



**International Institute for
Applied Systems Analysis**
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LABOR MARKET AND MIGRATION ACROSS THE EURASIAN CONTINENT

6th Workshop within the IIASA project

“Challenges and Opportunities of Economic Integration

within a Wider European and Eurasian Space”

WORKSHOP CONCEPT

13-14 April 2016

This is the sixth workshop in the framework of the IIASA’s project on Challenges and Opportunities of Economic Integration within a wider European and Eurasian Space.

In 2013, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Laxenburg, Austria launched a project on **Challenges and Opportunities of Economic Integration within a Wider European and Eurasian Space**. The goal of this international and interdisciplinary project is to discuss and analyse possible futures of economic integration within the Eurasian continent. European and Eurasian cooperation also extends to the key Asian players, such as China, Korea and Japan, as well as to the USA.

The envisaged multidisciplinary approach of the project includes economic and political, technological, institutional, sectoral – energy, transport, infrastructure, finance and investment, etc. – and demographic aspects of Pan-European/Eurasian development.

The project has been discussed and initially supported by the Eurasian Economic Commission, the Eurasian Development Bank, and the Russian Academy of Sciences, with participation of the European Commission and some other European and Eurasian institutions.

The currently running three-year pilot phase of the project consists of a series of workshops at which specific aspects of integration are discussed by scientists and stakeholders representing all interested regions.

Five workshops on

- *Methodology for Assessing Effects of Regional Economic Integration*
- *Trade Policy Regimes*
- *Non-Tariff Barriers and Technical Regulations*
- *Futures of Energy in Eurasia in a Global Context, and*
- *Development of Transport and Infrastructure in Eurasia*

were already held at IIASA in 2014-2015. To date, all together they attracted more than 180 recognized scientists, experts, stakeholders and policy-makers.

The sixth workshop on the *Labor market and migration across the Eurasian continent* aims to discuss and analyze the impact of migration flows on sustainable development of the Eurasia region, the labor market challenges, and adaptation of education systems in the EU and the EAEU.

The Eurasian continent accounts for about a half of the world population living in countries with vast diversity of cultural and physical environments. On-going political instabilities, war conflicts, low standards of living and poverty are among major drivers motivating significant flows of migration across the continent. How the challenges arising from unforeseen migration can be tackled? The workshop will discuss and analyze these and other related questions in the context of the EU, Russia and other Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) member countries, other countries of the common neighborhood, also extending to the Asian dimension, notably, to China.

More specifically, the following points will be addressed:

- the labor market challenges; the cross-border labor migration, their economic and cultural implications;
- the current state and possible futures of migration in the focal region, including explicitly the migration from the EU-EAEU common neighborhood areas;
- prospects for mass migration from Ukraine, Syria, Libya and other countries, including ENP countries, to the EU; migration from Ukraine, Central Asia and the CIS countries to Russia, Chinese migration to Russian Far East; intellectual migration from the CIS countries to USA, the EU and Asia;
- impact of migration flows on social cohesion/tensions within the EU and the EAEU countries; Islam aspects of migration; the impact of migration on emigration economies; social conditions for immigrant labor in the EU and the EAEU;
- the long-term prospects of introducing visa-free regime between the EU and the EAEU countries, including the relevant issue of the readmission agreements;
- the acquisitions and preservation of supplementary pensions rights and the mobility of pensions in Eurasia;
- policy proposals for fostering educational exchanges at the level of students, post-graduate students, lecturers and academics to improve the quality of education on the basis of innovation, in accordance with modern requirements;
- practical aspects of labor migration, such as recognition of diplomas and professional certificates.