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# EMN CONFERENCE

## Circular migration schemes and initiatives for diaspora moving back home: Supporting economic development in countries of origin

### Draft Agenda

**8 December 2023, 09:00-16:15 (CET)**

**Belgrade, Serbia (Hybrid)**

The first EMN Serbia conference will be dedicated to the issue of Circular migration focusing on different approaches and schemes in EU and non-EU Member States. The primary objective of this conference is to facilitate discussions about the various practices and initiatives concerning circular migration programs and efforts to encourage members of the diaspora to return to their countries of origin. Furthermore, the conference seeks to delve into the examination of how diaspora members contribute to the transfer of skills, knowledge, as well as social and cultural capital, and how these contributions impact the development of their countries of origin. Additionally, the event aims to discuss in which ways diaspora members - through the transfer of skills, knowledge, social and cultural capital - can contribute to the further development of their countries of origin. The panel discussion shall enable the exchange of existing knowledge and experience among policy makers, practitioners, academia members, as well as representatives of international and civil society organisations.

The conference is organised as a hybrid event with in person and online participation. It will be held in Belgrade on Friday, 8 December 2023. The event will be held in both Serbian and English (interpretation is provided from Serbian-English and English-Serbian). The presence of National Contact Points of the European Migration Network is expected in person, as well as experts from EMN Member and Observer Countries. Online access will be provided through WebEx application available for registered participants. The registration link is available at the EMN Website and it will be opened from 20 November to 1 December. Registered participants will receive confirmation via email, within one week of having registered.

Please register for the event [here](#). Kindly note that there is no automatic confirmation of your registration through link. You will receive confirmation via email up to one week after you have registered.

For any questions, please contact [emn.serbia@kirs.gov.rs](mailto:emn.serbia@kirs.gov.rs)

## DRAFT AGENDA

Date	
09:00 – 09:45	<p><b>Welcoming remarks</b></p> <p><b>Moderator: Dragana Simic</b>, <i>Commissariat for Refugees and Migration</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Representative of the Ministry for European integration</i></li> <li>▪ <i>EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia (DEU)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>European Migration Network (EMN) director representative</i></li> <li>▪ <b>Natasa Stanisavljevic</b>, <i>Commissioner for Refugees and Migration</i></li> </ul>
09:45 – 10:00	<p><b>Family photo</b></p>
10:00 – 11:30	<p><b>Panel 1: Legal framework at EU and national level on circular migration and diaspora</b> – <i>Do we have common understanding of the concept of circular migration? Is there a different perspective for countries of origin and destination? Is diaspora a driver for development in EU Member States the same as in EMN Observer Countries?</i></p> <p><b>Moderator: Vladimir Petronijevic</b>, <i>migration expert, UNDP</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Tesseltje de Lange</b>, <i>Professor of Sociology of law and Migration Law at Radboud University, Odysseus Network</i></li> <li>▪ <i>EMN Member and Observer Countries intervention</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Moderated discussion around the following questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› How are circular migration schemes reflected in the legal system of EMN Members and Observer Countries?</li> <li>› Do EMN Members and Observer Countries have formal inter-sectoral coordination between the authorities that deal with emigration and immigration and those responsible for social well-being (i.e. pensions, health insurance, education)?</li> <li>› Is circular migration recognised as a possibility for slowing depopulation, specifically in the diaspora context?</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderated discussion participants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) - TBC</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Office for Cooperation with the Diaspora and Serbs in the Region</i></li> <li>▪ <b>Uros Zivkovic</b>, <i>CIO CSO Returning Point</i></li> </ul>
11:30-12:00	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
12:00–13:30	<p><b>Panel 2: Statistics and research on circular migration and diaspora return</b> – <i>Evidence based policy has become "a must" in policy developments. Do we have accurate data on circular migration? What are the available tools and resources?</i></p> <p><b>Moderator: Prof PhD. Danica Santic</b>, <i>University of Belgrade</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia</i></li> <li>▪ <i>EMN Member and Observer Countries intervention</i></li> </ul>

	<p><b>Moderated discussion around the following questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Do countries have a system in place to measure and follow circular migration?</li> <li>&gt; Is there a way to monitor the contribution of returnees from the diaspora to social and financial investments?</li> <li>&gt; How could data on nationals going abroad for seasonal or other short-term employment be collected?</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderated discussion participants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Jovana Gusic</b>, <i>The International Organization for Migration (IOM)</i></li> <li>▪ <b>Tatjana Pavlov</b>, <i>reasercher, Group 484</i></li> </ul>
<b>13:30 – 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:30 – 16:00</b>	<p><b>Panel 3: Initiatives on circular migration and return of nationals from diaspora</b> – <i>Which are promising initiatives launched by EMN Member and Observer countries to foster circular migration and return of diaspora to support national economic growth?</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Commissariat for Refugees and Migration - TBC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Jovan Filipovic</b>, <i>Professor at the Faculty of Organizational Science, University of Belgrade</i></li> <li>▪ <i>EMN Member and Observer Countries intervention</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Moderated discussion around the following questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Are there successful initiatives?</li> <li>&gt; Are there obstacles and risks that minimise the positive effect of such initiatives?</li> <li>&gt; Did these initiatives have an impact on population trends?</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderated discussion participants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Sanja Gavranovic</b>, <i>Head of the Group for Normative, Administrative and Administrative-Supervisory Affairs for employment field, Labor and Employment Sector, The Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs</i></li> <li>▪ <i>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</i></li> <li>▪ <b>Milica Lješevic</b>, <i>Implementation Manager for Serbia, Programme Shaping development-oriented migration(MEG), German Development Agency (GIZ)</i></li> </ul>
<b>16:00 – 16:15</b>	<p><b>Concluding remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Natasa Stanisavljevic</b>, <i>Commissioner for Refugees and Migration</i></li> </ul>