



Mercator Dialogue on
Asylum and Migration

MEDAM Seminar

Refugees' Self-Selection into Europe: Who Migrates Where?

Date and time: Thursday, 28 March 2019, 16:00 - 17:30

Venue: CEPS, 1 Place du Congrès, 1000 Brussels

Europe received about 1.4 million refugees and irregular migrants in 2015 and 2016. The extent of these mostly unregulated inflows into EU territory has left policymakers in the dark about the characteristics and motives of these recent immigrants. How do the reasons for migrating differ between refugees and (irregular) economic migrants? How are the recent flows of refugees and migrants selected from the source populations in terms of educational and demographic characteristics? These questions have important implications for the design of integration and development policies.

Some answers will be provided at the next MEDAM Seminar with Cevat Giray Aksoy, Principal Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Cevat Giray will present [recent findings of his joint research with Prof. Panu Poutvaara](#) (ifo Institute) on the self-selection of refugees. Their empirical analysis draws on unique datasets from the International Organization for Migration and Gallup World Polls.

The presentation will be followed by a discussion of the results and possible implications for EU and national policymakers in the area of migration. A live stream will be available during the event.

Agenda

15:30 – 16:00 Registration and coffee

16:00 – 16:30 Refugees' Self-Selection into Europe: Who Migrates Where?
Presentation by Cevat Giray Aksoy, Principal Economist, EBRD

16:30 – 16:45 Discussion of the presentation and implications for policymaking

16:45 – 17:30 Questions and answers

This MEDAM Seminar is organised by CEPS.

Chair and contact person: Andreas Backhaus, andreas.backhaus@ceps.eu



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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/>.

Latest publications produced under MEDAM

Lananti, M. and R. Thiele. "Foreign Aid Can Dampen Migration If It Improves Public Services", MEDAM Policy Brief, December 2018

Fackler, T., Y. Giesing and N. Laurentsyeva. "[Knowledge Remittances: Does Emigration foster Innovation?](#)", CESifo Working Paper No. 7420, ifo Institute, Munich, December 2018

Ruhs, M. "[Can Labor Immigration work for Refugees?](#)", MEDAM Policy Brief, December 2018

Barslund, M., N. Laurentsyeva and M. Di Salvo. "[The impact of refugees on the labour market: a big splash in a small pond?](#)", CEPS Working Document, CEPS, Brussels, October 2018

MEDAM. "[MEDAM Assessment Report on Asylum and Migration Policies 2018](#)", Kiel: IfW, June 2018

Barslund, M. and L. Ludolph. "[Migrants in the Mediterranean: Easy and difficult solutions](#)", CEPS Commentary, CEPS, Brussels, October 2017

Laurentsyeva, N. and A. Venturini. "[The Social Integration of Immigrants and the Role of Policy – A Literature Review](#)", Intereconomics, No 2017/5, pp. 285-292

Barslund, M. and L. Ludolph. "[Mediterranean migrants: Little help on offer for Italy](#)", CEPS Commentary, CEPS, Brussels, July 2017



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