

WORKSHOP

MIGRATION BETWEEN AFRICA AND EUROPE: THE ROLE OF FOREIGN AID AND LABOUR MIGRATION

ROME, 13 MAY 2019
14.30-18.00

PALAZZO RONDININI
VIA DEL CORSO, 518

Working language: English with no translation

According to rules at Palazzo Rondinini, no video and pictures are allowed

Dress Code: formal suit and tie

Irregular migration across the Mediterranean is still high on Europe's political agenda. Despite fewer attempts to cross the Sea in the recent past, pressure has been mounting on the European Commission and the most affected EU member states to find ways to manage migration flows more effectively.

This half-day workshop discusses the role of two specific policies – development aid and legal labour migration pathways – in medium- to long-term strategies for addressing the root causes of migration and for creating safe and orderly alternatives to irregular migration. The workshop is co-organised by the Mercator Dialogue on Migration and Asylum (MEDAM, <http://www.medam-migration.eu/>), Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) in Rome, the Migration Policy Centre (MPC) at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, and the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels.

The discussion will first explore the relevance of international aid in EU-Africa relations, and its impact on origin countries' economic and social development through the creation of job opportunities, quality education, and better public services. We will then consider whether and how foreign aid affects migration flows, and how this varies across different types of aid. Beyond international aid, we will also discuss the role that the private sector could play in fostering economic and social development in these contexts.

The second panel will discuss the role of legal labour migration pathways in reducing incentives for irregular crossings on the one hand, and in strengthening cooperation between European and African countries in the field of migration management on the other. We will explore the policy options for providing African workers with a broadened and diversified set of opportunities for legal labour migration to Europe.

In our discussion of these policy questions, particular emphasis will be on the need for better understanding of the policy perspectives and priorities of African governments.

PROGRAMME

14.00-14.30 **Registration of participants**

14.30-14.40 **WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**

Nathalie Tocci, Director, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI), Rome

Martin Ruhs, Professor of Migration Studies and Deputy Director, Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute (EUI), Florence, and Co-director of the Project Mercator Dialogue on Migration and Asylum (MEDAM)

14.40-14.55 **PRESENTATION**

Mauro Lanati, Research Fellow, Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute (EUI), Florence

14.55-16.10 **PANEL 1 – THE ROLE OF FOREIGN AID IN EU-AFRICA MIGRATION GOVERNANCE**

The panel will discuss the role that foreign aid can and should play in efforts to regulate more effectively international migration between Africa and Europe. Should development aid play any role when it comes to managing migration? If yes, how can aid improve joint migration management by Africa and the EU? How do different types of aid affect migration flows? Can the increasingly high share of “non-transferred aid” (i.e. aid that is spent at home rather than abroad) be considered at odds with European countries’ stated goals of tackling the root causes of migration in a sustainable fashion? What are the priorities and perspectives of African governments when it comes to development cooperation, and the ways in which migration features in the broader development agenda? How should the EU budget respond to all these policy questions?

Moderator **Asli Okyay**, Senior Fellow, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI), Rome

Speakers **Roberto Colaminè**, Deputy Director General for Development Cooperation, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Rome

Dario Speranza, Vice President, Political and Institutional Scenarios and Analysis, Eni, Rome

Giuseppe Zampaglione, Advisor, Conflict and Displacement Social Protection & Jobs, World Bank, Washington D.C.

16.10-16.30 Coffee break

16.30-16.45 **PRESENTATION**

Mikkel Barslund, Research Fellow, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels

16.45-18.00

PANEL 2 – EU-AFRICA LABOUR SCHEMES: IMPLICATIONS FOR IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND STRENGTHENED MIGRATION COOPERATION

Should Europe expand opportunities for legal labour immigration, especially for workers in Africa? Will more legal labour migration lead to reduced irregular migration? Which measures should be taken to render such schemes viable? Would “skill partnerships” aimed at enhancing skills creation and transfers with a development goal be a helpful addition to existing labour migration programmes? What are the positions and priorities of African governments on intra- and inter-continental labour migration and mobility schemes? What role do such schemes play in facilitating cooperation with European countries on broader migration issues? Would an EU-wide approach strengthen the relevance of the proposal in African partners’ eyes? What should be the role of the private sector designing and implementing labour and skill formation programmes? What role could EU institutions have in coordinating and promoting these partnerships?

Moderator

Alessandra Venturini, Full Professor, Department of Economics, University of Torino and Associate to the Project Mercator Dialogue on Migration and Asylum (MEDAM), Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute (EUI), Florence

Speakers

Hassan Abouyoub, Ambassador of Morocco to Italy, Rome

Tatiana Esposito, Director General for Immigration and Integration Policies, Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, Rome

Giovanni Rocca, Coordinator, Working Group International Cooperation, Confindustria, Rome

Federico Soda, Director, Coordinating Office for the Mediterranean, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Rome