



## THE PROJECT

### TAS - THESIS, ANTITHESIS, SYNTHESIS MIGRATION LABS

The TAS – Migration Labs aims to support the fundamental principles of EU citizenship and to promote an improvement in civic and democratic participation at EU level, reaffirming values of solidarity, intercultural dialogue, mutual understanding and combatting existing stereotypes on migration and minorities. Our activities are mostly directed at young adults, political decision makers and other stakeholders from partner countries. The tasks envisage to raise awareness of EU policy-making processes, in particular migration, and to boost opportunities for social and intercultural participation and volunteering.

## ACTIVITIES | TIMELINE

### DISSEMINATION

Newsletter | March 2020  
Project Webpage | April 2020  
Facebook | April 2020  
Twitter | April 2020

### KICK-OFF MEETING | 30th April 2020

5 countries, 5 organizations,  
10 participants, 5 hours

### WHAT

This online workshop will be the 1st session of the foreseen Migration Labs and will address the previous and current situation of migration, stereotypes, challenges that migrants and policy makers have to face. This interactive workshop will also give the opportunity for young participants to address their expectations and responsibilities about migration.

### WHEN

From May to July 2020

### WHO

This activity will be implemented by all project partners. Please check our [website](#) and discover the next WorkLabs.

## BEST PRACTICES

In a world that is currently overwhelmed by fear and despair that has rapidly been brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, a recent piece of legislation introduced by Portugal has revealed a small glimmer of hope.

The country has recently announced that it will grant temporary residency rights to all immigrants and asylum seekers who applied for residency in the country before the country's state of emergency for Covid-19 was announced on 18 March 2020. To gain access, asylum seekers must provide evidence of an ongoing request to apply for residency status.

Anyone with these rights will be given access to the country's national health service, bank accounts, and work and rental contracts until 1 July 2020, at least.

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## NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

COVID-19, the coronavirus pandemic, endangers everyone on the planet – including refugees and other people displaced by conflict or persecution.

UNHCR is stepping up health, water, sanitation and hygiene services to protect refugees and displaced people.

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## FACTS & FIGURES

**The number of international migrants globally in 2019: 272 million (3.5% of the world's population)**

**52% of international migrants were male; 48% were female**

**The global refugee population was 25.9 million in 2018**

Source: World Migration Report, 2020, IOM

**Humankind has always been on the move. The HISTORY OF HUMANITY is also the history of migration. All modern societies and all nations on Earth are the result of mobility.**

Source: Atlas of migration, 2019, Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung

## INTERVIEW WITH...

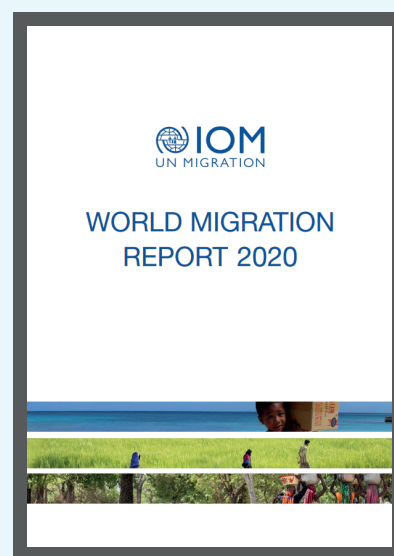
António Vitorino,  
General Director, IOM

**When we observe current affairs and the political mood in many parts of the world, it appears there is a distinct anti-migrant and anti-asylum tilt. Is this a correct assessment of politics today, or is this a distortion? How would you characterise today's attitudes to displacement and migration?**

The political mood you describe is due to a variety of factors. The certain diffuse sense of crisis, feelings of injustice, political conflicts, they are not all related to migration, but it's true that when it comes to migration and asylum, this kind of diffused feeling of uneasiness can become catalysed and channeled into anti-migration and anti-asylum sentiment. To a certain extent, this is due to current political debates in open societies towards a greater polarisation. This polarisation emphasises the negative impacts of migration instead of focusing also on the positive side. So, for me, for IOM, our key concern is to recognise that migration is a challenge for migrants, first and foremost. It is also challenging for host communities as well and we need to address this, while recognising that it brings along a number of opportunities, for both migrants and host communities. We need to focus more on the second side to have a more balanced approach.

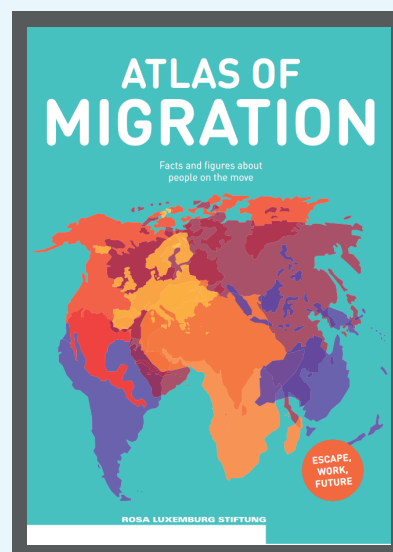
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## READING SUGGESTIONS



World Migration Report, 2020, IOM

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Atlas of migration, 2019,  
Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung

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### PROJECT PARTNERS:

[ACTA Center](#) (Romania) | [Cooperazione Paesi Emergenti](#) (Italy) | [Instituto Marquês de Valle Flôr](#) (Portugal) | [Terraforming](#) (Serbia) | [Vocal Europe](#) (Belgium)

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