

Inclusion: A Question of the Residence Permit? Refugees with disabilities between asylum and participation rights

Berlin 09.06.2021 10:00-16:00

Content

An estimated 10-15% of refugees in Germany have a disability. Asylum seekers and documented refugees with disabilities face many barriers to participation. For example, their access to participation and rehabilitation services is restricted in practice by the law on benefits for asylum seekers. Existing language courses for people with disabilities do not take into account large groups such as people with cognitive impairments. Integration into the job market beyond workshops is difficult for people with disabilities. Asylum seekers and documented refugees with disabilities are not very visible in the asylum reception process due to a lack of identification of their protection and support needs.

Refugees with disabilities find themselves in a situation of tension in trying to participate and access services. This is between an asylum and migration policy that is mainly oriented towards residence law issues and a disability rights policy that is based on the principles of participation and inclusion. Against this background, we would like to draw a snapshot of the living situation of refugees with disabilities in Germany. With a view to the upcoming federal elections, we will discuss the current legal situation, its impact in practice and possible needs for change together with experts, self-advocates and politicians.

Organiser

Handicap International - Humanity and Inclusion (HI) is a non-profit organisation for emergency aid and development cooperation. It supports people with disabilities and those in particular need of protection worldwide. With the model project "Crossroads | Flight. Migration. Behinderung.", Handicap International e. V. aims to improve the social and political participation of refugees with disabilities so that their specific needs are systematically taken into account - during initial reception, during the asylum procedure and during integration. You can find more information about the project at:

<https://www.hi-deutschland-projekte.de/crossroads/>

The project Crossroads | Refuge. Migration. Disability. is funded by



Agenda 09.06.2021

from 9.30	Arrival
10.00 – 10.15	<p>Opening and greetings Moderation: Ralph Griese</p> <p>Opening Words: Jürgen Dusel Federal Commissioner for the Affairs of People with Disabilities Dr. Inez Kipfer-Didavi Executive Director Handicap International e.V.</p>
10.15 – 13.00	<p>Technical discussion: Refugees with disabilities between asylum seeker services and participation law. Law, practice, change.</p> <p>Dr. Barbara Weiser Caritas Association for the Diocese of Osnabrück Dr. Susanne Schwalgin Handicap International Mohamed Jolo Self-advocate and member of Empowerment Now Enrico Noack Counselling for refugees with disabilities</p> <p>Questions and discussion</p>
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14.00 – 16.00	<p>Panel Discussion: Protection and support needs of refugees with disabilities in a federal policy perspective</p> <p>Participants:</p> <p>Corinna Ruffer Representative on Disability Policy of the Bündnis 90/Die Grünen - Fraktion im Parlament (Bundestag) Sören Pellmann Representative on Disability Policy of The Left Party - Faction in the Parliament (Bundestag) Jens Beeck Representative on Disability Policy of FDP - Faction in the Parliament (Bundestag) Dr. Matthias Bartke Chairman of the Committee on Labour and Social Affairs. SPD - Faction in the Parliament (Bundestag)</p>
16.00 – 17:00	Summary of the day, informal exchange and farewells

Organisational matters

The event will take place online. Please register here. You will receive your access data at least 24 hours before the event begins.

Contact:

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