POLICY & RESEARCH

To better understand and make sense of migration, ICMPD draws on its own specialised expertise, located at Headquarters, in two closely related units: Policy and Research. As an intergovernmental migration organisation with one foot in scientific research and the other in the world of government policy and international relations, ICMPD is uniquely placed to provide new perspectives and propose solutions for improved policy development and implementation.

The Policy Unit was established in 2017 to conduct policy analysis and increase the organisation’s contributions to policy debates. It works to make sense of migration and put forward new ideas and insights to improve migration policy. Current priorities include responses to Ukrainian displacement, the integration of migrants and refugees, and complementary pathways to protection.

The Research Unit has been carrying out research on salient migration issues since 1997. The aim is to further knowledge on migration-related issues linked to migration governance in a wider European context, facilitate cooperation and synergy within and beyond the research community, and respond to the demand for more policy-relevant research. Current priorities include questions on migration decision-making, social cohesion and (labour market) integration of displaced persons, and migration trends and dynamics.

The Research and Policy Units maintain (partially joint) portfolios consisting of third-party and internally funded initiatives and projects. Both units are also tasked with undertaking policy and research-related activities in support of ICMPD’s geographic units in four thematic areas.

The overarching themes of the Policy Unit and the Research Unit’s work are:

- **Migration Governance and Policy-Making**
  - Migration governance architecture, institutions and frameworks, multi-level policy making and sustainable partnership approaches, as well as migration and its regulation.

- **Migration Trends and Dynamics**
  - Various forms of mobility, migration routes and public debates about it, as well as migration decision-making.

- **Integration and Social Cohesion**
  - Integration of migrants and refugees, communication, as well as social cohesion in host societies.

- **Safe Migration, Displacement and Protection**
  - Asylum and refugee policies and practices, responsibility-sharing, access to protection and alternative pathways to protection, as well as refugee surveys.
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Policy briefs

Student working holidays as a step towards youth mobility. Policy brief, July 2022

The role of information campaigns in addressing irregular migration. Policy brief, July 2022

Creating a way out of the maze: Supporting sustainable futures for displaced persons. Policy brief, June 2022 (C. Katsiaficas, C. Fogli, M. Wagner, B. Etzold)

Influencing from a distance: Are diaspora members effective as “credible messengers” in migration information campaigns? Policy Brief, May 2022 (A. Qaisrani)

People First – New Solutions to the Challenge of Displacement. Policy brief, April 2022 (B. Etzold, M. Wagner, C. Katsiaficas)

Where do Iraqi migrants get their information and how does it impact their migration experiences? Findings from migrant needs assessment study in Iraq. Policy brief, April 2022 (N. Ben Brahlim)

Papers, reports and studies

Analysis of the linkages between protection, development opportunities and decisions about irregular onward movement. IKAM study, June 2022 (B. Perchinig, M. Grujić, P. Baumgartner, J. Perumadan)

Strengthening policy response to protracted displacement. TRAFiG policy handbook, April 2022 (M. Wagner, C. Katsiaficas, C. Fogli)

New trends on return and remigration in the COVID era? Evidence from Bangladesh and Pakistan. Trend Assessment, March 2022 (A. Qaisrani)

Irregular Migration Dynamics from Pakistan and the Role of Information Campaigns. PARIM report, January 2022 (A. Qaisrani, K. Hahn-Schaur and M. Hendow)

Youth and Mobility in the Maghreb: An Assessment of Youth Aspirations in Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia. Study, 2021 (S. Sachetti, N. Ben Brahlim et al.)

Labour market integration of refugees in Austria in times of the Corona crisis Special analysis of the FiMAS Refugee Panel. Research report, November 2021 (M. Landesmann and S. Leitner) (in German)
POLICY INSIGHTS BLOG

- Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia have their European prospects confirmed. What does it mean for migration policies?, V. Wagner, August 2022.
- The diaspora response to war in Ukraine, D. Hincu, June 2022.
- Migration narratives across three levels of governance, M. Ricorda, May 2022.
- Consensus, concession and compromise – taking migration partnerships to the next level, M. Hofmann, April 2022.
- Committing to partners, staying flexible on the issues, S. Schlaeger and M. Weigle, April 2022.
- Getting Ukrainian refugees into work: The importance of early competence checks, M. Hofmann, March 2022.
- Integration of Ukrainian refugees: The road ahead, C. Katsiaficas and J. Segeš Frelak, March 2022.
- The war in Ukraine and the renaissance of temporary protection – why this might be the only way to go, M. Wagner, March 2022.
- Many returned home during the pandemic – can they be convinced to stay? C. Katsiaficas and J. Segeš Frelak, February 2022.

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