Evidence and Policy Summer School
Science, Policy and Demography:
The role of population and migration for sustainable
development in the European Neighbourhood
5–7 September 2018, Laxenburg, Austria
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In a world flooded with information from a multitude of sources, collecting, managing, making sense of and communicating knowledge, or evidence, is highly challenging.

With scientific controversies, post-fact politics and societal challenges to the use of evidence in public policy, evidence-informed policymaking needs advocates and skilled practitioners, both in scientific and policy bodies.

To help researchers to have more impact and policymakers to use evidence for policy solutions, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC), in collaboration with the International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA) and the Global Young Academy (GYA), organise an Evidence and Policy Summer School in Laxenburg, Austria. The event is held under the auspices of the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, with the support of the Austrian Ministry for Education, Science and Research and the Austrian Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs.

The thematic topic of the 2018 Summer School is migration and demography – a key strategic area for the future of Europe. However, the workshop will not present either the latest science or specific policy solutions in this domain, but will focus on the tools and approaches to inform the policymaking process through evidence.

What is unique about the event?

- Policymakers and scientists meet and together develop skills in using evidence for creating policy solutions;
- Participants will learn how their respective professional worlds operate;
- Leading thinkers and practitioners producing science and policy around migration, population and demographic changes engage closely with participants through participatory, interactive masterclasses;
- The thematic focus stimulates cross-policy dialogue and interdisciplinarity.
Who will be there?

- Scientists interested in how to achieve impact on policy and
- Policymakers interested in how to commission and use research to support them in their daily work
- Both having experience of working within the themes of migration and demography changes (producing science or policy tackling them, using related data in their work on other topics, interested in the implications of these societal challenges on other fields, etc.) and
- Working primarily in the Eastern and Southern European Neighbourhood countries, including Western Balkans, and EU Member States.

While the school is open to all EU Member States and EU Neighbouring countries, including Western Balkans, priority for participation has been given to applicants from the Eastern and Southern European Neighbourhood countries, including Western Balkans. Moreover, 35 places with full funding (travel and accommodation) have been given to participants from the following countries and territories: Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine Authority, Serbia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine.

What will you gain?

- New knowledge on how to better integrate scientific evidence into policymaking;
  - Scientists will learn how to better communicate and visualise their results, tackle uncertainty and align their projects with policy needs.
  - Policymakers will learn how research can support policy, which science can be relevant to their field, where to find it and how to interpret it, and what can be expected from researchers.
- New insights on how ‘the other side’ operates;
- Enlarged network of likeminded professionals, working on migration and demography with ambition of using evidence in policymaking;
- Access to a global community of practice, exchanging top resources and expertise.
Evidence and Policy Summer School

PROGRAMME

4 September 2018

Arrival of participants (Hotel in Vienna)

5 September 2018

08:00 – 08:45  Bus transfer to Laxenburg

08:45 – 09:15  Registration
09:15 – 09:45  Opening remarks
09:45 – 10:15  Evidence for policy: an introduction

Vladimír Šucha, Director-General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

10:15 – 10:45  Key note lecture I:
Population and migration as a policy challenge

Heinz Fassmann, Austrian Minister for Education, Science and Research (tbc)

10:45 – 11:15  Key note lecture II:
Population and migration as a scientific challenge

Wolfgang Lutz, Director of World Population Program, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

11:15 – 11:45  Coffee break
11:45 – 13:00  **Panel discussion:**
**Population and migration: the EU Neighbourhood dimension**

Moderated by the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, this panel discussion will address the variety of population and migration challenges in the EU neighbourhood countries, namely in Northern Africa, the Near East, the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe.

Moderator: NN, Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Simon Mordue, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission

Panellists from the EU Neighbourhood countries tbc

13:00 – 14:30  **Lunch with poster session**

14:30 – 17:30  **Roleplay "Changing Demographics: Retirement Age and Evidence-Informed Decision Making" - including an artistic performance**

Moderator: David Mair, Head of Unit, Knowledge Management, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

The plenary will divide into small groups, each enacting a roleplaying scenario focused on a complex challenge in population policies. Part of the exercise will be an interaction with professional artists.

17:30 – 18:30  **Dos and Don’ts of evidence in policymaking: plenary lessons learned from the roleplay**

Moderator: Kristiann Allen, Chief of Staff, Office of the Prime Minister’s Chief Scientific Advisor, New Zealand

18:30 – 21:30  **Dinner / Social event**

21:30 – 22:00  **Bus transfer to hotel**
6 September 2017

08:00 – 08:45    Bus transfer to Laxenburg

09:00 – 09:30    Introduction to masterclasses

Jan Marco Müller, Head of Directorate Office, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

09:30 – 11:00    Masterclasses session #1

11:00 – 11:30    Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00    Masterclasses session #2

13:00 – 14:30    Lunch

14:30 – 16:00    Masterclasses session #3

16:00 – 16:30    Coffee break

16:30 – 17:00    Lecture: Big data for migration

Michele Vespe, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
Marzia Rango, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

17:00 – 18:30    Discussion with young migrants

This is an interactive session engaging with young migrants, organized by the Global Young Academy. The session will provide an opportunity to expand the scope and hear about lessons learned from other regions.

Moderator: Mari-Vaughn Johnson, Past Co-Chair, Global Young Academy
Discussants from different continents, tbc

18:30 - 19:15  
Bus transfer to hotel

19:30  
Free evening to explore Vienna

7 September 2017

08:00 - 08:45  
Bus transfer to Laxenburg

09:00 - 09:45  
Key note lecture: Migration and the Sustainable Development Goals
  
Speaker tbc

09:45 - 11:15  
Masterclasses session #4

11:15 - 11:45  
Coffee break

11:45 - 13:15  
Masterclasses session #5

13:15 - 14:30  
Lunch

14:30 - 16:00  
Closing session
  
The closing session will gather feedback from all the masterclass facilitators, lessons learnt from the students and closing remarks from the organisers.

16:00  
Departures to Vienna / Airport
Masterclasses

Participants will choose five preferred masterclasses, which are run throughout two days in five parallel sessions. The following list is tentative; detailed masterclass programmes with further details will follow.

1. **How to Change Minds with Facts?**
   - Facilitator: Emily Hayter, INASP

2. **What are the Challenges of Using Migration Data?**
   - Facilitators: Marlene Alvarez Alvarez and Michele Vespe, European Commission, Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography (KCMD)

3. **How to Explain Attitudes to Immigration in Europe**
   - Facilitator: James Dennison, European University Institute

4. **The Role of Social Media in Informing / Disinforming**
   - Facilitator: Laura Smillie, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

5. **How to Deal with Demographic Challenges from a System Perspective**
   - Facilitator: NN, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

6. **Principles of Population Dynamics**

7. **When and How to Use Infographics and Data Visualisation Effectively?**
   - Facilitator: Darren McGarry, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

8. **Foresight in the Area of Migration**
   - Facilitators: Alice Szczepanikova and Laurent Bontoux, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

9. **How to Frame the Question and Team Up the Disciplines You Need?**
   - Facilitators: Kristiann Allen, Office of Chief Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of New Zealand, and Jan Marco Müller, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

10. **Challenges of Intercultural Contact**
    - Facilitators: Koen Vermeir and Ilka Vari-Lavoisier, Global Young Academy (tbc)

11. **Fostering Scientists and Policy Makers’ Synergies for Migration Policy Consistency**
    - Facilitator: Abdeslam Badre, Global Young Academy

12. **Roles of Scientists and Policy Makers in Mitigating Policy-framing Uncertainties**
    - Facilitators: Toni Verbeiren and Abdeslam Badre, Global Young Academy