

Kick-off meeting of the E-MINDFUL project

Enhancing European Migration Narrative to Develop Further Union's Long-term actions

Perceptions and realities: Towards a de-polarized public debate on migration

Tuesday, 15 June 2021

OSCE Congress Centre, Hofburg, Ratsaal
Heldenplatz, 1010 Vienna

The E-MINDFUL project

Aware of the divisive potential of an increasingly polarized public discourse on migration, the E-MINDFUL Project wishes to analyse the complex factors that shape public attitudes towards migrants. The aim is to provide evidence-based guidance on how to communicate effectively about migration across multiple segments of society, offering relevant stakeholders a decision-making tool that will help orient future, effective communication strategies on migration and migrants towards increased social cohesion.

Funded by the Directorate General Migration and Home Affairs of the European Commission (DG HOME), the German Federal Foreign Office and the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, the implementation of the Project will harness the perspectives, roles and expertise of the following partners:

- the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) – the largest regional security arrangement under chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and its comprehensive approach to security including its commitments on migration¹ and labour mobility;
- the International Labour Organization (ILO) – the UN agency custodian of international commitments in the field of labour migration and migrant workers;
- the European University Institute, the Observatory of Public Attitudes to Migration (EUI/OPAM) – a unique academic setting, dedicated to producing comprehensive, pan-European data and accounts of public attitudes to migration.

The project will involve six countries along the Eastern Mediterranean migration route: Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Germany, Italy, North Macedonia and Serbia.

¹ MC Decisions no. 2/05 Migration; 5/09 Migration management; 3/16 OSCE's role in the governance of large movements of migrants and refugees

The kick-off meeting

The kick-off meeting, organized in Vienna by the Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) via VTC, on 15 June 2021, wishes to gather project partners together with the relevant stakeholders that will be involved in the project implementation. The aim is to provide the E-MINDFUL project with a solid basis to shape its overall implementation outlook.

Audience: The project will gather the delegation of the participating States involved in the project, together with key stakeholders, members of the Project Steering Committee, the Advisory Board and other coordination structure of the project, as well as national authorities and regional organizations.

Structure: In the morning session, the event will discuss how the project strategy will address the relevant challenges posed by an increasingly polarized public debate on migration. The afternoon session will discuss the implementation plan and the coordination mechanisms.

Format: The event is organized in a blended format, with a limited in-person presence at the OSCE Congress Centre Hofburg, Ratsaal, and via VTC, ZOOM.

The working language will be English with simultaneous interpretation in local languages of the Western Balkans' countries participating in the project.

This project aligns with the following Sustainable Development Goals



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AGENDA

Tuesday, 15 June 2021

Morning Session

10:00–11:00

Opening remarks:

- **Ms. Magdalena Jagiello**, Deputy Head, Legal Pathways and Integration Unit, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME), European Commission
- **Ambassador Vuk Žugić**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- **Ambassador Gesa Bräutigam**, Head of Mission, Permanent Mission of Germany to the OSCE
- **Mr. Markus Pilgrim**, Director, Office for Central and Eastern Europe, International Labour Organization (ILO)
- **Mr. Andrew Geddes**, Professor, Director of the Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute (EUI)

Moderator: Ms. Teresa Albano, Economic Affairs Officer, E-MINDFUL Senior Project Manager, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA)

11:00-12:30

Panel discussion: The E-MINDFUL project strategy

Migration is an issue that is increasingly polarizing the public opinion. Despite the prevalence of misperceptions on the topic, public attitudes draw on real world concerns, in particular those connected to the economy, culture and society. The E-MINDFUL project wishes to pool collective knowledge and experiences about communicating migration with the view to explore effective messaging that can resonate beyond audiences who are already supportive,

learning from impactful as well as counterproductive communication strategies.

Speakers:

- **Mr. James Dennison**, Professor at the Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute
- **Ms. Teresa Albano**, Economic Affairs Officer, E-MINDFUL Senior Project Manager, OCEEA

Moderator: Ms. Daniela Zampini, Employment Specialist, ILO Office for Central and Eastern Europe

Q&A session

Afternoon Session

14:00–16:00 **The E-MINDFUL implementation plan and coordination mechanisms**

- **Ms. Teresa Albano**, Economic Affairs Officer, E-MINDFUL Senior Project Manager, OCEEA
- **Ms. Daniela Zampini**, Employment Specialist, ILO Office for Central and Eastern Europe

Roundtable discussion

TECHNICAL MODALITIES

A. *Pre-meeting:*

- **Online Registrations:**

Please note that only registered participants will be granted access to the different sessions, either through physical presence of delegation members accredited to the OSCE (format 1+0) at the Hofburg/Ratsaal or virtual attendance.

PLEASE NOTE: depending on the pandemic safety measures set by the Austrian Government, the modus operandi of the Kick-off meeting might be changed. Information would be provided to registered participants accordingly.

Each participant is requested to **register online** before the **deadline of Friday, 11 June 2021** e.o.b. via following **link**:

<https://events.osce.org/2021-kick-off-meeting-of-the-e-mindful-project/registration>



or Q.R. code

- When registering online, participants are requested to **indicate** if they will **participate at the Hofburg** in Vienna, **or virtually via zoom**.
- *If you login for the first time* with this OSCE online events tool, you need to create an account with your email and a password first and then login again to undertake the actual registration.
- **As registrations are subject to approval**, participants must correctly fill in and provide complete information about institution, country, email address, and a contact phone/mobile number when submitting an online registration request.
- Please note that it is possible for one person to register several participants using the same account.
- *Persons who have already registered* previously for other OSCE events (e.g. OSCE conferences, OCEEA Webinars or any other meeting at Hofburg) *do not need to create an account again* but can log-in by using the same password.
- A *first* email reply will confirm your registration.
- **Zoom link:** A *second* email will be send **on Monday, 14 June 2021** to provide with the **Zoom link for the Kick-off meeting**. No zoom account will be required. Simply click on the zoom link provided and enter the passcode. The Meeting can be joined 15 minutes before the indicated start time.
- All participants should ensure that **their microphone is muted and their camera disabled at all times**, except when taking the floor.
- Participants are encouraged to **use a cabled (ethernet) connection** to their computer when joining the meeting and **wear a USB headset with in-built microphone** when making their statements.

B. During the meeting:

- When joining the Meeting via **Zoom** it is **mandatory** for Delegates/Participants to **log in with:**

⇒ **Participating States and Partners for Co-operation:**

3-letter ISO-3166 abbreviation of country name, f.i. ALB, UKR, AUT, DEU, etc. and add first and last name:
e.g. DEU, Jann-Einar Schultz.

⇒ **International Organizations**

Please use your official abbreviation e.g. UNHCR, CoE, ICRC etc and add your first and last name
e.g. IACA, Hermann Meier.

⇒ **NGOs, Civil Society, Business, Academics:**

Please use a very obvious abbreviation not longer than 6 digits for your entity/affiliation and add your first and last name: : e.g. University of Vienna, UniVie, Sonja Rattmann, Western Union,
e.g WesUni, Guenther Ziehm.

- **Simultaneous Interpretation:**

Please, be advised that simultaneous interpretation from English into Macedonian, Serbian and Bosnian will be provided during the first part of the meeting (10:00 – 13:00) to ensure that the national delegations in the respective countries (Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the North Macedonia) are fully engaged.

IMPORTANT: However, due to technical limitations of the on-line format, interventions (questions/comments) from the national delegates should be performed in English. Overall the working language of the meeting is English. The interpretation into Macedonian, Serbian and Bosnian will be available on zoom only. Participants attending in person will not be able to anticipate the interpretation, unless they bring their own devices and head phone sets.

- **List of speakers and participation in discussion time:**

Physical participants at the Hofburg and remote participants will have full audio&video access and be able to request the floor and deliver their statements.

→ **Participants are kindly requested to register to the speaker's list in advance** by sending their request to teresa.albano@osce.org until **Monday, 14 June 2021 CoB**. Participants should indicate whether their statement will be delivered from the Hofburg or via Zoom.

→ **Ad hoc speaking requests during Meeting** should be made:

- For physical participants *in the Ratsaal* by informing the meeting assistance at the head table ahead of the session or by raising their hand.
- For *remote participants* by using the **Chat** function in Zoom. If using the Chat function, *please clearly indicate* „Country /FO /Institution, name, wishes to take the floor“.

The speaking time for interventions from the floor is limited to **3 minutes**.

- **Q&A – Questions:** Participants are encouraged to submit questions in advance, in written form to OCEEA via email: teresa.albano@osce.org and the latest by **Monday, 14 June noon**. During the event, participants can use the chat function to pose questions to the speakers and/or moderators or request a speaking slot. In this latter regard, participants are kindly encouraged to contribute to the discussion with focused inputs, refraining from long statements that can be provided in written to the OCEEA after the event.

- **Access to the Hofburg:** **Access to the Hofburg:** is restricted to **1+0** per Delegations accredited at the OSCE and by presenting either a negative valid Covid-19 test or vaccination certificate. The Hofburg can be accessed with their regular badges. There will be no accreditation in the container. These external participants will need to refer to the security check point besides the two revolving doors. A mask must be worn at all times and only taken off when speaking and physical distancing be respected in all areas.

- In case further clarifications, please contact OCEEA, Ms. Teresa Albano, email: teresa.albano@osce.org

Tips for remote speakers using video conferencing platforms

- Test your computer by connecting it <https://zoom.us/test>, which is a simulation and computer test of a web conference session.
These test web sites are a good indicator if the computer in question will work or not (due to technical software restrictions maybe).
- Use a cabled network (Ethernet) connection, not Wi-Fi, wherever possible;
- If using Wi-Fi, ensure good connectivity by setting up your location close to the device (router or access point) that connects you with the Internet;
- If more than one person uses the Internet at your location during video conferencing, make sure that you have priority access (high bandwidth available) by pausing/turning off streaming services that consume large amounts of data (such as Netflix etc.);
- Turn off all sound notifications (Skype, WhatsApp, e-mails, etc.) while attending virtual meetings to avoid any disturbing popup messages;
- Eliminate background noise and interference (participate from indoors, in a room with closed door and windows to avoid extraneous noise);
- Replicate eye contact by looking into the camera;
- Speak at a moderate pace and avoid reading from documentation. If you must, documentation should be provided in advance for interpretation purposes only (it will be checked against delivery);
- Use personal headsets (you can use mobile phone headsets also) with high quality microphones and echo cancelling;
- Mute the microphone when not speaking;
- Turn off your video conference camera to save Internet bandwidth and leave capacity for optimal sound quality;
- Although mobile devices like smartphones or also tablets are supported, the preferred method should be using laptops to connect;
- In case your session connection drops, just re-click the link in invite to reconnect.