Science4Refugees and the potential of the European Open Science Agenda

EURAXESS Conference
Integration of Refugee Scholars in Switzerland
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A little history.....European Research Area
(Article 179 of the Treaty)

• "in which, researchers, scientific knowledge and technology will circulate freely"

• ERA priority 3 - An open labour market for researchers” - **improve international, inter-sectoral and inter-disciplinary mobility between public and private sector research bodies in both directions and at all career stages**
Continuing Professional Development
(from the European Charter for Researchers)

“Researchers at all career stages should seek to continually improve themselves by regularly updating and expanding their skills and competencies.....This may be achieved by a variety of means including, but not restricted to, formal training, workshops, conferences and e-learning”

The C&C, HRS4R, RESAVER, IDTP and OTM-R are in place already in many institutions on MS
The Open Science Agenda

"Supporting new ways of doing research and diffusing knowledge by using digital technologies and new collaborative tools, to ensure excellent science and open access to data and results and help Europe benefit from digitisation to drive innovation"

Open Science represents a major transition of how
- Research is performed (Digital Agenda, Open Science Agenda)
- Knowledge, data is shared/preserved (FAIR, Open data, EOSC)
- Research is evaluated (Interim evaluation H2020, open review)
- Research is funded (H2020 pilots, SWAFS S4R, future FP9)
- Researchers are rewarded (WG Incentives & Rewards)
- Researchers are educated (Open Education, Modernisation agenda)
- Professional development of researchers is organised (WG Education & Skills, Skills Agenda)
ERA and Open Science goals

• Remove barriers to (virtual) mobility
• Retain and attract talent to EU
• Make research careers more attractive
• Improve skills training of researchers
• Improve HR policies and rewarding systems for researchers

Where is the link to the integration of refugee scholars?
EURAXESS & S4R since 2015

- Sign up, search and post refugee friendly jobs:
  - About 600 organisations have used the S4R flag declaring their refugee-friendly status
  - A volume of more than 6800 offers were published/open to receive applications also from refugees

- Post and find relevant refugee researcher CVs – 215 researchers have flagged themselves as refugees on Euraxess

- Engage with the S4R Buddy Programme - More than 2000 EURAXESS members have marked their interest to become refugee buddies
ERA, Open Science and Science4Refugees engagement

- Traditional support measures for mobile researchers need to be tailored for refugee researchers.
- Research is personified by international talent working in multicultural teams, but forced mobility of people needs to be seen and treated differently: training mechanisms and incorporation into the work force should be better organised.
- Many higher-education institutions are developing initiatives tailored to refugee students and university staff, and have included subjects concerning migration and refugees into teaching and research. However, there is a lot of dispersion and fragmentation.
- Outreach to refugees remains an issue and policy makers/Institutions at EU and national level act as bridges and facilitate the transition as well as access to institutions.
- The recruitment process and labour market access for refugee researchers needs to follow the same criteria (OTM-R) as for any other applicant.
- However, still competitive advantage through training and mentoring should be created temporary.

- SwafS-06-2018 – deadline 18 April 2018
More info on S4R and EU R&I policies

- **ERA and Open Science:**
  https://ec.europa.eu/research/openscience/index.cfm
  https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/useful-information/policy-library
  WG Skills Report: https://ec.europa.eu/research/openscience
  WG Rewards report: https://ec.europa.eu/research/openscience

- **Science4Refugees:**
  http://ec.europa.eu/research/science4refugees/index.cfm
  http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/science4refugees

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Thank you

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