Invitation to

TRANSNATIONAL EXCHANGE



Online Workshop 10. – 11. November 2020

Topic:

Assisted voluntary return to Latin America with a focus on El Salvador, Venezuela and Colombia









CONTENT OF THE WORKSHOP

The EU-funded project Transnational Exchange V implemented by Caritas Association for the Diocese Augsburg aims at connecting assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) counsellors on a European level. The great variety of participants including different nationalities, different counselling providers (NGO, IOM and state) as well as reintegration partners from countries of return enables easy access to country-specific information, counselling methods and the option to do case reviews with experienced colleagues.

The upcoming online workshop will address the topic of voluntary return to Latin America with a focus on El Salvador, Venezuela and Colombia. This topic was chosen since in 2019 several EU member states had the above mentioned nationalities in the list of the five main citizenships of first-time asylum applicants. Additionally, our European partners who are AVRR experts mentioned during interviews in summer 2020 that return to Latin America from Europe is a relatively new or more dominant topic now in AVRR counselling and opportunities to discuss it are rather rare. That is why we have chosen to focus on this topic and start the discussion.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

The two-day online workshop will consist of four sessions with each session lasting around two hours including presentations as well as group sessions with discussions about current counselling issues. It is desired for the participants to attend all four sessions. Our speakers include researchers, local IOM staff and relevant NGO representatives.

Tuesday, 10th of Nov. (Morning)

- Violence and conflict in El Salvador, Venezuela and Colombia
- · Migration trends and patterns of Latin America
- Working Groups

Tuesday, 10th of Nov. (Afternoon)

- Overview of reintegration assistance and challenges in El Salvador
- · Professional training and reintegration in El Salvador
- Working Groups

Wednesday, 11th of Nov. (Morning)

- · Return stories
- Standards for assisting vulnerable returnees (single women) to Latin America
- Working Groups

Wednesday, 11th of Nov. (Afternoon)

- Overview of return conditions to Venezuela
- Reintegration challenges and concerns about the human rights situation
- · Working Groups

ORGANIZATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

NECESSARY EQUIPMENT: In order to participate in the workshop a computer/laptop/smart phone with internet browser is needed. The participation in the working groups requires in addition speakers and a camera. The option to call by landline to listen to the presentation is also given.

REGISTRATION: An email with the registration links to each session will be sent two weeks prior to the event. It is necessary to register for every session individually. Registration is possible until one day prior to the workshop.

LANGUAGE: The entire workshop will be carried out in English. Translation will not be available.

DATA PRIVACY: We will make a list of participants available during the workshop. If you sign up to the online workshop, you also agree to share your name, contact details and your organization with the whole group.



