



ESIT PROJECT

Brescia Meeting

I) Situation of the public

The trainers working with people with migrant background have to, first, know the legal status of the immigrant, and why he came to France.

- Is the situation legal or illegal?
- Does the immigrant have a residence permit or long term visa?
- Is he an asylum seeker or a refugee?
- Did he come to work?
- Is he a minor or an adult?

Indeed, all this information is to be considered at a major level in the work with immigrants.

If the situation is legal, the immigrant has the same rights as any other citizen. Also, if the immigrant is minor or asylum seeker, he is protected by the French State.

If the situation is illegal, the immigrant has no rights in France, and can be expelled at any time.

In case of an identity check, the immigrant can just have a reminder, or be sent in a CRA, Administrative Detention Center, waiting to be sent back in their country.

Also, the trainers have to know the date of validity of the immigrant's residence permit. Indeed, if the permit is expired, the French State does not have any responsibility anymore, the immigrant has no more rights in this country, and has to leave. This is called the Obligation to leave French territory. It is a letter from the Prefecture requesting the foreigner to leave French territory within 30 days. This type of letter might for instance be received by a foreign student after failure to demonstrate that he or she is actually pursuing courses of study, or by a foreigner who has been out of work for several months, or by someone who presented himself or herself at the Prefecture to ask for an immigration authorization where the administration decides to reject the application.

Trainers also have to consider the different ways of integration:

- Integration by work
- Integration by volunteering, citizenship and civil participation
- Integration by language
- Integration by family
- Integration by culture

II) Organizations working with people with migrant background and training the immigrants.

There are several organizations working with immigrants in France, and especially in the North of France.

- The CIMADE



The Cimade is a French NGO founded at the beginning of the World War II by French Protestant student groups, in particular the Christian activist and member of the French Resistance Madeleine Barot, to give assistance and support to people uprooted by war, in the first instance those who were evacuated from the French provinces of Alsace and Lorraine located on the border with Germany. Under German occupation, the Cimade continued its operations, working with refugees, many of whom were Jewish, who, having fled from Germany and other war affected European countries, were interned in Southern France.

Later they were active in underground work that provided protection for Jews in France.

Today, they continue their work with uprooted people, especially undocumented immigrants in France.

They provide language courses, social assistance, and trainings for immigrants about how to get their refugee status, provide administrative assistance, and legal recourse.

- France Terre d'Asile



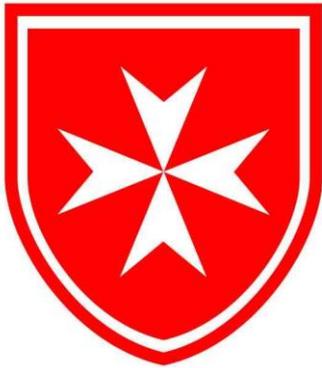
France Terre d'Asile is a French Association, founded in December 1970, and is mainly to the maintenance and development of one of the oldest French traditions, that of the asylum and guarantee in France the application of all relevant international conventions .

For the association, it is to help all people in legal situation of migration, especially those falling within the definition of " refugee "and" stateless "specified in international conventions, including Article the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 supplemented by Article I of the New York Protocol of 31 January 1967 and the New York Convention of 30 August 1961 , and people do not benefit from legal refugee status or stateless.

In 2007, the General Assembly wished to expand its object the following activities:

1. Promote , with the opinion and government, all activities conducive to the development of the tradition of asylum and legal migration , regardless of the political and economic conditions. To this end, it establishes all appropriate contacts and develop links with national and international bodies.
2. Initiate and support any action in favor of refugees . In particular, it participates in the reception of asylum seekers and stateless on French territory, recognized refugees, beneficiaries of subsidiary protection and temporary and their families.
3. Promoting the integration of migrants , including regularized, beneficiaries of family reunification, for all actions for access to employment, housing and learning French.
4. Welcome, accompany, protect unaccompanied foreign minors .
5. Develop and participate in all actions of information and training in France and abroad in favor of international protection and reception of migrant populations.
6. Participate to the accompaniment and reintegration in the country of origin of those wishing to return voluntarily.

- L'ordre de Malte (Order of Malta- France)



ORDRE DE MALTE FRANCE

Traditionally working with/for the weakest, the Order of Malta France provides a number of missions in the service of migrants. These assignments include the social and legal support and assistance to the integration in France.

The Order of Malta France has a many years' experience and a real expertise in administrative law and the rights of foreigners. It operates in the public service for the host, information and assistance to migrants.

Its operations are organized into two divisions:

The "Family" department

The legal support in Administrative Retention Centres, accompanying the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA)

- La Croix Rouge Française (Red Cross France)

croix-rouge française

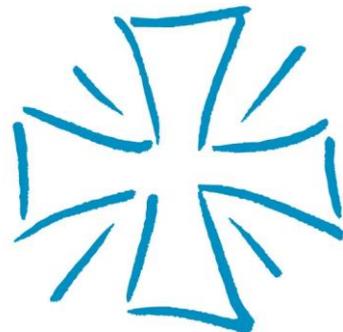


In engaging in the area of migration, National Red Cross has the purpose to address the humanitarian concerns of migrants in need.

It strives to provide assistance and protection to them, upholds their rights and dignity, empowers them in their search for opportunities and sustainable solutions, as well as promotes social inclusion and interaction between migrants and host communities.

- Secours Catholique

**SECOURS
CATHOLIQUE**
— Caritas France —



The refugee situation is often extremely precarious. The support and assistance of the Secours Catholique for their rights remain essential.

The Secours Catholique remains particularly attentive to changes in legislation and the rights of foreigners. He multiplied actions in favor of integration.

The actions carried out with migrants people are to provide a support for their integration in France, or in the administrative process for residence.

- OFII- Office Français de l'Immigration et de l'Intégration (French agency in charge of migration and welcoming foreign people)



When it was founded in 2005, the Office Français de l'Immigration et de l'Intégration (OFII - French agency in charge of migration and welcoming foreign people), combined the skills and resources of two structures which already had extensive experience in migration. On the one hand, the Office des Migrations Internationales (OMI - Office of International Migration), founded in 1945 to handle and regulate the arrival of immigrants. On the other, the Service Social d'Aide aux Emigrants (SSAE - social service for aid to emigrants), an association created in 1926 which provided immigrants with specialised social services upon their arrival in the country. Today, therefore, the OFII has the necessary means to apply the policy of the Ministry for Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Joint Development.

The Office Français de l'Immigration et de l'Intégration has a dual role: it welcomes and supports foreigners when they move to France, and it assists French nationals and workers when moving outside France.

The OFII is a government administrative institution created by the French social cohesion planning act of 18 January 2005. It combines the roles and resources of the Office des Migrations Internationales (OMI) and the Service Social d'Aide aux Emigrants (SSAE)

Entering France: The OFII takes part in the procedures of introducing legal aliens into France mainly when immigrating for employment or family reunification purposes.

Medical examination: The OFII conducts the regulatory medical examination of all foreign people authorised to reside in France for more than three months.

Welcome and assistance: The OFII welcomes legal aliens upon their arrival in France. They are requested to sign the Accommodation and Integration Contract (CAI) which is now compulsory. The Agency is further responsible for specific actions for asylum seekers and family reunification applicants.

Return to home country: The OFII provides assistance to foreigners returning to their home country who are in social difficulty. Subject to certain conditions, the Agency also provides social and financial aid to migrants who have an economic project and who wish to return to their home country

Employment of French nationals abroad: The OFII takes part in developing the réseau public de placement à l'international (International Job Centre), in cooperation with the Agence Nationale pour l'Emploi (ANPE - National Employment Agency).

Fighting the illegal employment: The OFII takes part in fighting the exploitation of illegal workers in France, by collecting the administrative fines imposed on offending employers

- OFPRA- Office français de protection des réfugiés et apatrides (French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons)



The French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA) is a public agency in France responsible for the implementation of conventions, international agreements or arrangements for the protection of refugees. It was established in 1952.

OFPRA's mission is to grant asylum (recognition as a refugee or beneficiary of subsidiary protection), or recognize as stateless. Since the 2003 reform, the OFPRA has become the "one stop" asylum applications: when it denies refugee status to an applicant, it reviews its eligibility for subsidiary protection, which replaces the «territorial asylum ».

The Office for Refugees provides legal and administrative protection of refugees, stateless persons and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection.

- Moreover, a lot of **lawyers** and **associations/NGO** are working in the field of law for foreigners and provide support to their integration and assistance in administrative application.

III) Training for trainers

- Academic training

The legal training is the most important qualification to work in this field.

There are several master degrees in Law, and related to the Rights of Foreigners in Paris, Lyon, Toulon, etc

Moreover, there are several degrees, in humanity and social sciences, for example:

- Master degree in social anthropology, specialty health migration and mediation (Bordeaux university), which prepares to work in the sectors of health, social and solidarity in: nongovernmental organizations, international solidarity organizations, associations, public services in the health sector, social and specific habitat: home workers, emergency shelters, reception centers for asylum seekers, hospitals, health networks, social housing...
- Master degree in Sociology and anthropology: politics, culture and migrations (Paris Diderot University) which trains professionals in the fields of inter-ethnics relations and fight against discriminations.
- Academic trainings, such as Cultures, migrations and discriminations (Tours University), or Migrations and mediation (Montpellier University)
- Several degrees in French language as an integration tool, which trains the trainers that teach French language to the migrants for their integration

- Professional training

However, most of the people working in the different structures, NGO, and associations, are volunteers, which means that they are not necessarily professionals in the field. For example, at the CIMAD in the North of France, there is only one employee who has an academic cursus in Law, all the other people working are volunteers.

To face this lack of professionals, most of the structures working with migrants trains their volunteers themselves.

- The Cimad provides trainings such as teaching French to migrants, fight discrimination and violence
- The Secours Populaire also provides trainings in legislation for foreigners
- The OFII, which provides trainings for migrants in French languages, or administrative applications, also trains its volunteers itself.
- The people working in the migrants' camp in Calais (France) are also providing trainings for the volunteers helping the migrants living there.
- Lawyers also organize meetings and trainings to help update their knowledge in Law and Rights of Foreigners, which is constantly developing and changing.