



Funded by the
European Union

EMN EVENT

Presentation of the study on the integration of applicants for international protection in the labour market – limitations, challenges and best practices.

30 October 2023, 11:00 – 12:30 CET

Online

1. RATIONALE AND AIMS

Over the period from 2017 to 2022, there were over three million applications for international protection in the EU, with the highest number recorded in 2022. The majority of these applicants fell within the working-age category, which suggests a potential labour force that could contribute to the job markets of European Migration Network (EMN) Member Countries. The integration of the applications for international protection into the labour market is a vital aspect of migrant integration and their successful engagement in society. This importance stems not only from its role in providing economic independence but also because it significantly impacts the health and overall well-being of migrants in the EMN Member Countries. In addition, European businesses are facing significant challenges concerning labour and skill shortages, thus potentially leading to an increased reliance on individuals from third countries to address the projected shortages.

The EMN is hosting an event with the aim of promoting a [study on the integration of international protection applicants into the labour market](#). This study provides a thorough and up-to-date examination of the legislation, policies and practices pertaining to this area within the EU. It also presents an overview of the various stakeholders responsible for implementing labour market accessibility, emphasising both the challenges encountered and examples of good practices.

The event's objective is to clarify the legal framework and mechanisms governing employment opportunities for international protection applicants, specifically emphasising the Reception Conditions Directive (2013/33/EU), and how it varies when integrated into the national laws of different EMN Member States. One of the most debated issues in this context is the waiting period for applicants. Discussions have revolved around two key perspectives: one advocates shortening the waiting period to speed up access, and the other advocates extending it to prevent potential abuse of the asylum system through excessively facilitated access.

Additionally, the event will address the limitations set by EMN Member States and the difficulties encountered by international protection applicants, including issues like language barriers and intricate administrative procedures.

In conclusion, the event will also spotlight effective strategies for incorporating international protection applicants into the labour market and best practices.

If you would like to join the online event, we kindly invite you to register [here](#).

For any questions regarding the event, please contact the EMN Service Provider at emn@icf.com.

2. AGENDA

30 October 2023	
10:45 – 11:00 CET	Log-in and technical testing
11:00 – 11:10 CET	Welcome and introduction Event moderator: <i>Bram Devos, Policy Officer EMN Belgium</i>
11:10 – 11:25 CET	Presentation of the main findings of the EMN Study – <i>EMN Service Provider</i>
11:25 – 12:20 CET	National perspectives on access to the labour market for international protection applicants – challenges and effective strategies Moderator: <i>Bram Devos, Policy Officer EMN Belgium</i> ▪ Access to the labour market of international protection applicants: The case of the Netherlands – <i>Presentation by EMN the Netherlands</i> ▪ Access to the labour market of international protection applicants: Mechanisms and Challenges: The Case of Italy – <i>Presentation by EMN Italy</i> ▪ Asylum seekers' (limited) right to work in Cyprus – <i>Presentation by EMN Cyprus.</i> Questions and Answers
12:20 – 12:30 CET	Closing remarks