

Hybrid Event
Thursday, 13 October 2022
09.00 – 17.00 CET, The Hotel (Brussels) and online

EU migration and asylum policies: Building resilience for changing geopolitical realities

Speaker Bios

Keynote Statement

Nicole de Moor, Belgian Secretary of State, Asylum and Migration

Nicole de Moor is the State Secretary in charge of Asylum and Migration in the Belgian federal government. Since 2014, she has worked in the private offices of the Belgian ministers of Justice, European Affairs, Work and Economy – first in a capacity as political advisor and then as the political director for the Interior, Justice, Security, Asylum, Migration and Equal Opportunities. From October 2020 to June 2022, Ms de Moor was the Chief of Staff of the Belgian State Secretary for Asylum and Migration. She holds a PhD in public international law from Ghent University and has a vast expertise as a legal advisor in immigration and refugee law. Ms de Moor is a member of the Flemish Christian Democratic Party.

Session 1: *Targeting the Root Causes of Migration: What Can Realistically Be Achieved by Policymakers?*

Victoria Rietig, Head of the Migration Program, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

Rietig began her professional career at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in New York, working on migration and development. She later worked at various think tanks in Washington, DC, including as a policy analyst for the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), a fellow at the Atlantic Council, and a senior migration fellow at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (AICGS) at Johns Hopkins University. Rietig also served as an independent expert for migration, asylum, and refugee issues, advising government offices and foundations, including the German development agency GIZ, US Department of State, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Swiss Foreign Ministry (EDA), and Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center of the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Rietig received a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University with a focus on human trafficking and forced migration. She also earned an MA from Freie Universität Berlin with a focus on migration and integration.

Tobias Heidland, Professor of Economics, Kiel University and Director, International Development Research Centre, Kiel Institute

Tobias Heidland is a professor of economics at Kiel University and heads the Research Center "International Development" at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy. He has done extensive academic and policy-oriented research on migration decision-making, migration policy, and the effects of migration in developing countries. His research heavily builds on collecting new primary data in developing countries through household surveys,

experiments, and from digital sources such as social networks. Within the MEDAM project, Tobias has coordinated the research on migration decision-making and the determinants of migration, which included data collections in Senegal and Uganda. He works on several other research projects with migration and development foci, mainly set in African countries.

Silvia Sinibaldi, International Cooperation and Humanitarian Director, Caritas Europa

Silvia Sinibaldi is the International Cooperation and Humanitarian director of Caritas Europa. She has a 15 years' long experience in the international development sector. In Caritas Europa, she designed the first program on Migration & Development with partners from 11 EU countries, which led to the deepening of [research on EU policies](#) on the matter and contributed to the strengthening of relationships with peer organisations in the African continent. She has actively supported the participation and involvement of civil society organisations in the run-up to the EU-Africa summit, bringing the voice of those having experience and bearing evidence on the link between Migration & Development. She is a member of the board of the VOICE NGO network since 2019 and of the global Caritas humanitarian committee.

Francesco Luciani, Head of Unit, Migration and Forced Displacement, DG INTPA, European Commission

Francesco Luciani, Ph.D. in Political Science, is an official of the European Commission since 1998. He worked between 1998 and 2005 at the EU Delegations in Chad and in Ukraine, between 2005 and 2016 in Brussels at the Commission's Directorate General "Home Affairs", and between 2016 and 2019 as advisor in international matters to Dimitris Avramopoulos, then European Commissioner in charge of migration and security. In 2019, he joined the Commission's Directorate General "International partnerships", responsible for the EU cooperation with countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific, where he leads the Unit in charge of migration and forced displacement.

Session 2: EU-Turkey Relations on Migration: Lessons Learned and Future Perspectives

Silvia Carta, Policy Analyst, European Policy Centre

Silvia Carta is a policy analyst in the European Migration and Diversity Program at the European Policy Centre. Her work centers on developments in migration and asylum policy in the EU as well as in key member states, the external dimension of asylum policies, and labor migration. Her research interests also include international refugee law and asylum jurisprudence. Within MEDAM, Silvia currently contributes policy analysis to the project and promotes it to the EU policy community based in Brussels. She has previously worked as a parliamentary assistant and policy adviser in the European Parliament.

Saime Özçürümez, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Bilkent University

Saime Ozcurumez (PhD, McGill) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration. She conducts research and publishes on migration governance in the European Union, Turkey, and Canada; health and diversity; COVID 19 impact on gender and forced migration; irregular immigration and social cohesion. She is

the co-editor of *Of States Rights and Social Closure* (Palgrave), *Social Trauma and Forced Migration* (Routledge) and co-author of *Forced Migration Experience and Social Cohesion: Concepts, Models and Practices in Turkey* (in Turkish, Bilgi University Press). Her research appeared in journals such as *International Migration*, *Journal of Gender Studies*, *Identities*, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Turkish Studies*, *Comparative European Politics*, *Frontiers*, *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, and *Global Networks*. She currently works on social inclusion in the education ecosystem and health care system, and the role of local governments in migration governance.

Kemal Kirişci, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe's Turkey Project, The Brookings Institution

Kemal Kirişci is a nonresident senior fellow in the Center on the United States and Europe's Turkey Project at Brookings, with more than three decades of academic and policy oriented expertise in refugee studies, political economy of international trade, and foreign policy. From 2013 until 2020, he was TÜSİAD senior fellow at Brookings and director of the Turkey Project. Kirişci ran the Turkey Project Policy Paper series and continues to write policy oriented commentaries on refugee and foreign policy related issues. Several of his reports and most recent commentaries advocate the idea of extending trade concessions to countries, such as Turkey, hosting large number of refugees in return for integrating refugees into local labor markets in a sustainable manner. His book, "Turkey and the West: Fault Lines in a Troubled Alliance," was published by the Brookings Institution Press in November 2017. He is also the co-author of "The Consequences of Chaos: Syria's Humanitarian Crisis and the Failure to Protect" (Brookings Institution Press, April 2016), which considers the long-term economic, political, and social implications of Syria's displaced and offers policy recommendations to address the humanitarian crisis. Before joining Brookings, Kirişci was a professor of international relations and held the Jean Monnet chair in European integration at Boğaziçi University in İstanbul. Kirişci's expert page is [here](#).

Angeliki Dimitriadi, Research Fellow, Global Public Policy Institute

Angeliki Dimitriadi is research fellow at the Global Public Policy Institute (GPPi), where she contributes to the institute's work on migration and Adjunct Professor at the University of Athens, teaching migration and asylum policy in Southeast Europe. She is a political scientist with an interest in irregular migration and asylum, management policies at the external borders, and European foreign policy on migration. Previously, Angeliki was Head of the migration program for the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, where she remains affiliated as senior research fellow.

Bernard Brunet, Head of Unit, Turkey, Deputy Director-General in charge of Southern Neighbourhood, Turkey, Migration/Refugees and Security Issues, DG Home, European Commission

Bernard Brunet is currently Head of the Turkey Unit in the European Commission (DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations – DG NEAR). He took charge of the unit on 1 January 2018. Before the Turkey unit, Bernard Brunet was Head of the unit in charge of Thematic support, Economic governance & IFIs and Public Administration Reform Unit in DG NEAR. Before joining DG NEAR, Bernard Brunet was a member of the cabinet of Commissioner Füle in charge of enlargement and neighbourhood policy from 2011 until 2014, with particular responsibilities on the European Neighbourhood policy and relations with Southern Mediterranean countries. Between 2002 and 2011, he worked on relations

with the Maghreb countries in the European External Action Service and in the External Relations DG of the European Commission, and was posted to the Commission Delegation to Tunisia. Before 2002, he worked in the Commission's department on economic and financial affairs, in particular on economic issues related to enlargement and international financial issues.

Session 3: Public Attitudes on Migration and Asylum

Shada Islam, Founder of New Horizons Project, Senior Advisor at the European Policy Centre and Editor at EUobserver

Shada Islam is a Brussels-based EU analyst and commentator who is a leading expert on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. She runs her own company, New Horizons Project, is a Senior Advisor at several think tanks, including the EPC. She is also Editor-in-Chief of the EUobserver Magazine. In 2017, Politico identified her as one of Brussels' most influential women.

Martin Ruhs, Chair in Migration Studies and Deputy Director of the Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute

Martin Ruhs is Professor of Migration Studies and Deputy Director of the Migration Policy Centre (MPC) at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence. He is on leave from the University of Oxford where he is Professor of Political Economy. Martin's research focuses on the economics and politics of international migration, with a strong international comparative dimension. He is currently working on research projects that analyse the tensions between free movement and European welfare states (freeEUmove); public policy preferences for international cooperation on migration and refugee protection (MEDAM); the role of migrants in shaping systemic resilience to the Covid-19 pandemic (MigResHub); the use of new technologies in asylum and migration governance (AFAR); and the ethics of migration policy dilemmas (Dilemmas).

Lenka Dražanová, Research Fellow, European University Institute

Lenka Dražanová is a Research Fellow at the European University Institute's Migration Policy Centre. Lenka received her PhD (Summa Cum Laude) in political science from the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in 2016. She holds additional degrees in political science from Central European University (Hungary) and Charles University (Czech Republic). Her research interests lie within political behaviour, public opinion, and individual attitudes formation especially towards historically disadvantaged groups and the conditions under which these attitudes emerge using advanced quantitative methods. Her book "Education and Tolerance" analyses quantitatively cross-national variations in the effect of education on social and political tolerance based on a large-scale survey. It argues that education contributes to more tolerant views only in countries with certain political, socio-economic and cultural background and identifies individual-level and country-level factors that may influence the relationship between education and tolerance.

Birgit Sippel, Member of the European Parliament, S&D

Birgit Sippel has been a Member of the European Parliament since 2009. In 2022, she has been re-elected as Coordinator of the S&D Group in the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) for the third time. In addition, she is a Substitute Member

in the Committee of Inquiry to investigate Pegasus and equivalent surveillance spyware (PEGA). She held the position as Vice Chair of the Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in a Digital Age (AIDA) since 2020 and currently serves as the European Parliament Rapporteur for the Regulations on e-Privacy, for access to e-Evidence and Screening of third country nationals at the external borders as part of the New Pact on Migration.

Session 4: Solidarity and Responsibility-sharing in EU Migration and Asylum Policies Following the Invasion of in Ukraine

Marie De Somer, Head of the European Migration and Diversity Programme, European Policy Centre

Dr. Marie De Somer is a Senior Policy Analyst and Head of the Migration and Diversity Programme. Marie works on policy questions related to migration and mobility, with a particular interest in human rights issues, citizenship-related questions and the role of courts. Before joining the EPC in September 2017, Marie worked at the KU Leuven and at Maastricht University where she researched EU family reunification law and policies. She also gained experience working at the Justice and Home Affairs Section of CEPS and at the European Commission's DG Migration and Home Affairs. Marie is also a visiting professor at the KU Leuven Centre for Public Law and at Sciences Po, Paris, where she teaches 'EU Human Rights Law and Policy'. Marie is the author of 'Precedents and Judicial Politics in EU Immigration Law' published in July 2018 with Palgrave Macmillan. She regularly comments on EU migration policies for international and European media.

Matthias Lücke, Senior Research at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy and Adjunct Professor at Kiel University

Matthias Lücke is a senior researcher at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, and an adjunct professor at Kiel University as well as a former senior economist at the International Monetary Fund. He studied economics in Cologne, London (London School of Economics) and Giessen. In his research and teaching, he focuses on migration, development, international trade policy, and European integration. Matthias coordinates the MEDAM project steering the MEDAM team in the development of the project's research outline, and leads the project's stakeholder dialogue activities. He has consulted widely for national governments and international organizations.

Giulio Di Blasi, Member of the Cabinet of European Commissioner Ylva Johansson, European Commission

Giulio Di Blasi is a member of the Cabinet of Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson responsible for migration and asylum. Until recently he was the Europe Director of the Refugee Hub – GRSI, where he spearheaded the work to engage with European States and Institutions to expand sponsorship solutions across Europe. Before joining the GRIS team he was the Member of the Cabinet of the High Representative / Vice-President for Foreign Affairs of the European Union, Federica Mogherini, responsible for migration and human rights issues. Prior to that, he was Head of Team for the implementation of Hotspots in Italy and Greece at the Directorate General of Internal Affairs of the European Commission. Before joining the Commission in 2011, Giulio was working in the humanitarian NGO sector focusing on the Middle East and East Africa with a specialization on refugee management and human displacement. He holds a M.A. in Conflict, Security and Development from the King's College of London.

Vladimír Šimoňák, Director, Crisis Management Unit at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of The Slovak Republic

Vladimír Šimoňák joined the Slovak Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs in 2021 as head of Crisis Management. Before that, he was active in the international dimensions of migration and border management at the Slovak Ministry of Interior, as director of external relations since 2011 and counsellor at the Permanent Representation in Brussels since 2015. During his stint in Brussels, he was involved in the response to the events of 2015 and also the Slovak Council presidency of 2016.

Blanca Garcés Mascareñas, Senior Research Fellow and Research Coordinator, CIDOB

Blanca Garcés is a Senior Research Fellow in the area of Migrations and Research Coordinator at CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs). For 20 years she has studied immigration and asylum policies from a comparative perspective. Since 2021, she coordinates a H2020 project to understand the causes and consequences of migration narratives in a context of increasing politicisation and polarisation in Europe.

This event is held under the auspices of the EPC European Migration and Diversity Programme in cooperation with the Mercator Dialogue for Asylum and Migration (MEDAM).
