

PARTNER SEARCH FORM

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| Name of Organisation | UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS |
| Type of Organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Body <input type="checkbox"/> SME/SME association <input type="checkbox"/> Other private actor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non profit Organization <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Body Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Private University |
| Call - Title and call identification - Funding programme - EC service - Link to the call document - Closing date | HORIZON 2020: Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies. Work Programme 2016-2017 CALL: REVERSING INEQUALITIES AND PROMOTING FAIRNESS [H2020-SC6-REV-INEQUAL-2016-2017] TOPIC: Intra-EU mobility and its impacts for social and economic systems [REV-INEQUAL-04-2016] TYPE OF ACTION: Research & Innovation Action (RIA) CLOSING DATE: 4 February 2016 |
| (Preliminary) Title of the Project | To be confirmed |
| Outline of the project idea | <p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>Free movement is not only a fundamental principle of the European single market, but also a fundamental right of European citizens entitling them to move freely across borders and reside anywhere in the EU. With the 2004 and 2007 enlargements and, more recently, with the lifting in 2014 of the last transitional restrictions on free movement of Eastern Europeans to move to the EU-15, the issue of intra-EU mobility, and particularly the mobility of EU citizens, has become heavily politicized. Negative portrayals of internal migrants, whether EU citizens or Third Country Nationals (TCNs), in terms of economic and social costs are prevalent in the media and have also been widely used in national and European electoral campaigns.</p> <p>Claims regarding threats to local employment and negatively stereotyped discourses enhance xenophobia and urge for research based knowledge which will reveal the real comparative dimensions of the intra-EU mobility and its impact for social and economic systems. The results will support decision making for regulations and measures in all the sectors of human activities, education, political, cultural and social life.</p> <p><u>Description:</u></p> <p>The proposed project focuses on the second dimension mentioned in the Call in order to address this challenge, namely the “Perceptions on and politicisation of intra-EU mobility and representation in the</p> |

media”.

Research will survey and examine discourses and perceptions on intra-EU mobility studying a representative range of Member States comparatively.

Objectives:

The project aims at:

1. Analysing the role of the media, including social media, and of political parties and other groups in opinion formation.
2. Comparing, and if opportune contrasting, these discourses with those following previous accession rounds and assessing the connections with the development of xenophobia in Europe.
3. Identifying whether and to what extent discourses distinguish between intra-EU mobility and migration into the EU.
4. Analysing the awareness and knowledge of the historical and current realities of migration, including and in particular with regard to the actual costs on the welfare systems, and if necessary contrasting with claims regarding threats to local employment or welfare tourism commonly made.
5. Raising awareness and knowledge of the historical and current realities of migration, in particular with regard to the actual costs on the welfare systems.
6. Considering the role of educational systems in the EU in this regard.
7. Analysing the underlying processes and dynamics of the politicisation of intra-EU mobility and whether and how this politicisation relates to increasing inequalities in Europe.
8. Exploring whether and how perceptions of and attitudes towards migration are related to support for the welfare state.

Activities:

Activities focus on:

1. The analysis of how intra-EU mobility is represented through the media, including social media;
2. The investigation of discourses and perceptions expressed in the media by journalists, political figures, and/or other relevant stakeholders and citizens.
3. The comparison and contrast of these discourses and perceptions with those following previous accession rounds so as to assess the connections with the development of xenophobia in Europe.
4. The investigation of differences between discourses about intra-EU mobility and discourses about migration into the EU.
5. The analysis of the actual costs of migration on the welfare systems.
6. The study of the role of educational systems in the EU in the formation of perceptions with regard to the issues of free movement, intra-EU mobility and migration.
7. The analysis of the underlying processes and dynamics of the politicization of intra-EU mobility and whether and how this politicization relates to increasing inequalities in Europe.
8. Investigation of the perceptions of people and how attitudes towards migration are related to support for the welfare state.

Partners:

Due to the range of Member States which will be studied comparatively for the completion of the research, a number of countries are proposed to take active part as partners:-

1. Germany
2. Sweden
3. France
4. Italy
5. Greece
6. Cyprus
7. Spain
8. Hungary
9. Slovenia
10. Romania
11. Bulgaria
12. Israel

Participants from the above Partners may include:

1. Universities
2. Research Offices
3. NGO's
4. Municipalities
5. Regional Body/Agency
6. Public Bodies
7. SME/SME association
8. Non-profit companies

Target Groups:

1. Media (Electronic and Press Media)
2. Social Media
3. Advertising Offices
4. Political Parties
5. Third Country Nationals
6. EU Citizens

Expected Outcomes:

The project is expected to considerably enhance the national and transnational knowledge base on the socio-economic impact of intra-EU mobility in general and on national welfare systems in particular. The project will reveal whether and to what extent there is synchronicity or divergence between the socio-economic effects of intra-EU migration and its perceptions and politicisation. Finally the project will make recommendations on how sending countries can harness the talents and resources of their citizens abroad.

European Added Value:

More than ever the European Union will benefit from the research findings that will result from at least 10-12 countries of the EU, as they will facilitate the European Commission to apply laws and regulations that will help resolve/improve the issue of migration, which is the number 1 topic currently on the agenda of the EU.

In the European level the project is expected to provide useful information on the role media, political parties and other groups have in opinion formation on the perceptions of intra-EU mobility and its connection to the development of xenophobia in Europe. Differences and similarities among the partner countries will give transferable messages to the European level about factors and practices that facilitate or prevent the matter. The Project will inform on the necessity of any additional regulation on intra-EU mobility and develop practical solutions, possibly enhancing future strategies and regulations of the European Union on Intra-EU mobility.

Methodology:

The methodology of the project is multi-dimensional and will be organized in different workstreams, each of which will constitute a sub-part of the project, a step leading to the achievement of the project's overall goal. Each workstream shall contain activities grouped together in a logical, consistent and structured way while they will be inter-related since each activity will be based on the results of the previous one. Both qualitative and quantitative methods of analysis will be employed. The investigation of attitudes and perceptions is based on the model of grass-root analysis, that is, the idea of transferring knowledge from the groups of people and/or persons actually experiencing – or could potentially experience – a situation in their country/context, that is, the intra-EU mobility with the view to develop outputs and outcomes of the project. Within the project these groups of people and/or person may be: a) people working in the media (i.e. journalists, political analysts, reporters); b) people involved in politics (i.e. members of political parties and/or political associations, parliament members); c) teachers/educators working in/for the educational system (i.e. in schools, universities, institutes) as well as the general public.

Furthermore, the following methods will be used for the survey and examination of discourses and perceptions on and the politicization of intra-EU mobility and representation in the media:

- a) Historical survey & review about intra-EU mobility in each country & comparative analysis between countries;
- b) Documentation & archival work and analysis of newspaper articles with regard to the subject of free-movement and intra-EU mobility in each country & comparative analysis between countries (for the collection of data, keywords will be pointed out);
- c) Collection and analysis of parts of TV shows and news broadcast dealing with the subject of free-movement, migration and intra-EU mobility in each country for examining the main discourses that emerge and the main representations/portrayals of migrants in each country & comparative analysis between countries;
- d) Reviewing and analysing comments in social media news' pages on intra EU mobility issues;
- e) Questionnaire surveys and opinion polls on the issues under study (i.e. free movement in EU, mobility of EU citizens, internal and external migrants) in each country. Different groups of people will participate in the questionnaire surveys and the opinion polls, namely, media representatives, people involved in politics, and teachers/educators as

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| | <p>well as the general public. Comparative analysis will follow. f) Focus groups with different groups of people, namely, media representatives, people involved in politics, and teachers/educators. Comparative analysis will follow.</p> | |
| Keywords | <p>Comparative research Intra-EU mobility Migration EU citizens Third Country Nationals Media Perceptions Awareness Knowledge Attitude Politicisation Impacts Social Economy Welfare system Local employment Educational system Xenophobia</p> | |
| Type of Partner | Consortium | Position within consortium |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create a new consortium <input type="checkbox"/> Join an existing consortium | <input type="checkbox"/> As a coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> As a partner |
| Partner Sought | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Body <input type="checkbox"/> SME/SME association <input type="checkbox"/> Other private actor <input type="checkbox"/> Non profit Organization <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Body Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Universities Research Centres Municipalities University Networks | |
| Answers expected before | 7 December 2015 | |
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