Science4Refugees and the potential of the European Open Science Agenda

EURAXESS Conference
Integration of Refugee Scholars in Switzerland
17 January 2018, University of Zurich

Rinske van den Berg
European Commission
DG Research & Innovation
Open Science & ERA Policy

European Commission

Contents

A little history of ERA

Skills and Rewards

Euraxess – S4R

ERA, Open Science and S4R engagement

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

- RTD-SCIENCE4REFUGEES@ec.europa.eu

Thank you

Rinske.van-den-Berg@ec.europa.eu