

EU-Africa Migration: The Role of Aid and Labour Migration

Date and time: 3rd December 2018, 13:15-17:00

Venue: CEPS, 1 Place du Congrès, 1000 Brussels

Irregular migration across the Mediterranean is still high on Europe's political agenda. Admittedly, there are fewer people attempting to cross the Sea, but the current situation may not be sustainable.

This half-day conference explores concrete policies – particularly development aid and labour migration – to reduce incentives for irregular migration, in the medium to long term.

The discussion will first touch upon the **relevance of international aid in EU-Africa relations** and its impact on origin countries' economic and social development. What role can aid play in enhancing EU-Africa relations? What balance should be struck between humanitarian and development aid? Which public services should be supported to incentivise people to stay while boosting a country's development?

The second panel will focus on what role **pathways for labour migration can play in reducing incentives for irregular crossing** and in strengthening cooperation with origin countries. What can be done to improve the access of African citizens to existing EU work migration programmes? Are alternative offers necessary to create incentives for African governments to cooperate on overall migration management? What is the potential role of the European institutions?

Anyone working on international migration, development and cooperation is encouraged to join our panellists in the debate and to contribute to the discussion during the two Q&A sessions and coffee break.

A sandwich lunch will be served from 12:30 onwards. Participation in this event is free of charge.

About MEDAM

The Mercator Dialogue on Asylum and Migration is a practical research project aimed at producing informed economic perspectives on migration. With a view to strengthening Europe's ability to act in this field, MEDAM intends to fill the gaps in policy research on asylum and migration and to develop recommendations for decision-makers at the national and European levels. Funded by Stiftung Mercator, the project brings together researchers from the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, the Migration Policy Centre at the European University Institute in Florence and the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels. More information can be found at <http://www.medam-migration.eu/>

Contact person: Mattia Di Salvo, mattia.disalvo@ceps.eu

Agenda:

12:30 Registration and light lunch

13:15 – 13:30 Welcome

13:30 – 13:40 Presentation – **Mauro Lanati**, Research Fellow, Migration Policy Centre, EUI

13:40 – 15:00 Panel 1 – The role of long-term development aid in shaping incentives for migration

Moderator:

James Moran, Associate Senior Research Fellow, CEPS

Panellists:

Rainer Thiele, Head of Research Area Poverty reduction, Equity, and Development, at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy.

Malthe Mulvad, Head of the External Relations Secretariat, Danish Refugee Council

Lisa Andersson, Research Fellow at UNU-MERIT in the Migration and Development research group

Mehari Taddele Maru, Former Africa Union Migration Coordinator and Lead Migration Expert of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

Stefano Signore, Head of Unit Migration, Employment (DG DEVCO), European Commission

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

15:30-15:40 Presentation – **Mattia Di Salvo/Nadzeya Laurentsyeva**, CEPS

15:40-17:00 Panel 2 – EU-Africa labour schemes: implications for irregular migration

Moderator:

Mikkel Barslund, Research Fellow, CEPS

Panellists:

Raffaella Greco Tonegutti, Migration and Development expert, Belgian Development Agency

Laura Corrado, Head of Unit Legal Migration and Integration (DG HOME), European Commission

Martin Ruhs, Chair in Migration Studies, Deputy Director of the Migration Policy Centre, EUI

Mehari Taddele Maru, Former Africa Union Migration Coordinator and Lead Migration Expert of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

Nkemdilim Begho, Founder and Director of Futures Software Resources Nigeria Limited

17:00 Closing remarks