

Irregular Migration and Informal Economy Lessons from Southern and Central Eastern European Countries

The Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) organizes jointly with the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) a Workshop on Irregular Migration and the Informal Economy in Southern and Central Eastern Europe, under the auspices of the CLANDESTINO project..

This Workshop aims to bring together NGOs, local authorities, policy makers, researchers, journalists and other professionals to discuss the links between irregular migration, the underground economy and the informal labour market in Southern and Central Eastern European countries. We shall discuss several aspects of the phenomenon including how informal labour and irregular migration status are intertwined in specific sectors of the economy, we shall exchange findings from different countries and consider the policies that could address the problem.

CLANDESTINO PROJECT:
“Undocumented Migration: Counting the Uncountable, Data and Trends Across Europe”

The **CLANDESTINO** project is a response to the need for supporting policy makers in designing and implementing appropriate policies regarding undocumented migration by providing realistic estimates of the numbers of undocumented migrants currently residing in Europe. This project is funded by DG Research of the European Commission and aims to provide an inventory of data and estimates on irregular migration in selected EU countries and analyzing this data comparatively. The ethical and methodological issues involved in the collection of data will be discussed while also proposing a new method for evaluating and classifying data/estimates on irregular migration in the EU. A wide range of stakeholders in several EU countries will be contacted to discuss ethical and methodological questions with a view to obtaining their insights as regards the nature of the data/estimates needed and the ethical questions involved in their collection and use. The main paths into and out of the irregular migration status will also be considered in order to further understand how policies and labour markets “create” or “efface” irregular migration. The role of the media and political discourses will be analyzed to become aware of policy implications and challenges ahead at the national and European levels.

The project is carried out from September 2007 to August 2009 and the five partners involved include: the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) in Athens, Greece (Co-ordinator); the Centre for International Relations (CIR), in Warsaw, Poland; Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI) in Hamburg, Germany; the ESRC Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), in Vienna, Austria and finally PICUM - Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants - as the NGO partner.

The project involves dissemination activities at the local/national level and European level organised by PICUM in 12 EU member states: Italy, Spain and Greece, in southern Europe; Netherlands, UK, Germany, France and Austria in Western and Central Europe; Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia in Eastern Europe.

THE ATHENS WORKSHOP

This workshop, organized within the framework of the CLANDESTINO project, will present recent research on the relationship between irregular migration and the informal economy with a particular focus in Southern and Central Eastern EU countries. The event will enable participants to compare findings and exchange opinions on the links between irregular migration and the underground economy with a view to identifying the factors that contribute to the phenomenon and the policies that can address it. In particular we shall consider the pathways of undocumented migrants in various niches of the labour market that are characterized by a high incidence of informalised work arrangements (principally, the construction sector, the domestic service sector, agriculture, and the tourism industry), the factors behind the informal economy - irregular migration nexus and the policies that are and could be implemented towards a disentanglement from this nexus.

Each paper presentation will last approx. 20' and 40' will be left for discussion. Simultaneous translation between English and Greek is provided throughout.

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Athens, 27 April 2009



CLANDESTINO

Venue: Room: *Aristotelis A'*, Hotel Divani Acropolis
Parthenonos Str. 19-25 (near Akropoli Metro Station)

9.30-10.00

Welcome: *Anna Triandafyllidou*, ELIAMEP, Athens

Introduction: *Krystyna Iglicka*, Lazarski School of Commerce and Law, Warsaw

10.00-11.00

Segmented Labour Markets: Lessons from Central Eastern Europe

Katarzyna Gmaj, Centre for International Relations (CIR), Warsaw

11.00-12.00

Subcontracting and Irregular Migration: the Case of Cleaners and Carers in Greece

Thanos Maroukis, ELIAMEP, Athens

12.00-13.00

Deae Ex-Machina: Gender, Migration and Care in Contemporary Greece

Antigone Lyberaki, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Athens

13.00-14.30

Lunch Break

14.30-15.30

Immigrant Labour in the Underground Economy: Empirical Evidence in Some European Countries

Rossana Cillo, Università Ca' Foscari of Venice

15.30-16.30

Undocumented Workers' Transitions: Evidence from 7 EU Countries

Evgenia Markova, London Metropolitan University

16.30-18.30

Roundtable: Irregular Migration and the Economic Crisis

Chair: *Anna Triandafyllidou*, ELIAMEP, Athens

- * *Don Flynn*, Platform of International Cooperation on Undocumented Migration (PICUM)
- * *Apostolos Papadopoulos*, Harokopio University of Athens
- * *Charalambos Kasimis*, Athens Agricultural University
- * *Eda Gemi*, Albanian Immigrant Cultural Association "Steki", and University of Athens
- * *Carmen Gonzalez Enriquez*, UNED and Real Instituto Elcano, Madrid
- * *Francesco Fasani*, University College London

18.30

Closure of Workshop