



## Netherlands National EMN Conference 2016

# THE INTEGRATION OF ASYLUM SEEKERS: MEMBER STATE RESPONSES AND LESSONS LEARNED

**Organised by the National Contact Point  
for the European Migration Network (EMN)**

**29 November 2016 (12.00-17.30h)**

**Huis van Europa, Korte Vijverberg 5/6,  
The Hague, the Netherlands**

This year the Netherlands National EMN Conference is devoted to a topic closely related to the increased influx of asylum seekers that Member States have experienced in recent years: the integration of asylum seekers. The conference addresses integration measures concerning persons who are in the asylum procedure and those who have already received an asylum status. It also focuses on the moment when the integration measure has been implemented: before, during or after the increased influx in 2015. The conference will combine the national perspective of The Netherlands and the perspective of other Member States, notably Austria, Germany and Sweden. What measures have The Netherlands and other Member States put in place to integrate asylum seekers? And, when comparing these measures, what lessons can be learned?



Immigration and Naturalisation  
Service  
*Ministry of Security and Justice*



The EMN was established via Council  
Decision 2008/381/EC of 14 May 2008  
and is financially supported by the  
European Commission.



## PROGRAMME

11.30 – 12.00	<b>Registration</b>
12.00 – 12.45	<b>Lunch</b>
12.45 – 13.00	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lieke Schuitmaker (Europe House)</li> <li>• Conference chair: Paulus Bouma (Immigration and Naturalisation Service, Ministry of Security and Justice)</li> </ul>
13.00 – 13.15	<b>Opening address</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kees Riezebos (Director Migration Department, Ministry of Security and Justice)</li> </ul>
13.15 – 13.30	<b>Keynote speeches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harry Boschloo (Directorate of Society and Integration of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment)</li> </ul>
13.30 – 14.30	<b>Panel I: Integration measures in response to the increased influx of asylum seekers in the Member States: The Netherlands</b> Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harry Somers (Municipality of Tilburg)</li> <li>• Roswitha Weiler (Dutch Council for Refugees)</li> <li>• Roel Jennissen (Scientific Council for Government Policy)</li> </ul> Questions & discussion
14.30 – 14.45	<b>Coffee break</b>
14.45 – 15.15	<b>Intermezzo I: facts and figures</b> Lonneke Kapoen (Repatriation and Departure Service, Ministry of Security and Justice) and Hans Lemmens (Immigration and Naturalisation Service, Ministry of Security and Justice)
14.45 – 15.45	<b>Panel II: Integration measures in response to the increased influx of asylum seekers in the Member States: Austria, Germany and Sweden</b> Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marie Bengtsson (Swedish Migration Agency)</li> <li>• Johnny van Hove (German Agency for the Development of Professional Education)</li> <li>• Natalie Herold (Austrian Ministry of Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs)</li> </ul> Questions & discussion
15.45 – 16.00	<b>Intermezzo II: policy meets science</b> Verena Schulze Palstring (Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Relations, University of Osnabrück)
16.00 – 16.15	<b>Closing remarks</b> Kamila Divisova (European Commission, DG Migration and Home Affairs)
16.15 – 17.30	<b>Networking and drinks</b>

## BIOGRAPHIES



### **Marie Bengtsson**

Marie Bengtsson is the national coordinator of the Swedish National Contact Point for the European Migration Network and an expert at the Swedish Migration Agency. She holds a Ph.D. degree in Political Science from Lund University.

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### **Harry Boschloo**

Harry Boschloo is a Member of the Management Team at the Directorate Society and Integration of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment. Since 1990, Harry has held various positions at the Government of the Netherlands, for the last fifteen years management positions. He studied Public Administration at the University of Twente.

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### **Paulus Bouma (Conference chair)**

Paulus Bouma is head of the Research & Analysis Department, Directorate Strategy & Advice at the Immigration and Naturalisation Service, Ministry of Security and Justice; the department in which the Netherlands National Contact Point for the European Migration Network is organisationally embedded.

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### **Kamila Divisova**

Kamila Divisova is policy officer at the European Commission, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

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### **Natalie Herold**

Natalie Herold is the head of the Unit for Research, knowledge Management and Integration Monitoring in the Austrian Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, where she acts as a link between migrant integration research and policy practice. Prior to holding that position, she was an integration policy advisor within the Integration Department of the Ministry of the Interior. Natalie Herold holds two Master's Degrees in Political Science and Slavonic Studies from the University of Vienna. She is currently finishing her PhD in public policy with a focus on migration and integration at an Australian university.

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### **Johnny van Hove**

Johnny Van Hove works as a project officer at ebb – Entwicklungsgesellschaft für berufliche Bildung in Berlin, Germany. There, he supports the dissemination project of the Network IQ ("Integration through Qualification"), a federal programme aimed at improving the chances of migrants in the German labour market. One of his tasks is fostering the exchange of knowledge and experience between the Network IQ and international partners. Johnny has worked in Scotland, Belgium, and Germany and is currently finishing his PhD in Global History in Groningen (the Netherlands), with a special focus on migration in the United States.

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### **Roel Jennissen**

Roel Jennissen works for the Scientific Council for government Policy (WRR) of the Netherlands, where he conducts research on the integration of ethnic minorities, international migration and crime trends. After graduating in Sociology from Utrecht University, Roel joined the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI), where he was mainly concerned with the relationship between economic developments and international migration in Europe from the 1960s onwards. He went on to obtain his doctorate on this topic from the Demography department at the University of Groningen.

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### **Lonneke Kapoen**

Lonneke Kapoen is head of the department Analysis & Support at the Repatriation and Departure Service, Ministry of Security and Justice. Since 2014 she is elected as the co-chair of the Return Expert Group of the European Migration Network (REG EMN). The REG EMN is a EU-wide forum for sharing information and best practices about repatriation and re-integration in the countries of origin.

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### **Hans Lemmens**

Hans Lemmens is the national coordinator of the Netherlands National Contact Point for the European Migration Network, which is organisationally embedded in the Immigration and Naturalisation Service, Ministry of Security and Justice. He studied Political Science at the University of Amsterdam.

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### **Kees Riezebos**

Since the first of February 2016, Kees Riezebos is the Director of the Department of Migration Policy and also Deputy DG Immigration Affairs at the Ministry of Security and Justice. Before he took up this position, Kees worked as the Director Security and Governance at the same Ministry. He started his professional life as lecturer in Constitutional and Administrative Law at the Erasmus University Rotterdam. After several legislative positions at the Ministries of Home Affairs and Justice, Kees became the Head of the department responsible for the governmental and financial organization of the decentralized administration. Subsequently, he worked as an interim manager and senior advisor in the public sector until 2012.

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### **Verena Schulze Palstring**

Verena Schulze Palstring is a researcher at the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Relations at the University of Osnabrück, Germany. There, she joined a co-operation project called "Refuge – research and transfer" funded by the Federal Ministry for Education and Research after having worked as a research associate for international migration with the research center of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees in Nuremberg, Germany. Verena studied European Studies, International Migration and Intercultural Relations as well as Global Refugee Studies, International Relations and Development at the University of Osnabrück and University of Aalborg. Currently, her main research areas include protection regimes as well as migration and integration policies in the EU.

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### **Harry Somers**

Harry Somers is the project leader of the pilot 'Jozefzorg' at the municipality of Tilburg. The pilot 'Jozefzorg' is a co-operation between the municipality of Tilburg and other organizations to provide early, integral and ongoing support fostering the integration and participation of refugees.

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### **Roswitha Weiler**

Roswitha Weiler is senior policy officer at the national office of the Dutch Council for Refugees. She coordinates the work of the Advocacy team of the Dutch Council for Refugees, both internally and externally. This team advocates for policies with regard to durable protection of refugees at national level; targeting government, politicians and relevant (partner) organisations. Roswitha's personal expertise lies in policies on reception and integration of refugees in the Netherlands. She was the initiator and project coordinator of The Dutch Council for Refugees Integration Barometer (5 editions; first in 2005, last in 2014).

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