



BRUSSELS INSTITUTE
FOR SOCIAL AND
POPULATION STUDIES



Call for Papers: Expert Workshop

Degrees in Transition: Higher Education and Labour Market Integration of Newcomers and Refugees



11–12 June 2026



Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels

As part of the FWO-funded SBO research project *From Camp to Campus*, we invite submissions for an international **expert workshop** that will bring together scholars working at the intersection of **higher education, labour market integration, and newcomer trajectories**.

The workshop aims to create a space for **in-depth discussion, collective reflection, and knowledge exchange**, rather than a conventional conference format. Contributions will receive extensive feedback and encourage dialogue across **disciplines, methods, and national contexts**.

We welcome **empirical contributions** (quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods, or computational) addressing topics such as:

- Transitions from secondary education to higher education and from higher education to employment for newcomers
- Institutional arrangements linking universities, employers, and integration policies
- Recognition of qualifications, skills matching, and credential pathways
- Inequalities and stratification in education-to-work trajectories
- Comparative perspectives across countries or policy regimes
- Obstacles and coping strategies among newcomers and service providers (e.g., university admissions offices, employment agencies)

Following the workshop, a selection of contributions will be invited for a proposed special issue in an international peer-reviewed journal.

We warmly welcome contributions that advance comparative understanding of how higher education systems shape labour market integration for newcomers and refugees.

Submission: Extended abstract (max. 1,000 words) outlining the research question, data and methods, and key contributions.

Submission deadline: 29 April 2026

Notification of acceptance: 04 May 2026

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