

Migration Policy

Report: Assila – Morocco – November 15 till November 19, 2009.

On November 15, 2009 the youth participants of the Arab – Euro countries were meeting and divided into 9 working groups.

What were the major discussions in the migration policy group?

First they started to know each other and sharing of work and experiences on migration.

Definition of migration policy: Any policy of state that deals with persons crossing its borders, but especially those that intend to work and to remain in the country.

Examples of policies:

Local laws , skilled migration , economic migration , refugees and asylum policies ,visa requirements , integration , trafficking of people , civil society and youth organization ,international framework , dialogue , development aid /cooperation , travel with no-border and mobility ,irregular and undocumented migrants , human rights , deportation , migrant women , healthcare ,brain-drain , citizenship and nationality , minors , education....

Subjects and questions discussed:

1 - Is the Euro – Arab (youth) cooperation realistic?

Yes!! It is realistic.

- Needs active support (seminars, exchanges, marketing, and NGO cooperation.)
- Changing mentality
- Gives realistic image of the others
- Advocacy programs

2- How can migration policies be a win-win policy?

Allow “southerners” to gain skills, education and capital **AND** then empower them to enrich their own communities.

3- Are migration policies in Europe discriminatory? How can we facilitate the integration?

Yes, people are treated differently (visa, policies ...) and the same in the Arabic countries.

- Constantly open border are needed to end discrimination.
 - Current policy discriminates “sending” countries (weaken these countries ...brain brain ...)
 - Need of a positive approach by promoting legal migration
- 4- Should migration policies be gender specific?
- Specific vulnerabilities
 - Their specific needs have to be considered
 - How migrants are treated must be different (Age, Gender ...)
 - Positive discrimination but we have to make sure the rules are not abused.

DEMO - Euro – Arab:

Objectives:

- 1- Political and economic (integration of youth in everyday life).
- 2- Creation of an on-line platform for an exchange of information among the youth.

Target group:

Youth NGO's

Activities:

Seminars, visits, publications

Partners

UNESCO, World Bank, and others NGO's.

Contacts

Association “observatory “of youth media

COOPERATION:

1 – Euro – Euro cooperation

A - Best Practices

- Enough money
- Know – How
- Youth taken seriously
- Youth structures on international level (platforms).

B - Challenges

- Visa
- Different nationalities structures lead to coordination problems
- (UN) equality of partners
- Small association problems to obtain money
- Focus on larger bodies
- Lack of follow up

2 – Arab – Arab cooperation

A - Best Practices

- Willing to cooperate
- Encouragement by the Europe countries and others
- Support of different NGO's organizations
- Accessible tools to learn and develop skills

B – Challenges

- Focus always to politic
- Lack of youth importance
- Difficulty of mobility between the Arab countries
- Lack of economics cooperation between the Arab counties
- Lack of associations to support and educate youth.

Expectations:

1 – Global declaration

- Getting a compromise solution that should be guiding migration policies on a youth perceptions.
- Achieving a declaration that will be taken seriously by the organizations which are present (path for advocacy).

2 – Best practices

- Learn as much as possible about different migration tendencies and trends in EU, Europe and southern Mediterranean.
- Activities of different countries vis a vis new migrants.
- Learn about migration policies in different countries related to the youth
- Learn about successful activities (shares experiences)

3 – Euro- Arab (youth) cooperation

Migration policies

Economic costs

Reasons for migration

- the bases of an Euro-Arab youth policy
- policies linked to migration and migrants
- migration policies (youth in Europe and Arab countries)
- to have a common policy between the country
- trying to develop the skills of the immigrants
- mechanism for cooperation between young in Europe countries
- economic cost for the countries of origins and host countries of migration
- reason for migrations
- the vote of young people in migration policy in Arabic and European countries
- Objectives and rules of migration policy in Arab and European countries.
- Different viewpoints on the same case of migration affecting 2 countries.
- Develop common policy between Arab and Europe people.

4 – Future projects and networks

- Follow-up of activities
- Gather possible projects , ideas for future
- Build networks (organizational and personal level)
- Meet other NYC and partners.
- Mapping common activities and projects.

5 – Integration and rights of migrants

- migrant right of minorities
- Visa and barriers

Evaluation:

1 – Process of discussing the APPEAL

2 – Appeal reporter

- General impression
- Weak points
- is there something missing?
- is there something you strongly disagree with?

Recommendations:

- Follow up after the LAS youth forum 2009 about the policy and to take into consideration the youth proposal and recommendation.
- Open mobility policy between the Arab countries (no need for visa between the Arab countries)
- Open mobility policy between the Europe countries (no need for visa between the Europe countries)
- Amendment and unification of the visa policy in away to facilitate the youth mobility (example: increase the visa period...)