

## Summer Conference

**Saturday, July 23 2022, 09:45 am – 05:00 pm, Stuttgart**

We are happy to invite you to the first in-person conference in Stuttgart after a two and a half year break due to corona! This year's summer conference will take place on Saturday, July 23, 2022. We have put together an exciting and diverse programme. The keynote lecture will look at and analyse the treatment of refugees from Ukraine and other countries. Furthermore you can choose between different workshops on topics like Ukraine, Afghanistan, health protection at work and child protection. In between, there will be multiple opportunities for networking and exchange.

The conference is free of charge and is primarily aimed at volunteers working with refugees.

**Registration deadline is Wednesday, 20.07.2022 at 2:00 pm.**

Location: Bürgerräume West at Bebelstraße 22, 70193 Stuttgart, Germany.

The conference takes place within the framework of the project "Active for Integration", supported by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health and Integration Baden-Württemberg with state funds approved by the parliament of Baden-Württemberg. Co-funding is provided by UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe and Deutsche Postcode Lotterie.

### PROGRAMME

**09:30: Registration and arrival**

**10:00 a.m.: Welcome (Lucia Braß, 1st Chairperson of the Refugee Council)**

**10:15 a.m.: Keynote lecture: Solidarity and inequality: refugees from Ukraine and other countries**

Once again, thousands of people are forced to leave their homes due to a violent conflict. There is great consternation about the war in Ukraine and lots of solidarity with Ukrainians. Germany has taken far-reaching measures to quickly and unbureaucratically take in refugees from Ukraine. Meanwhile, violent conflicts in other regions of the world receive far less attention. Refugees from these countries, as well as fleeing BIPOC from Ukraine, experience less social and political support. Instead, they experience higher bureaucratic hurdles and racist sentiments. What are the social and political consequences of differently treating refugees? How can we build bridges and avoid a two-class society?

Speaker: N.N.

**11:15 a.m.: Coffee break**

**11:30 a.m.: Workshop phase I**

Select one workshop from the following four options. The workshops on Ukraine, Afghanistan and health protection will be repeated in workshop phase II. The workshop on child protection will only take place in phase I.

### **Workshop 1: Refugees from Ukraine: Overview of the legal situation**

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, thousands of people have been fleeing to Europe and Germany. The EU reacted, among other things, by enacting the "mass influx" directive. Ukrainians can thereby receive a residence permit without going through asylum procedures. This workshop gives a general overview of residence and social law issues that currently arise for refugees from Ukraine: What are the rights and obligations associated with a residence permit under Section 24 of the Residence Act? What is the situation of third-country nationals from Ukraine? In the workshop, questions and experiences can be discussed together.

Speakers: Manfred Weidmann (Lawyer from Tübingen, member of the board of the Flüchtlingsrat Baden-Württemberg) and Wolfgang Armbruster (Vice President of the Administrative Court of Sigmaringen (ret.)).

### **Workshop 2: Calls for help reaching out of Afghanistan**

The takeover of power by the Taliban in Afghanistan in August last year caused a great stir around the world. But after a few weeks, there was hardly any reporting on it and Afghanistan disappeared from public perception, even though the situation on the ground continues to worsen. Evacuating vulnerable and at-risk Afghans is complicated and a programme to admit more Afghans to Germany is still pending while thousands fear for their lives. Sadiq Zartila will report on the situation on the ground - how women, Hazara and children are deprived of their rights, how resistance against the Taliban is forming and how the economic hardship affects daily life. Tarek Alaows will talk about the limited exit options for those at risk, local staff and family members, and the German government's policy plans.

Speakers: Tarek Alaows (Luftbrücke Kabul) and Sadiq Zartila (Member of the board of the Flüchtlingsrat Baden-Württemberg).

### **Workshop 3: Health protection at work: Having rights, getting rights**

Germany has a broad legal system covering safety at work and health protection. However, even people born and raised in Germany encounter difficulties in knowing and understanding these regulations. Refugees working in Germany face even larger challenges. Health protection in the workplace means that employers are obliged to know about and react to long-term effects of work on the health of their employees. Occupational diseases and work-related health disorders should be prevented. Therefore, it is important to know about the employer's duty of care, as well as the regulations on daily working hours, breaks, work equipment, first aid, preventing accidents, and so on.

This workshop is intended to help refugees to know and claim their rights in the area of health protection at work.

Speaker: Walter Lukas (volunteer at ver.di's education sector)

### **Working group 4: Protection from violence: Refugee children and child protection**

All children have the right to a life in dignity, in which they can both freely develop their potential and be protected from violence, neglect and abuse. Refugee children are subject to special protection because they are particularly vulnerable. Their living situation is precarious in many ways. For example, they often live in cramped living conditions with a lack of privacy, face an uncertain future of staying in Germany, have lost persons of trust and experienced possible traumatisation in their home country or during the process of fleeing. The workshop would like to raise awareness for signs of any kind of violence as well as point out possibilities for action and support.

There is room for your questions and for a joint discussion.

Speaker: Staff member of the Child Protection Center Stuttgart (KISZ)

**13.30 - 15.00: Lunch break (donation based) and market of opportunities**

During the lunch break you will have the opportunity to talk to initiatives and projects from all over Baden-Württemberg at different tables, to network, to inform yourself and to exchange ideas.

**15:00: Workshop phase II with workshops 1, 2 and 3**

Select a workshop out of the workshops 1 to 3. These are repeated from the workshop phase I.

**17:00: End of Conference**