



HORIZON 2020 Work Programme for Research & Innovation 2018-2020

#InvestEUresearch

Tackling the migration challenges: More than €200 million for new research topics

Research to policy – the importance of knowledge and data

Migration remains at the top of the European agenda. With millions of people on the move worldwide, sometimes for reasons beyond their control, it has become imperative for societies and governments to better understand the root causes of migration and its effects on host communities.

Horizon 2020 response to the migration challenge

By allocating over **€200 million for migration-related research** in the next three years, Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation funding programme, has responded to the need for new research-derived insights that can help shape coordinated migration policies and guide legislative measures.

How to spend it?

Applications to the new calls will be reviewed by independent experts and funding will be awarded to the best projects on the basis of excellence and expected impact.

The research actions funded under the new Horizon 2020 Work Programme for 2018-20 will focus on **improving our understanding** of...

...the **drivers** of migration. Conflicts and crises are an immediate trigger. However, the migration challenge has deeper roots: underlying trends in demographics, climate change, poverty, and globalisation of transport and communications have all played a part in the record numbers of international migrants worldwide.

During the next three years, more than **€120 million** will be spent on projects exploring.....

....the **different types** of migration. Recent research indicates that migration should be viewed as a temporary or cyclical rather than a permanent or linear phenomenon. For example, preliminary findings from the TEMPER project indicate that initiatives to promote temporary migration are often hampered by a limited understanding of the reasons why some migrants spontaneously return to their home countries or circulate between their home countries and Europe, while others do not. Building on the work done under the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7), the new Horizon 2020 Work Programme will continue funding projects that explore the reasons for the different migration flows.

.....the **effects** of migration **on host communities**. The rapid **integration** of migrants **into European host societies and labour markets** is crucial for handling the migration challenge. Research in this area will focus on many aspects, including the challenges migrants are facing as regards the assessment and recognition of their skills and qualifications. Some of the calls will focus on the integration of migrant children.

The new Work Programme will also allocate **€2 million** to further develop the EU's **Science4Refugees initiative**. Launched in 2015, the initiative has been helping refugees with a scientific background to find jobs with European scientific institutions by enabling prospective employers to flag job vacancies advertised on the EURAXESS job portal as 'refugee friendly'. It is targeted at refugees who have applied for and been granted asylum in an EU host country.

Research will also look into **social barriers to integration**, including how cultural and core values are translated into integration policies and initiatives, and to what extent these values are shared in Europe.

Furthermore, **€23 million** will be dedicated to projects investigating the **human dynamics of climate change**, while **€12 million** will be available for studying **rural policies to address rural-to-urban migration** in Europe and globally.

Another focus is fostering the development of societies in the main countries migrants are leaving from.

Transport and energy aspects will also be covered: **€7 million** will be spent on developing **inclusive and digitally interconnected transport systems**, while **€16 million** will fund the EU's **Joint Programme with Africa on renewable energy**. By improving the energy security in Africa, the projects funded under Horizon 2020 can help contribute to the overall efforts to create a better economic development, which in turn can help reduce incentives for migration.

The European Union's border and external security may depend on a variety of human factors and social issues. Therefore the new Horizon 2020 Work Programme will allocate **€24.6 million** for research aimed at **modelling, predicting and managing migration flows**. Projects funded from this budget will, for example, analyse social media data in order to better detect and understand how the EU is perceived in countries abroad and how such perceptions influence migratory flows.

What is to gain?

By providing research-based evidence on migration-related issues, the new Horizon 2020 Work Programme will help shape and further develop the EU's long-term approach to migration.

More information:

Participant Portal: <http://europa.eu/!FW34jB>

Social Sciences and Humanities: <http://europa.eu/!xQ38xp>

The Migration Research Platform: <http://europa.eu/!wd93kx>

Societal Challenge:

Europe in a changing world: inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies <http://europa.eu/!CW89HC>

TEMPORARY VS. PERMANENT MIGRATION

(FP7, grant agreement no 613468)

The overall objective of the **TEMPER project** is to provide a comprehensive assessment of recent initiatives to promote temporary and circular migration, as an alternative to more traditional forms of permanent migration.

The TEMPER project is looking to provide data in three main areas:

1. interview migrants who recently opted for temporary or circular migration to identify the main drivers for their decisions;
2. explore and explain the role that different programmes, and immigration policies at large, have played in shaping those individual decisions and;
3. assess the benefits and drawbacks of different types of temporary, permanent and circular mobility for migrant and non-migrant workers, their families and their employers.

The work in TEMPER covers a number of countries of origin, including Romania, Ukraine, Argentina, Senegal, Morocco and Lebanon. The countries of destination under analysis are: France, Italy, Spain and UK.

TEMPER receives €2 467 861 in EU contribution. The four-year project will end in February 2018.