Education, Ombudsman's Office	Moderator

15:00		Professor Devyani Prabhat Professor in Law at the University of Bristol Law School, UK	Giving Asylum to the Asylum Process: How do we respond to Recent Developments
15:15		Professor Merilin Kiviorg Associate Professor in international law at the University of Tartu School of Law	The concept of Human Dignity in the context of Migration and International Law
15:30		Professor Anna Khakee Associate Professor Department of International Relations, Faculty of Arts	Migratory root causes, peacebuilding, and foreign interventions: unpacking the Afghan case
15:45		Mr Michael Cluett Research Manager II Human Rights Directorate within the Ministry for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality.	Reframing the narrative by pursuing the opportunities and benefits of cultural diversity
16:00 16:15		Dr David Edward Zammit Conference Rapporteur	What are the new challenges and what is the best response in tackling cultural/religious diversity?