



INNOVATE Project Dissemination Event: Bridging Migration Research and Policy in Türkiye and Beyond

Date: 21 January 2026, 13.30-18.00

Venue: Megasaray WestBeach Antalya (<https://www.megasarayhotels.com/tr/megasaray-westbeach-antalya>)

The INNOVATE Project (Innovating to Enhance Dialogues on Migration Policies and Practices – Horizon Europe Project No. 101132593) seeks to bridge the gap between migration research and policymaking by creating practical, evidence-based outputs. Its engagement platform, the **Migration Co-Lab** (<https://migrationresearchtopolicy.eu>) promotes structured dialogue between policymakers, researchers, and practitioners.

This half-day event in Antalya will be the first public dissemination of INNOVATE outputs prepared by Dr Meltem İneli Ciger and Dr Ozgenur Yigit Aksu, Süleyman Demirel University (SDU). It will both **promote the project** and provide space to present and discuss **three research contributions developed by SDU and Migration Co-Lab** in collaboration with Akdeniz University.

1. **15 Key Factors Limiting the Impact of Migration Research in Türkiye** – identifies structural and operational barriers that limit the use of migration research in policymaking. (<https://migrationresearchtopolicy.eu/2025/09/12/15-key-factors-limiting-the-impact-of-migration-research-in-turkiye/>)
2. **10 Ways to Improve Migration Research-Policy Engagement in Türkiye** – provides actionable recommendations to strengthen institutionalized research-policy dialogue and knowledge translation. (<https://migrationresearchtopolicy.eu/2025/09/12/10-ways-to-improve-migration-research-policy-engagement-in-turkiye/>)
3. **Governing Mass Displacement: Ten Key Lessons from Türkiye's Response to the Syrian Influx** (<https://migrationresearchtopolicy.eu/2025/09/25/lessons-from-turkeyes-responses-to-large-scale-displacement/>)

Preliminary Programme

12:00–13:15 – *Lunch*

13:30 – *Welcome Remarks*

- **Meltem İneli Cığır**, Suleyman Demirel University

13:35 – *Keynote Presentation*

- **Andrew Geddes**, Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute

Panel I – Migration Research and Policy Engagement in Türkiye (14:00–15:30)

Output Presentations:

- **Meltem İneli Cığır**, Suleyman Demirel University
- **Özgenur Yiğit Aksu**, Suleyman Demirel University

Discussants:

- **Erol Esen**, Akdeniz University
- **Ayselin Yıldız**, İstinye University
- **Rabia Polat**, Işık University
- **Zeynep Tuğçe Çiftçibaşı Güç**, Antalya Metropolitan Municipality

Q&A Session

15:30–16:00 – *Coffee Break*

Panel II – Migration Research–Policy Nexus: Policy Gaps, Challenges, and Engagement Pathways (16:00–17:45)

Moderator: Meltem İneli Ciğer, Suleyman Demirel University

Speakers:

- **Martin Wagner**, ICMPD
- **Johannes Glöckner**, Technische Universität Chemnitz
- **Başak Yavcan**, Migration Policy Group (*TBC*)
- GAPs Return Project Coordinator/Researcher (*TBC*)

Discussants:

- **Jasmin Lilian Diab**, Institute for Migration Studies, Lebanese American University
- **Gerasimos Tsourapas**, University of Birmingham
- **Johannes van der Klaauw**, formerly UNHCR

Closing Remarks

- **Meltem İneli Ciğer**, Suleyman Demirel University
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Funded by the European Union. Project title: Innovating to Enhance Dialogues on Migration Policies and Practices (INNOVATE). Project number: 101132593.
