

I-CLAIM: Improving living and labour conditions of irregularised migrant households in Utrecht

Department: Human Geography and Spatial Planning

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Project Description

From the 1st of April 2023, we have started a large Horizon Europe project on irregular migrants in Europe in the human geography and planning department at Utrecht University. Our project aims to reveal the spectrum and drivers of migrants' irregularity in Europe and to understand how irregular status impacts migrant households through an intersectional and intergenerational lens. In Utrecht, we focus on irregular migrant domestic and delivery workers. Have a look at our website for more information regarding the project: [Home - I-CLAIM](#)

The goal of the project is two-fold: we want to develop the concept of 'irregularity assemblages' to capture how the interplay of immigration and asylum laws, policies and practice, labour market and welfare regimes, and public narratives and perceptions produces irregularity. We are also collaborating with European, national, local and sectoral stakeholders to co-produce a series of proposals for how to improve the conditions of irregularized migrants and their families. These interventions target place-specific and sectoral vulnerabilities and to improve the living conditions of irregular migrant workers. Stakeholder maps and datasets will be made available for various types of users, enabling knowledge about the conditions of irregular migrant households to continue to be improved.

The first policy and legal framework output is ready to be published, and the first stakeholder meetings have already been organized. We are currently working on a discourse analysis (both media and parliamentary debates). A survey on public perceptions of irregular migration is also being prepared in all countries under study. Moreover, starting in the summer of 2024, the project will conduct ethnographic research concerning irregular domestic and delivery workers in Utrecht.

The Bright Mind Fellow will assist the Dutch team (the PI and the postdoctoral researcher) with the discourse analysis and the analysis of the survey results. S/he will also help organize the second stakeholder meeting in Utrecht, where the results of the narratives around irregular migration in the Netherlands are presented to practitioners and policymakers in the field.

Job Requirements

We are looking for someone with good research skills, an interest in irregular migration and preferably some discourse and survey analysis experience. Due to the nature of the project and the tasks the fellow will be performing, knowledge of the Dutch language is considered an advantage. It is possible to write your thesis with us.