



In line with the activities mentioned in the official description of the EMPOWER-SE COST Action (see [Memorandum of Understanding](#)), the results emerging from the Action will be shared with relevant stakeholders as a way to expand the knowledge generated.

In this context, [Proceedings](#) aim at contributing to such commitment about dissemination and communication. In the Proceedings, stakeholders can find the different contributions presented during the various COST Research Workshops and Seminars.

The Proceedings documents follow a similar structure. After describing the scope of each event, researchers's abstracts presented during the event are included. Abstracts have been ordered by the thematic lines defined by the workshop scientific committee. A link to the original call of the activity is also included at the beginning of the proceedings.

The 1st WG 2 Research Workshop "[Tackling the migration and Refugee Challenge](#)" organized in Trento (Nov 22-24, 2018) focused on the potential of local communities to self-organize and design effective solutions for tackling the challenges posed by migrations to local societies, namely through the creation of innovative organizations.

The thematic lines included in the original [call](#) were:

- 1. Housing arrangements and pathways for asylum seekers and refugees: state of the art, dilemmas, ways ahead**
- 2. Innovative tools and methodologies aimed to facilitate the social and work inclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in EU countries.**
- 3. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers living in mountain and rural localities: determinants of inclusion versus exclusion.**
- 4. Unlocking the potential of third sector organizations and social enterprises vis-à-vis the asylum seeker/refugee challenge.**

The scientific contributions presented at this conference are listed below according to thematic line.

1. Housing arrangements and pathways for asylum seekers and refugees: state of the art, dilemmas, ways ahead

Matteo Bassoli (eCampus Online University) and Francesca Campomori (Unive - Ca' Foscari): Domestic hospitality in Italy: the interplay between public and private actor

Since 2016 Swedish municipalities are obligated to receive and arrange housing for a specific number of 'newly arrived refugees' - persons who have obtained a residence permit (a majority are temporary) in Sweden. The aim of this law is to promote integration and to share the responsibility for receiving refugees on a national scale. As refugees have almost no possibilities to reject a proposed housing and few of the civil society organizations in the Malmö region are engaged in housing (comparing to language education and social integration) the alternatives for the individual are few.

The organization of housing differ between municipalities due to different factors, such as the size of the population and the forms of housing (private/common). And interviews with municipal officials show that the ideas of what housing for refugees is and should be differ - of the standards of the accommodation, of its temporality/durability and not the least its location. Factors that affect the everyday life as well as the real possibilities for integration. Although our case study shows several examples of different housing, from ordinary apartments to B&B's so geographically remote and worn out that no tourist would pay to stay there, there is a re-occurring tendency to organize housing for refugees in the in-between spaces. Mobile homes in parking lots, in enclosed shut down psychiatric wards and other deserted care facilities deemed to be unsuitable. These issues raise questions regarding the meanings of housing - a roof over the head, a home or the creation of a camp? Furthermore, how might we understand these seemingly paradoxical issues in relation to contemporary ideas of integration?

Jennifer Eschweiler (Roskilde University): Solidarity in action in refugee housing: an example from Leipzig, Germany

This paper is based on findings from the H2020-funded project *SOLIDUS – Solidarity in European Societies: Empowerment, Social Justice and Citizenship* (2015-2018), bringing together 14 research teams from 12 countries in Europe. The project explored expressions of solidarity from an interdisciplinary approach, looking at spatial differences, notions of inter- and intra-group solidarity, fiscal solidarity across Europe, activating social citizenship, and the gender-perspective of solidarity. The case study presented in this paper, the association *Kontakstelle Wohnen* in Leipzig, Germany, founded with the aim to help refugees find housing, was part of yet another line of investigation: third sector and social economy (TS/SE) organisations as transit zones for successful solidarity actions by way of collaboration with public actors and agencies in the fields of employment, education, health and housing.

Dirk Geldof (University of Antwerp), Louise D'Eer (University College Odisee) and Lore Robeyns (University College Odisee): The role of volunteers and volunteer organizations in the search for houses for refugees in Flanders

Once asylum seekers are recognized as refugee in Flanders, they have two (to four) months to leave the (mostly collective) refugee centers and to find a house, mostly in the (arrival) cities. This is not easy, because in cities as Brussels, Antwerp or Ghent they enter a housing market under pressure, with a serious housing crisis for low income families. Furthermore, they are confronted with discrimination processes on the renting market. In some refugee centers and social welfare organizations, professional social workers support refugees in finding a dwelling. However, the support professionals offer varies greatly from center to center. Due to a housing market that is more and more under pressure, the demand is much higher than the offer. Landlords can choose freely to whom they wish to rent, and refugees are much less desirable renters for many. Finding a house, with a low income, almost no social network, very little knowledge of local languages and under considerable time pressure, makes this a difficult first task for recognized refugees. Volunteers are increasingly taking up the role of supporting refugees in this undertaking, ranging from individual volunteers, groups of volunteers setting up new initiatives or volunteers as part of professional social organizations. Some limit themselves to finding a place to live for refugees and refugee families, for others this is one element in a larger trajectory with these families. In an ongoing research for the Flemish government, we are analyzing this role of volunteers. We report on the range of initiatives in which volunteers take up responsibility in the search for houses and/or homes of refugees, based on a quantitative and explorative survey in Flanders; We present a selected number of best practices, based upon case studies and in-depth interviews. These case-studies serve as a starting point for a typology of housing initiatives for refugees, with special interest in developing new forms of accommodation for refugees. Finally we critically reflect on the possibilities and limitations of volunteers in the search for housing, versus the role of social professionals and the need for more structural housing policies as an answer to the housing crisis.

Klara Öberg and Erica Righard (Malmö University): Domestic hospitality in Italy: the interplay between public and private actors

While migration control and "closed harbors" rhetoric is at the forefront of the Italian political debate, much less attention has been devoted to the actual implementation of the national system for asylum seekers receptions (both in its institutional side and in its emergency side). Extraordinary Reception Centers (CASs) still host the majority of asylum seekers (almost 80%) and a comprehensive agenda for refugee integration is missing. Nevertheless, thanks to various non state actors (some local, some other with a nation-wide network) projects of domestic hospitality emerged as an innovative practice. The rationale is the idea of activating local communities in order to either reduce stereotypes or offering refugees opportunities to enjoy social networks. Since 2015, domestic hospitality found its way in the official SPRAR approach, in the emergency solution put forward by social cooperatives (CAS) and in the

third sector autonomous experiences of "third hospitality" (self-financed third sector projects). In these practices the "official role" of the public sector and of the third sector are clear, but – as in most governance arrangements – the empirical evidence is far from being straightforward. The article provides a mapping of these experiences and it critically analyses the interplay between public and private actors in managing these projects. The results show a strong path-dependency and the crucial role of the process catalyst often the third sector.

2. Innovative tools and methodologies aimed to facilitate the social and work inclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in EU countries.

Marija Babovic and Slobodan Cvejic (University of Belgrade): Labour and social integration through bagel shop – The case of social enterprise in Serbia

The specific historical paths of post-socialist transformation of Serbian society and geographical position on the routes of international migration, created very dynamic migration scene in this part of the South East Europe. Due to the unfortunate wars through which former joint Socialist Federal Yugoslavia dismantled, challenges of sudden, mass migrations imposed, or provided stimulants to find innovative solutions to enable reception and integration of migrants. During early 1990s these were mainly ethnic Serbs migrating from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, then during late 1990s Serbs from Kosovo. A part of civil society took very important role providing different forms of support to return to those that wanted to return after the war but also to integration to those who decided to settle in Serbia. However, during this phase social enterprises that provided work integration of refugees/migrants were very few. First decade of 2000 brought reforms and new opportunities for social entrepreneurship, but this was decade with not so high migration dynamics as it was during 1990s and as it will become after 2012. During that period much attention was paid to human trafficking, as it was one of the severe consequences of war times, economic, social deterioration. After 2012, there was increase in migration flows through region of Western Balkans, but new big challenge appeared in 2015 with mass migration flows of asylum seekers/refugees and other types of migrants. At the beginning, Serbia was only transiting country, but with closure of EU, restrictive migration policies, thousands of migrants remained in Serbia. Their position is very specific as majority of them still hopes to reach more developed EU countries, but as opportunities for that decreased they are forced to stay in Serbia. This opens new challenges for their temporary or more permanent integration. The article will present case study on the organization providing support to different groups of migrants – victims of trafficking and 'new' asylum seekers.

Marcela Gola Boutros (Universidade NOVA de Lisboa): The welcoming of beneficiaries of international protection in Italy's higher education system

This research gathers and analyzes the good practices of reception and integration of refugees in Italian higher education system. The methodological approach includes both qualitative and quantitative methods based on interviews and questionnaires with students, teachers, and government and NGO officials responsible for scholarships' projects. Several Italian institutions collaborated with the research. The study found out that the number of scholarships offered is greater than the number of candidates who gather the necessary requisites to be awarded with this aid. Since only few immigrants who arrive in Italy get international protection, the programs have more vacancies than eligible candidates. The universities are developing a good work, with many of the participants of the academic community committed to the cause. Students are satisfied with the courses and they believe that this opportunity of studying and validating their professional skills is changing their lives. They feel that from the moment they access university they are no longer labeled as refugees, they become students and professionals with an important role in global development. Despite the positive situation, the challenge remains to increase the access of these immigrants to higher education, either by facilitating the enrollment for those who have not yet obtained international protection, spreading the information about the scholarships more efficiently, increasing the number of institutions involved in this cause, or even stimulating private investment. The projects identified are good examples of practices to integrate immigrants into the educational system and, consequently, the labour market. With due caution, these projects can be inspiring for other regions or countries.

Luísa Cagica Carvalho (Open University of Lisbon and University of Évora) and Inna Sousa Paiva (Lisbon University Institute): Disclosure storytelling to identify best practices to promote refugees' entrepreneurship in the world

International migration is a key feature of globalized world. People move increasingly to a wide set of countries, for different time periods and encouraged for many reasons, giving place to the emergence of several migratory patterns (Cordeiro and Carvalho, 2018). According to UN refugees' agency, refugees are people fleeing armed conflict or persecution. There were 21.3 million of them worldwide at the end of 2015. Their situation is often so perilous and intolerable that they cross national borders to seek safety in nearby countries. Several times refugees try to open their own business in order to obtain income. It is possible define refugee entrepreneurs as a special type of immigrants. Refugee entrepreneurship suffers more from barriers than other immigrants (Wauters and Lambrecht 2008). Around the world the refugees use their initiative to establish small businesses to help support their families. Stories told in first an own perspective reporting success and fail of these entrepreneurial projects and bring several rich experiences. This research aims to use the methodology of the storytelling to collect, report and analyse entrepreneurial refugee cases around the world and identified best practices. The use of storytelling an ancient art is innovative in this type of research and allows to

share knowledge, wisdom, and values and also extract the principal aspects to disclosure and to increase refugee entrepreneurship.

Natalia Garrido (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya): Social enterprises for work integration of refugees in Europe. A case study comparison in France, Denmark and the UK

The objective of this paper is to develop a comparison between three organizations that define themselves as social enterprise and which main goal is to support refugees' social and work integration in Europe. The three organizations started their activity between 2015 and 2016 in France, Denmark and the UK. When looking at their organizational outputs, collaboration partners and social impact, during their three years of existence, some remarkable differences remain unexplained. Therefore, additional qualitative evidence is included in order to explain some of these differences and to better understand the relation between social enterprises and refugee's economic integration.

Leila Giannetto (Euricse and Fieri), Valentina Patetta (Universidad de Deusto) and Marco Sebastianelli (Plus Value): New financial mechanisms for the labour integration of migrants and refugees

Introduced in 2009 by Social Finance, SIB is a funding mechanism designed for social services, which pooling together public authority, private investors and social enterprises, invests in social outcomes (Mulgan, Reeder, Aylott & Bo'sher, 2011). The social impact bond model emerged as a response to the exacerbation of complex social problems that require cross-sector collaboration and innovation. The SIB market is rapidly developing at EU level and outside, with more than 100 SIBs launched and 70+ under construction (Social Finance UK, 2018). Globally SIBs have been used especially for children's social care and adoption, reoffending, unemployment, homelessness, health and wellbeing and youth engagement (GO Lab, 2018), but also environment and refugee support. Particularly since 2014, EU member states have been faced with the need to implement effective policies addressing migrants' labour market integration (OECD, 2018). This paper provides a general introduction to SIBs and a first glance at their potential for tackling migration issues, and particularly the labour market integration of migrants and refugees at the EU and national levels. Particularly, different experiences of SIBs developed in the EU such as in Finland, Belgium and The Netherlands will be analyzed. This qualitative work will apply multiple-case study methodology in order to present and compare the different SIB experiences and propose a research agenda on the topic.

Carmen Guzmán Alfonso, Francisco J. Santos and Francisco Stantolaya (University of Seville): New trends in social and labour integration of asylum seekers and refugees in Spain

Spain has multiplied by five asylum applicants in the last three years. This situation has triggered the expansion of the activity of specialized institutions, such as Ariadna Network, which concentrates the main national organizations dedicated to receive and help asylum seekers and refugees: three associations from the Third Sector (The Spanish Refugee Aid Commission -CEAR-, The Catholic Migration Commission Association -ACCEM-, The Spanish Red Cross) and another belonging to the public sector (Refugee Reception Centres -CARs-). The objective of this research is to analyze the most recent innovative initiatives for the social and work inclusion developed by the organizations included in Ariadna Network, and to make a comparison among them. To this aim, the methodology will depart from a literature review about socio-labor integration of migrants and asylum seekers and their situation in Spain. Next, we will focus on the study case of Ariadna by interviewing people in charge of its organizations. In this way, we will know their innovative initiatives and compile the necessary data to analyze the effectiveness of their activity. Regarding the expected results, a first approximation to this reality let us anticipate that the organizations from the Third Sector of Ariadna insert more innovative initiatives than those from the public sector. For instance, they are recently creating social enterprises (ideal type according to EMES) that hire the refugees as employees to provide specific services to the market. In this sense, this research enhances the entities of the Third Sector in the attention to refugees and asylum seekers thanks to their higher autonomy and flexibility. Moreover, the research will lead us to identify not only the strengths, but also the weaknesses of the Spanish system of refugee attention in general, which is very useful to design policies oriented to improve the integration of this collective.

Fatma Ibrahim (Glasgow Caledonian University): Investigating the perceived impact of microcredit programs on the empowerment of refugee women in the UK

Refugee women in the UK are more prone to suffering inequality compared to any other demographic group in terms of physical, social and mental wellbeing (Phillimore et al., 2007; Taylor, 2009; Jayaweera, 2017) as well as compared to refugee men (Cheung and Phillimore, 2017). In the light of the recent humanitarian crisis, where women represent 50.5% of the displaced population, it is deemed important to find innovative ways to empower refugee women, especially as they have been ignored for years in refugee policies. It is well-documented that access to employment and access to credit could empower disadvantaged women (Kabeer, 2016). One of the suggested interventions in literature is Microfinance institutions (MFIs) (Wauters and Lambrecht, 2008). MFIs are organisations offering financial services for the most disadvantaged individuals who cannot access these services through the mainstream financial institutions and have a worldwide reputation of helping poor people out of poverty as well as empowering women. However, evidence is needed on the impact of such interventions on the subgroup of refugee women in an advanced economy context. This study aims at exploring the perceived impact of UK microcredit programs on the empowerment of refugee women and how that empowerment

might occur. Firstly, data will be collected by using the financial diaries method to understand the life circumstances of refugee women in the UK – how they cope with financial difficulties and how it might affect their empowerment. Secondly, qualitative interviews will be conducted with a group of refugee women who are using MFIs, in order to understand their perspective on the use of the service, whether or not it affected their empowerment and how this potential empowerment may occur.

Asja Pehar Senekovič and Jure Gombač (Research Center of Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts): Day by day (extra)ordinary innovations. Social and labor market inclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in Ljubljana and Maribor, Slovenia

The unprecedented increase of quantity and visibility of the so called illegal transit migration through the Balkans towards North and West Europe in Summer 2015, which soon became labelled as the "refugee crisis", led to the establishment of the so called 'formalized corridor'. In less than six months of its existence, the corridor enabled continuous and state-sponsored transit with corresponding humanitarian infrastructure of almost one million people from Macedonia to Germany. The formalized corridor or the temporary legalization of transit migration through the long existing Balkanroute was a legal and political precedent, that actually temporarily suspended the entire European border regime. Most of the "people on the move" goal was to reach Western Europe, especially Germany, Austria, Great Britain and Scandinavian countries and ask for the asylum there. As there was a constant fear that EU border regime will re-establish itself and the "doors to Europe" will close leaving the people trapped in the so called "pockets" in Eastern and Central Europe the transportation through the corridor was carried out in a very fast, organized and systematic way which was supported by most of the actors. Still many people, for various reasons, were stranded on their ways through this "humanitarian" corridor. After its closure in 2016 the external Schengen borders (southern Slovenian and Hungarian border) and the external EU borders (southern Croatian and Bulgarian border) became almost hermetically closed. Slovenia was one of the countries on the Balkan humanitarian corridor, which received several hundreds of stranded people and is still receiving them from the recently reopened Balkan corridor. The numbers are quite small as we are talking about 450 people which were granted refugee status, but they still present a big challenge for the Slovenian integration system. How is this possible? Official Slovenian integration system started to develop during the war in ex-Yugoslavia. Several thousand people received the so called "collective refugee status". Most of them lived in abandoned army barracks, unable to work for up to 10 years, and also some of the other rights were diminished. Ministry of Interior was and still is in charge of all the processes concerning asylum and integration with the help of a few selected NGOs. The main goal of this system was not integration but repatriation of "refugees" back "home". After majority of people were repatriated "home" or moved further to Western Europe and the World the system took care of only a few hundred people in the next 12 years. No matter how big the numbers of people who asked for asylum only about 0.02% of applicants received international protection in Slovenia. That is why an alternative system started to develop. Various groups of activists which promoted no borders, solidarity, alter-globalism, human rights etc. and already were involved in

movements of the Erased of Slovenia decided to act through various actions and interventions. The so called "Permanent visitation Network" sent activists to "visit" people who were imprisoned in various detention centres in order to be deported. The Network started to spread solidarity networks and oppose the dominant discourse of Ministry of Interior, which was deeply rooted in current national discourse. They proved that practices of solidarity, human dignity and resistance can overcome national, class, religious and other divisions. In the autonomous space of Factory of Rog a Social centre started to work together with a group of Asylum seekers from Asylum home in Ljubljana. Through the "World for Everyone" movement they became protagonists fighting against dehumanizing procedure in the Asylum home(s).

Daniel Spizzo (Cramars Società Cooperativa Sociale): Empowering the EU skills profile tool for third country nationals (ESPT). New insights using the Orange platform

The main challenge of our research project is based on the following strategical question: How could we optimize the EU's Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals (ESPT) through a more efficient matching of the enterprises' and workers' needs in Europe? The whole project design will test in at least 4 different Member states' areas specific management tool designed also for TCN that have a specific focus on matching and job request updating by companies. The research uses a newly designed comparative method (bases on the Orange platform developed by Melius SRL) in order to confront different national tools that have been used recently in TCN's job orienteering policies. The first specific objective will be to publish a report on shared and non shared partners' practices and job matching web tools, in order to see if they are in line with the ESPT. The second specific aim will be to discover some specific and strategic weaknesses job orienteering and job coaching practices that could promote a more Europeanwide approach for TCN placement and social inclusion.

Hamdi Tekin (Istanbul Arel University): The role of self-organized and local social enterprises in tackling with refugee problem in Turkey

Social and health services are of great importance that determine the life quality of the citizens. Therefore, governments give considerable importance to these services in order to improve life standards. As a developing country, Turkey has been also investing to these services in order not only to proceed further health development but also to contribute to both construction sector and economy. Recently, the government has implemented the projects of city hospitals. City hospitals are constructed on the allocated treasury lands by private companies. Afterwards, the Ministry of Health hires these hospitals and pays rent and maintenance costs for at least 25 years. In addition, the Ministry guarantees 70% occupancy rate for hospital beds. In this study, the role of city hospitals on both health services and economy has been investigated by analyzing literature and different sources. In addition, there were call interviews held in order to monitor both benefits and drawbacks. Besides, the role of social enterprises in

health services has been analyzed. In conclusion; although this issue of city hospitals is debatable in many aspects, these hospitals also offer many advantages. Turkey still lacks of health services. Thus, any new hospital will contribute to better health services. Up to now, 5 city hospitals have been opened and this number will be up to 28 by the end of 2021. This means 41000 more beds for the health services. City hospitals are constructed by using new smart technologies and offer better health services for the citizens. These hospitals also promise more fast processes in many health services. Most of the city hospitals are announced as digital hospitals serving many facilities based on IT technologies and innovations. On the other hand, the activities of social enterprises are very limited and mainly focused on local problems.

3. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers living in mountain and rural localities: determinants of inclusion versus exclusion

Alessandra Corrado (University of Calabria): Innovation for migrants' work inclusion in rural areas

This contribution focus on innovative projects that support migrants' and refugees' work inclusion in rural areas throughout Italy. Since respatialization dynamics, following refugee crisis and economic recession, redirected migrations towards rural and peripheral areas, innovative practices and initiatives have emerged in order to face the challenges posed by migrants' work integration at local level. In rural areas, work and training opportunities have been promoted by several tools and models in agri-food production, services for territorial and natural resources maintenance, connecting different actors and markets, across rural-urban linkages. The aim of this contribution is to question how effective these projects and initiatives are in providing skills, work inclusion and migrant's autonomization, also according to their personal expectations, needs and life projects. The analysis is grounded on cases studies comparison of projects and initiatives promoted by individuals, local businesses, individual volunteers and no profit organizations. The paper will contribute to social innovation debate providing evidence of the effectiveness of these practices, in terms of sustainability and migrants' work integration, and drawing difference among models.

Cristina Dalla Torre (Eurac): Analyzing governance and networks for welcoming and integrating newcomers in the Alpine region: a comparison of eleven case study areas

Social capital and social networks can have a positive effect on the integration of migrants and on labour market integration in particular (Portes 1995; Chou and Chow 2009: 341; Cheung and Phillimore 2013; Morosanu 2016). Moreover, the involved public agencies and private organizations at the local and

regional level play a decisive role, by being the closest actors dealing directly with migrants and the challenges of integration (Mitterhofer et al. 2016; Gruber 2012). To understand the complex system of services and offers with which migrants are welcomed and integrated in the Alpine region, we conducted a study on what characterizes governance and networks of cooperation involved in the issue by looking at the type of actors, the characteristics of the relations, the topics and the aims of the cooperation. To conduct the research, the methodology of social network analysis was applied in eleven case study areas of the Alpine region, basing on primary data collected through interviews and surveys at the municipal and district level within the framework of the Alpine Space Project PlurAlps. The results of the analysis show that in the eleven case study areas, mainly public sector agencies and third sector organizations are involved. Of particular interest, some innovative experiences are emerging from the cooperation within the study areas, helping migrants to overcome barriers of socio-economic integration in the community. The paper will present some statistical correlations among the variables to draw conclusions about common and diverging characteristics of governance and networks among the case study areas. Moreover, a successful experience of cooperation among the public and the third sector organization for the social and labour integration of asylum seekers in a mountain community will be analysed in depth, in order in order to reflect on innovative strategies and tools adopted.

Cristina Del Biaggio (Université Grenoble Alpes): Vertical spatial relegation in Switzerland: or how to use altitude to encourage rejected asylum seekers to "disappear"

I propose an analysis on how Switzerland uses remote localities, often situated in mountain areas, as a political instrument to encourage rejected asylum seekers to leave the country by reducing the costs of forced removals (Senarclens and Soysüren, 2017). The aim is to show how mountains are politically instrumentalized as a mechanism of relegation. In that sense, the altitude is a tool at the disposal of the administrative apparatus to spatially marginalize people already juridically and socially excluded and that are subjected to a "double assignation identitaire et territoriale" (Hancock, 2008, page 118), i.e. a strictly demarcated social and territorial categorization. In the Swiss federal system, part of the housing facilities are managed by the cantonal authorities, which, in some cases sub-contract them to private companies (Alberti, 2018; de Coulon, 2013, page 207). In the last years, notably through the last reforms of the asylum law, there is a tendency to centralize some housing tasks at the national level via the opening of the so-called "federal centres" (Brina, 2017). Nevertheless, a number of people are and will still be housed in cantonal structures. In fact, asylum seekers, following the new law, will stay in federal centres for a maximum of 140 days. The others, the so-called "complex cases", i.e. cases that are following an "extended procedure", as well as rejected asylum seekers that Switzerland could not manage to deport, are, after 140 days, placed in cantonal centres. For rejected asylum seekers Switzerland designed and implemented special instruments to "precarise their living conditions" (Rey and Leyvraz, forthcoming) in order to push them to "willfully" leave the country. Housing them in mountain

regions is one of the techniques used by some cantons. It is in this context that processes of vertical marginalization appeared as a tool to reach the double objective of deterrence and removal.

Marika Gruber (Carinthia University of Applied Sciences): Welcoming and inclusion strategies of a mountainous region in Austria – The way of Hermagor

Hermagor is a very small district in the southwest of the Austrian's province Carinthia. The district is highly peripherally located, which is also evident in the poor transportation connections and long distances for reaching the next centers. About 9% of all inhabitants are born abroad; in the district capital more than 11% are born outside of Austria. Since the year 2013, the district of Hermagor is engaged in initiatives fostering the inclusion of migrants. The paper aims to investigate firstly, the reasons why international migrants move to a rural region like Hermagor. Secondly, the political strategies and activities of Hermagor's public authorities, fostering the welcoming and inclusion process since 2013 are analyzed and discussed. The research findings are based on an in-depth analysis of secondary data (population, infrastructure, economic, and labour-market data) and 13 semi-structured qualitative interviews with international migrants, from different nations (e.g. China, Iran, Kosovo, Netherlands, Turkey, Hungary, Slovakia). Furthermore, the results of stakeholder-workshops (based on an action research) with civil servants and representatives of politics, NGOs, economy, education system, volunteers and migrant communities are included. The study shows as main reasons for moving to the region of Hermagor the following: Family reunion, holiday impressions, compelled to move there as asylum seekers, searching for better job opportunities and/or living conditions and future perspectives. Based on these and further results of a pilot study, a handbook and an information sheet for migrants has been developed as well as a guideline for civil servants which should secure a structured and consistent information and counselling of migrants. The contribution should discuss the scope and the process of a rural area for implementing inclusion activities and fostering a good living together in the alpine space.

Stefan Kordel (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg): Structures of refugee relief – The example of rural Bavaria

Since the arrival of large numbers of asylum seekers in Germany in 2015 and 2016 and subsequent allocation all over the country according to specific dispersal policies, rural areas including small towns and more peripheral municipalities had to accommodate newcomers. Accordingly, structures of assistance were established in the course of unforeseen arrival at the municipal level. The objective of this paper is to illustrate and systematize the establishment of assistance structures by identifying: actors, public and private, involved in first aid and primary assistance at the time of arrival; purposes and activities of these groups; the change of such activities over time and in light of changing legal status from asylum seekers to persons with a protection status; the utilization of initiatives by immigrants for

purposes of inclusion. Empirical results are based on a case study on residential choices and everyday lives of refugees, who were allocated in two rural districts in Bavaria, Germany during their asylum procedure. The aim of the study, conducted in 2016 in the districts of Regen and Freyung-Grafenau, located in southeastern Bavaria close to the German-Czech and German-Austrian border, was to reveal processes of inclusion and exclusion in various realms of integration. A particular emphasis was put on access to the housing market, while actors from various fields and their respective practices should be identified in the municipalities. In order to grasp the perspectives of both, migrants and local actors, results from a quantitative survey with recognized refugees ($n=171$), residing one of the two districts at the time of the query and guideline-based interviews with local experts from administration, NGOs and refugee relief groups ($n=45$) were conducted. In this paper, results tackling the issue of inclusion and the role of actors from local grassroot initiatives and established NGOs are taken into account. Results show that local population primarily became involved in assistance for asylum seekers and refugees immediately after information meetings held prior to the arrival of immigrants in certain municipalities. Especially the role of local elites, such as the mayor or the local priest encouraged the establishment of refugee relief groups. Moreover, religious organizations or groups of self-organizing volunteers, i.e., mostly retirees with allocatable free time or previous experiences of being a "stranger", delivered first aid and provide basic services. The latter encompassed the provision of clothes and basic non-food articles as well as toys for children at the beginning, whilst spontaneous language courses were offered on a voluntary basis, mostly by retired teachers, at a later stage. The success of the organization of such refugee relief groups in the studied rural districts was mainly based on personal contacts in local administration, which were particularly helpful in terms of the supply of rooms to meet and work. Even at this stage, i.e. the first few weeks and months of arrival, volunteers provided transfer services by car to, for instance appointments at the foreigners' registration office, due to poor public transport. Especially in terms of legal affairs, NGOs, mostly located in the district capital increasingly become involved in assistance for immigrants, while a peculiarity for rural areas is that only one single organization is present. When immigrant's legal status changed from asylum seeker to a person with protection status, changing needs altered the work of refugee relief groups. Since then, the most important issue was to provide access to private housing as refugees had to leave state accommodation. Results from the quantitative study among refugees showed that only 13% found their apartment on their own, yet 79% of the respondents found the apartment within 3 months. Besides personal contacts to members of relief groups, friends and acquaintances (37%), the engagement of NGOs and local administrations (35%) helped to access housing. However, the practices of rental mediators were limited by inadequate structures of rural housing markets, e.g., a high share of ownership (72%) and large-scale apartments. Furthermore, 25% of the respondents experienced discrimination and agreed to the statement that tenants have prejudices when renting to refugees.

Ingrid Machold (Federal Institute for Less-Favoured and Mountainous Areas): Enhancing inter-cultural competency in regional development, the case of RIKK

The link between integration activities and local and regional development has long been a weak one since immigration has been considered primarily an urban issue. However, the increased magnitude of in-flows of migration has also affected the social structure and cultural development in rural areas. Recent observations suggest that increased levels of social diversity in rural regions implied a wide scope of response to immigration, ranging from indifference and noncompliance with hostile reactions on the one extreme, to gestures of welcome and supporting activities on the other. This presentation will focus on a LEADER project of the Austrian Rural Development Program called RIKK "Establishing regional intercultural competency" which is a regional initiative widely quoted by the European Network for Rural Development as good practice depicting an innovative example of conceptualizing and working in this field. Based on qualitative interviews with the main actors of the project and desktop research the structures of cooperation (governance) and options for activities enabling a fruitful exchange between different actors from the sphere of integration activities as well as regional development actors have been analyzed. The project is located in a region of a high share of immigrants (attaining up to 20% of foreign-born citizens in some municipalities already in 2011), including the establishment of a refugee center, and was initiated in a situation when local population were severely threatened by negative feelings towards migrants. This approach facilitated among other networking activities the building of competence teams involving representatives and multipliers of specific professions (personal managers of enterprises, teachers and providers of the facilities of "school on the farm"). Through the change of perspective from "integration" activities for migrants towards the development of "intercultural capacities" within the regional society, new paths of cooperation opened up, enabling the elaboration of approaches nobody had thought about before.

Andrea Membretti, Martina Lolini and Elisa Ravazzoli (Eurac): Migration flows and local attractiveness in the Italian Alps and Appennines

Several mountain and inner areas across Italy are still affected by de-population, brain-drain and the loss of services of general interests (Zanini 2016). However, in many other alpine municipalities a counter process of in-migration has been taking place since the in the last quarter of the 20th century, which has re-shaped the sorts of many mountain realities (Bender and Kanitscheider 2011; Perlik 2011). The in-migration of new comers affects mountain and rural areas unevenly and results from both internal and international movements of both Italians and foreign residents with diverse motivations. The drivers of in-migration might refers mainly to three phenomena: amenity migration (Loffler, Beismann, Walder e Steinicke 2014; Corrado et al. 2014), economic migration (Membretti, Kofler e Viazzo 2017) and forced migration (De Matteis, Di Gioia e Membretti, 2018; De Matteis e Membretti, 2016). Amenity migration refers to a movement of people - elderly and second homes residents as young new highlanders - mainly looking for better quality of life. Economic migration refers to the movement of people (often

foreigners but also internal migrants) in search of better jobs, or willing to set up new entrepreneurial activities. Forced migration refers to the movement of asylum-seekers who are assigned a mountain location and are forced to live in mountain communities for a while. Giving this general framework, the paper investigates the spatial patterns of migration flows within the Italian inner and mountain areas by examining the internal migration movements (in and out migration) of both Italians and foreign residents. Spatial patterns of internal migration flows are examined using recent data e.g. 2016 gathered from the National Statistical Office (ISTAT) via tables and thematic maps. By analyzing the different dimension of migration and the patterns of migratory flows, the paper spatially detects across mountain and inner areas in Italy those affected by the counter-process of in-migration of newcomers and those still characterized by de-population. This enables to explain demographic changes from the perspective of migration, contributing to the discussion on the attractiveness of inner and mountain areas for different types of migrants.

Manfred Perlik (University of Bern and Université Grenoble-Alpes): Why hosting migrants? Inclusion as a key issue of social innovation

This contribution combines two topics that are currently being discussed by the public as key topics: Social Innovation applied to marginalised rural areas and integration of refugees. The aim is to identify opportunities and potentials for the inclusion of new social actors in currently disadvantaged territories and to justify this with concepts of social innovation. At the same time, it is a question of highlighting shortcomings in the debate on the culture of welcome and social innovation. The article is intended to open the debate in Thematic Line 3 "Welcoming refugees and asylum seekers in mountain and rural localities: determinants of inclusion versus exclusion processes". It is based on the interpretation of the current processes of Global Change and metropolisation, which particularly affect mountain regions, and on the description of aggravated agonistic power relations resulting from it. The search for individual accumulation of resources in the sense of Bourdieu's concept of capital is becoming increasingly pronounced. This affects the social practices of the sedentary people in the Global North as well as those of potential migrants in the Global South. Besides Bourdieu's concept of capitals the contribution is based on an interpretation of social innovation in the transformative sense (Frank Moulaert, Juan-Luis Klein), and the normative approach of cohesive societies in the sense of social and spatial justice (David Harvey, Neil Smith).

4. Unlocking the potential of third sector organizations and social enterprises vis-à-vis the asylum seeker/refugee challenge

Matteo Bassoli (eCampus Online University) and Chiara Cancellario (LUISS University):
Migration and social integration: a social network approach

While so called “refugees’ crisis” is at the forefront of the Italian political debate, little attention has been devoted to the actual implementation of the national system for asylum seekers receptions. Without considering those asylum seekers hosted in first reception centers and hot spots, extraordinary reception centers (CASs) host the majority of asylum seekers (almost 81%), while the official system SPRAR still lags behind (13%). Practitioners and scholars consider the official system better placed to foster integration, while CAS seems less equipped, given the diffused disapproval among local population. Moreover the lack of a comprehensive agenda for refugee integration worsen the scenario. In the absence of empirical evidence, the rationale relies on two consideration: on the one side public-run projects are better financed and more controlled, on the other SPRAR are de-facto a practice of diffused hospitality. The latter aspect closely matches the idea of rural development and the “internal areas development strategy”, covering 3/5 of the Italian territory. However little empirical evidence has been gathered on these experiences. In the article we assess the role of the public sector vis-à-vis that of the third sector in promoting rural development leveraging on migrant hospitality. The article exploits social networks analysis to gauge the networks developed between third sector, public institutions and the private sector in two different experiences of the same Region (Castel del Giudice - Isernia and Campobasso) in promoting the social inclusion of asylum seekers.

Emina Bužinkić (Center for peace Studies): Taste of home – An experimental model for socio-economic emancipation of refugees and migrants

The paper explores the emergence, development and challenges faced by the first refugee and migrant led social enterprise in Croatia. The social cooperative Taste of Home was established in Croatia in 2016. Through a catering business and language school ToH currently employs four staff and intends to expand its work scope and community. ToH has received public recognition and has received the European Citizenship Award in 2017 for the social enterprise of the year. ToH is an interesting and a relevant enterprise both as a single case and as a model. The paper focuses on exploring the specificities of this enterprise and its community while at the same time analyses the possibilities of the application of the model of socio-economic emancipation of refugees and migrants in various contexts. We are especially interested in the potentials and emancipation of this model in contexts that are, such as the Croatian one, painted in xenophobia and racism, legal and administrative barriers for refugees and migrants, lack of structural support to social entrepreneurship and so. Our focus on successes and replication of the innovation the ToH introduced and gathered the community around will be explored

through interviews with ToH members and interviews within the broader local community which will be analyzed through the emancipatory models within the transnational feminist and post-structural theory.

Francesca Calò, Tom Montgomery and Simone Baglioni (Glasgow School for Business and Society): Are refugees welcome? The rose of third sector organisations in solidarity and opposition to refugees in the UK

The refugee crisis that captured the political agenda in 2015 and continues to shape political discourse and decision making reflects the depth and scale of the global challenge of worldwide displacement, now at the highest level since records began (Langlois et al. 2016). Amidst a wave of populism and xenophobia, countries within Europe have moved towards stricter asylum policies (Stewart and Mulvey, 2014) and the UK is no exception, with migration in all its forms becoming a key contemporary field of contention, exemplified by the campaign in 2016 referendum to leave the European Union as well as policy decisions to accept only a limited number of Syrian refugees. In our paper, first, we aim to explore the public claims that have been made – particularly by third sector organisations - about actions towards or against refugees in recent years. Our objective is to identify the actors who make these claims, the substance of the claims made and the justifications (utilitarian, right-based or identity based) upon which they are based. A total of 750 claims have been coded from news articles reported in three different UK newspapers (The Guardian, Telegraph and Daily Express). The newspapers forming the focus of our analysis represent a spectrum of editorial perspectives and from these articles published between 1st August 2015 and 30th April 2016 - a critical timeframe of the refugee crisis – were randomly sampled. A mixed-method analysis, encompassing both qualitative and quantitative approaches, was then conducted to better understand the salient issues underpinning the ways which solidarity (or opposition) towards refugees, asylum seekers and migrants is articulated by different stakeholders, and if, how and why different stakeholders justify their claims through the prism of different values. Second, we aim to analyse the role of third sector organisations in promoting refugees and asylum seekers inclusion in the UK (particularly in the labour market). An extensive literature review on the topic alongside an explorative analysis of the discourses about integration into labour market will be presented and discussed. The two parts of research will together outline the potential of third sector organisations to address the asylum seekers and refugee challenges and they will present policy implications and future research opportunities.

Viviane Cretton (FHNW University of Applied Sciences and Arts): “La Boutique”: a case study of the collaboration between public service and volunteers to include asylum seekers in Valais, Switzerland

Following the pope's appeal for solidarity towards the migrants, after worldwide emotion provoked by the image of a dead child lying on a Turkish beach in September 2015, more than 300 volunteers across the alpine canton of Valais came forward to express their willing to do something “to help”. So much the cantonal office created a specific post of coordinator in 2016. Today, Christine B. coordinates more than 400 volunteers, who provide homework support for children and youths, teach French, mentor and spend time with either individuals or families for visits, chats, language practice, etc. In this talk, I will focus towards a specific social state project, which is driven by a group of volunteers since 2016: the second-hand shop “La Boutique”. Here, a team of volunteers collect and sort clothes before redistributing to asylum seekers, who can get a pack of goods in exchange for a voucher ticket provided by the Canton. More than a shop, the place expects to become a platform for exchanging between volunteers and asylum seekers. In order to reflecting upon new practices of gift¹, at the local scale of a small mountain community, this talk will consider how individual interests and personal reasons in helping asylum seekers – embodied in manifestations of public solidarity and assistance – are framed and channelled by the state policy. It will examine how “La boutique” highlights the growing up collaboration between the State of Valais and the public of citizens in the field of asylum. It will also reveal the paradoxical politics towards refugees and asylum seekers in Switzerland that evolves between care and control, integration and deportation, welcoming and returning.

Giulia Galera (Euricse): The panoply of third sector organizations engaged in the asylum domain: preliminary findings from a case-study analysis

The asylum challenge has stimulated a dramatic mobilization of ordinary citizens that peaked in 2015, during the so-called “long summer of migration” when an extraordinary number of volunteers mobilized all over Europe to assist newcomers (Karakayali and Kleist, 2016). The arrival of growing flows of asylum seekers awakened a sense of collective social responsibility on a wide scale that encouraged thousands of volunteers to engage with asylum seekers individually, through informal groups or existing third sector organizations. Thanks to the social relations triggered, this collective endeavour paved the way for the setting up of new third sector organizations designed to deliver innovative welcome and integration services, often in cooperation with public administrations. At the same time, the availability of new volunteers combined with the complex issues to be faced generated also significant challenges for many consolidated third sector organizations: it implied the expansion in new fields, the recruitment of new staff and a more effective distribution of work within the organization as well as the re-definition of their relations with public administrations. Drawing on both a country and exploratory case study analysis of newly established and consolidated third sector organizations operating in selected EU countries (Italy, Greece, France and Germany), this paper explores the main challenges faced by third

sector organizations in the asylum domain (Reimerink, 2015; RENA, 2018; Scholte, Baggerman, Dellouche, Kempen, Wolf, Ypma, 2017; Spencer, 2016). Special attention is addressed to the modality whereby public funding is managed with a view to understand to what extent it contributes to supporting the scaling up of third sector organizations, consistently with their nature, or it has a role in jeopardizing the pursuit of their social inclusion aims. By focusing on four distinct countries, the paper analyses the selection mechanisms whereby public authorities recruit third sector organizations in the reception domain and it assesses the impact of the competitive versus collaborative rationales, inspiring public administrations' policy strategies, upon the quality of the services delivered.

Claudia Lintner (Freie Universität Bozen): Overcoming the refugee crisis discourse by investigating innovative practices around the Brenner border

Since 2015 the growing number of displaced people has arisen acute political pressures in the regions around the Brenner border, as they were largely unprepared for the high number of refugees crossing the Mediterranean. Consequently, the political and social reactions can be interpreted in terms of emergency. The so-called "refugee crisis" has been merely perceived as a transitory phenomenon of crisis and thus only temporarily relevant. Integration strategies concentrated more on humanitarian needs than on (economic, social and cultural) opportunities development and long-term solutions. However, in response to the arrivals of refugees and asylum seekers and in particular as a result of non-existent or inadequate public services, new types of civic engagement arose. In particular, NGOs and citizens mobilized and spontaneously used social media to build coalitions and organize a wide variety of services, ranging from emergency responses to more lasting initiatives. Following this line, the project investigates socially innovative initiatives through the lens of social entrepreneurship in the mountain regions around the Brenner border. Hence, in order to ensure that the large amount of resources used to promote long-term social inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers, it is argued for the importance of two key elements: grassroots experimentation/social laboratories driven by civic engagement and aimed at effectively addressing specific societal challenge as well as a collaborative/ also cross-regional network connecting such long-term oriented initiatives. The project is based on a qualitative research approach, which combines different qualitative research methods such as expert interviews, informal interviews, participatory observation, focus groups and document analysis.

Clara Esparza Mengual (Open Cultural Center): The process of schooling the refugee children in Greek schools. Open cultural center as a mediator and supporter

A research project based in the area of Paionia, Central Macedonia, Northern Greece. The aim of this research was to study the process of accessing to education for the refugee children who have been relocated in the urban areas of the region of Paionia, Northern Greece, between 2016 and 2018. A qualitative methodology based in interviews and participant observation of the field has been used to do

this study: More than fifteen interviews with the main actors (professionals and experts working on the field, schools, professionals from the Ministry of Education, children and parents) have been carried out for this study. Our main objectives were, firstly to give a background about the situation of the schooling of these children. In order to do this, we followed and studied the process of enrolment of the new children in schools, as well as the process of including them in the classrooms. Secondly, we studied the work that some NGOs, such as the Spanish organization Open Cultural Center, are conducting to facilitate the registration and integration of those children, through their work as mediators between the schools, the Greek Ministry and the families, as well as with the informal educational support that provide to the different actors who are working on the field of our research. Our pretext has been to study the case of Paionia on the access to education for refugees in order to see if its model/s of integration could be an example of integration of forced migrants in Europe. The results found in this research show that there is still work to do with regard to the schooling of refugees, especially in terms of teaching preparation and specialized support for schools.

Sara Toukolehto (University of Groningen): Studying third sector social initiatives working with newcomers in inner city neighborhoods of Berlin, Germany

In 2015, the peak year of migration to Europe, an estimated 80,000 asylum seekers arrived in the city of Berlin. The numbers have decreased since, but it goes without saying that the city did not have sufficient policy structures in place to efficiently welcome these people. This led to a chaotic situation in the city. The role of local communities became crucial in welcoming and accommodating the newcomers and responding to their various needs. The civil society became engaged in different activities and a plethora of spontaneous grassroots initiatives was born out of the situation, many of which are still functioning today. In my anthropological PhD research project, I am following several of such innovative third sector organizations in order to learn about the issues and challenges encountered on the local level by super-diverse inner city communities. The initiatives I follow operate independently outside of public funding schemes. Many of these initiatives have proven their longevity and ability to flexibly address various problems, thus offering a tremendous potential for learning from the initiatives' perseverance and the ways that they facilitate the solving of issues in their local communities. A lack of rigid administrative structures and resistance of professionalization are factors that according to my ethnographic fieldwork appear to have positively contributed to the vitality and success of many such initiatives. Despite the lack of resources, third sector organisations thrive thanks to their ability to be spontaneous and flexible and remain democratic. These features make them attractive to various stakeholders from newcomers to locals. The paper will discuss the work of some of the initiatives highlighting the kind of community building activities they undertake and the kinds of values and visions of the good life that guide the work of the initiatives and the individuals engaging in such work as well as individuals receiving support from such initiatives.

Giorgia Trasciani (University of Aix/Naples): The relationship between public authority and social economy organisations in the asylum seekers' reception system

This work consists in an analysis of the business- like evolution of third Sector Organisations (TSOs) dealing with reception of asylum seekers in France. On the one hand a process of marketization, namely the use of markets and market mechanisms to deliver services; on the other a process of managerialization, which describe the organizational rationalization and the application of corporate management practices. In a context of structural shift - from an interventionist State (based on the Keynesian Model), to a Regulatory one (La Spina and Majone, 2000, Majone 1997) and a consequent State de-monopolization of public policies – TSOs gathered momentum. Particularly in the sector of asylum seekers reception, we assisted to a dramatic increase of TSOs, represented in France by associations. The so called "refugees emergency" has demanded a huge effort to the TSOs on the field, which have been recognised particularly suitable in terms of legitimacy. On the other hand, selection mechanisms of management bodies through competition created perverse mechanisms: a growing number of different actors appeared on the sector, and the definition of Quasi- market introduced a strong competition for former public services, now conferred to "independent sector". Not less importantly, in the last decades also the instruments for founding TSOs have strongly changed under the pressure of the New Public Management Reforms This work aims to analyse the strong economic and institutional pressures under which the TSOs on the sector of migration reception system are exposed and their impact on the business- like evolution, due to the reduction and their systematization through specific instruments of public funding (Maier, et al. 2016, Salamon 1993). Particularly attention will be paid to the instruments of control on daily actions put in place from the public actors, which in turn could have a heavy a direct impact on the sense of action and identity of the organisation. This work aims to prove, through a qualitative approach, that these tensions have an impact on the final mission of the organisations, which are moving from a hosting and integration to control.

Noomi Weinryb and Jaakko Turunen (Södertörn University): Refugee Reception, digital activism and welfare service delivery – The organizational powers of social media

Focusing on the 2015 'refugee crisis' in Sweden, the objective of this study is to learn how organizing via social media affects welfare service producing loosely organized civil society networks (LONs). Drawing on previous research on government–civil society relations and digital activism (Selznick 1949; Young, 2000; Bennett and Segerberg, 2012; Lundström and Wijkström 2012) we distinguish LONs as a form of organizing that may be fundamentally affected by the potential trade-off between political and logistical engagement. Our qualitative comparison is based on Facebook negotiations of two prominent Swedish LONs that were created during the 2015 "refugee crisis", delivering welfare services to refugees and at the same time developing diverse political positions. The study shows how social media not only enables such LONs, but also renders them highly unpredictable actors with varying interpretations of their own role in public policy. By taking social media research beyond the concern for orchestrating mass

demonstrations, this study reveals the implications social media bears for the concrete organization of service production for refugees as well as to the politicization of civil society in its service production capacity. In addition, the study provides thus far a rare qualitative analysis of social media's impact on organizing. Focusing on refugee reception, the paper points to four interrelated features of the organizational powers of social media: 1) logistical engagement is a defining characteristic of digital welfare service organizing, 2) the content of online negotiations affects the political and organizational capacity of digital activism, 3) organizing efforts are vulnerable to swift changes in political positions, and 4) the threat of cooptation is imminent if digital activism diverges from established state–civil society relations.