

Working Group

War in Ukraine and migration: host countries' reaction and effects on migrants

26 January 2023

Sala Triaria - Villa Schifanoia, Via Boccaccio 121 - Florence

Migration Working Group | European University Institute

Introduction

This session will discuss how hosting countries reacted to the arrivals of Ukrainian and Russian migrants following the war in Ukraine, and how these reactions affected migrants. The first presentation will explore political and societal discrimination against Russians in several countries and the second the implementation of the European cultural policies towards Ukrainians in Italy.

Programme**The effect of discrimination on the political behaviour of recent migrants: evidence from two waves of the panel survey of new Russian migrants**

15.00 - 15.45 Speakers:

Emil Kamalov | EUI Department of Political and Social Sciences (SPS)**Ivetta Sergeeva** | EUI Department of Political and Social Sciences (SPS)

Discussant:

Filip Kostelka | EUI Department of Political and Social Sciences (SPS)

Hundreds of thousands of migrants have left Russia after the invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022. They stayed in various countries with different histories of relations with Russia. The governments of the host countries and the local population have reacted differently to this influx. Some countries have banned Russian citizens' entry, in some, visa procedures and access to banking services have become more difficult if not completely restrictive, and discrimination has intensified on many levels. In other countries, these challenges were either nonexistent or much less pronounced. How does this diversity of reactions to Russian migration affect the political behavior of the latter? Are those who are discriminated against becoming more passive or more politically active? To what extent are they able and willing to support the opposition in Russia or their counterparts abroad? Does discrimination by the local

population (societal discrimination) have a stronger influence on migrants than discrimination by the government (political discrimination)? To address these questions, we analyse data from two waves of a panel survey of new Russian migrants who relocated after February 24, 2022. The survey covers migrants from more than 60 countries and allows us to test the variety of mechanisms by which discrimination influences the political behavior of recent migrants.

European cultural policies in Ukrainian 2022 refugee case (in Italy)

15.45 - 16.30 Speakers:

Marina Keda | Jean–Monet Fellow, EUI Robert Schuman Centre

Discussant:

Tamás Szucs | Robert Schuman Fellow, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies

The greatest since WWII migration crisis in Europe, caused by vast Russian invasion and war in Ukraine in 2022, spawned strong discourse on different aspects of refugee policies, mostly concerning implementation of TPD instruments. Whereas cultural aspects of migration are much less under attention of scientific society. In our paper we focus on the correlation of EU cultural policies and practices in 2022 refugee case in Italy, which has a number of specific features. The research database combines EU legal documents on cultural policies and pilot research results (based on number of direct interviews with Ukrainians fleeing war in 2022). We argue that more attention of the providers of cultural policies at all levels (especially at national and local) toward active participation of refugees in cultural practices can contribute in several dimensions: their more active integration, future policy of returning and more rapid construction of the sense of “Europeanness”.