EUROPEAN RESETTLEMENT NETWORK+
other legal pathways

ERN+ Webinar Series on Complementary Pathways of Refugee Admission in Europe

Hope for a Better Future: Higher Education Scholarship Opportunities in Europe for Refugee Students

Webinar 08 March 2017

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The European Resettlement Network

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Supporting the development of resettlement in Europe since 2010 by connecting a variety of actors involved in refugee resettlement

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ERN+ Project

- Exploring complementary pathways of refugee admission to Europe
- Developing examples of models on complementary forms of admission in consultation with all relevant actors
- Identifying possibilities for the implementation of pilot projects in selected European countries

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Resettlement and the need for Complementary Pathways

- Record numbers of displaced persons worldwide
- 1.2 million refugees in need of resettlement in 2017, according to UNHCR's Projected Global Resettlement Needs
- Contribution of the European Union to global resettlement remains modest
  - Approximately 28,000 submissions to European resettlement countries in 2016 of a global total of 160,000

Complementary Pathways

- Potential to develop alternative forms of admission to address the needs of refugees globally
- Pathways can include private sponsorship programmes, student scholarships as well as other programmes of humanitarian admission programmes
- Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative (GRSI)
  - Government of Canada, UNHCR, the University of Ottawa, the Radcliffe Foundation, and the Open Society Foundations

Higher Education Opportunities as a pathway

- Only 1% of refugee youth access tertiary education, compared to 34% of young people globally
- Education opportunities in first countries of asylum are limited
- Higher Education opportunities offer a number of benefits, including
  - a community to support integration
  - the acquisition of skills and qualifications leading to enhanced labour market and further opportunities
  - Creation of the conditions for self-reliance

Higher Education Opportunities in Europe

- Existing and past examples, with many recent initiatives focusing on Syrians
- Diverse in nature, eligibility criteria, length of study, support provided etc.
- Lessons to be learned from elsewhere (e.g. Canada)
- Further development and coordination is possible

Webinar Programme

PART I - An introduction to higher education pathways

- **Complementary Pathways and Education Opportunities for Refugees in Third Countries, by Leah Nichles**, Durable Solutions Officer for Complementary Pathways, Department for International Protection, UNHCR
- **Canada's Student Refugee Program: Fostering Refugee Youth Integration and Inclusion Through Peer to Peer Refugee Sponsorship, by Michelle Manks**, Senior Manager, Student Refugee Program & Campus Engagement, World University Service of Canada (WUSC)
- **A perspective from Canada's Student Refugee Program, by Maher Bouidani**, Master Student in Electrical Engineering, University of Victoria, British Colombia, Canada

PART II - Exploring the European context

- **Funding and support under the European Commission's Erasmus Mundus programme: providing scholarships to students in a vulnerable situation, by Elisa Maviglia**, Project Advisor, European Commission Executive Agency for Education, Audiovisual and Culture (EACEA)
- **Practical experience: Lessons learned from EU-funded student scholarships at European universities, by Patricia Szendro Terán**, Project Coordinator International Projects, Technische Universität Berlin
- ***With further contributions from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) on higher education scholarships in Germany***

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