

Press invitation

Conference on migration and the EU asylum system

You are invited to participate in an international conference on migration issues in Europe. The conference will take place in Sigtuna, 25-28 August 2009, at the Sigtuna Foundation. There will be an introductory panel discussion on the EU asylum system and on resettlement, with Swedish and international politicians:

Tobias Billström, Swedish Minister for Migration

Jacques Barrot, Vice President of the European Commission for Justice, Freedom and Security

Erika Feller, UN Assistant High Commissioner for Refugees

Doris Peschke, Director of CCME, the Churches Commission for Migrants in Europe

Bjarte Vandvik, Secretary General of ECRE, the European Council on Refugees and Exiles

Leading figures from churches and Christian organisations in Sweden and Europe will also be attending the conference. Over the course of the conference, a proposal will be drawn up for a joint European resettlement programme.

Organisers: Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe, the Christian Council of Sweden, the Church of Sweden and the Sigtuna Foundation. Language: English

Press contacts

There will be a press centre open and staffed throughout the conference. There will be a desk space available, with a computer. Transcripts of all the talks at the conference will also be available.

Press registration

Register to attend the conference by Friday 21 August by email to ewa.rollgardh@svenskakyrkan.se.

If you would like to eat breakfast, lunch and dinner at the Sigtuna Foundation during the conference, you must register for meals by Thursday 20 August, by email to ewa.rollgardh@svenskakyrkan.se. Please specify which dates and which meals you require. Pre-booked meals are to be paid for at the conference reception, which accepts cash and cards.

More information

For more information, contact Marja-Anne Casparsson by email, marja-anne.casparsson@svenskakyrkan.se or by telephone, +46 (0)18-16 95 00.

Facts: What is settlement?

Within the EU, it is more or less only the Nordic countries and the UK that have a tradition of resettlement programmes. This means that these countries, in cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, resettle 'quota refugees'. The establishment of resettlement programmes in more EU member states and the possible establishment of a Europe-wide resettlement programme are important and worthwhile objectives.