



Humanitarian visas and the external dimensions of the EU migration and asylum policy

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Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany
WORKSHOP May 17-18, 2018

The goal for 2025

Legal Circular Migration Africa-Europe for 10.000+ young highly educated African professionals per year

EU industrial enterprises are uniquely positioned to create a new important captive market for their own products and to reduce/prevent illegal migration.

A holistic enrichment of migration policy

Abstract

- *“There is not a single country in the world that has reached a high stage of economic and social development without having developed an advanced industrial sector” (*)*
- *“Migration and development go hand in hand” (**)*

In 2013 six Belgian industrial private companies embarked on a programme called ‘Circular migration for young African professionals’. After a one year immersion in Western advanced industrial business practices, technologies en social models young African engineers and economists return to their countries of origin.

First results of a pilot programme led to the dream that in 2025 every year 10.000+ young African professionals are offered the opportunity to leave Africa and work for one or two years in advanced industries across the world.

After a 12-24 month immersion in and contribution to advanced industrial business practices, technologies en social models young African engineers and economists return to their country of origin and give a boost to their local economy. They enable Africa’s modern inclusive and sustainable industrialisation. They enable the massive creation of decent jobs. They reduce and/or prevent illegal migration and conflicts.

Such a programme is already operational in Germany, Belgium and France. The Belgian programme is very similar to the German programme ‘**AFRIKA KOMMT!**’ Unfortunately too few companies subscribe to the programme.

The main conclusion of the Belgian, German and French pilot projects is that more EU enterprises must be made aware of our neighbouring continent’s strengths: its highly educated demographic dividend, its buying power of an emerging middle class, its eternally renewable energy sources, its arable land to feed the world, its large multicultural diasporas, its ability to digitally integrate its micro, small and medium enterprises in global industrial value chains, its - temporarily - low labour cost, its emerging democracies and its financial elite in search of enduring industrial investments.

It is suggested that EU academics help to make this dream come true of 10.000+ ‘Highly educated African circular migrants’ per year. How to make many more EU entrepreneurs aware of the strengths of Sub-Sahara Africa? How to make them aware that **they are uniquely positioned to create a new important captive market for their own products and services?** This with a small almost risks free investment by temporary hiring a young highly educated African circular migrant. Benefits for the EU: buying power for EU niche products, prevent China to completely take over Africa, install human rights, reduce/prevent conflicts and reduce/prevent illegal migration.

To be deployed all over Europe? **Reduce/prevent illegal migration** and **buttress the EU role on the international scene** on migration governance with this holistic enrichment of migration policy?

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‘The industrialisation of Africa’: 150+ conferences with academia, employers and workers organisations;

500+ interviews with young engineers and economists