

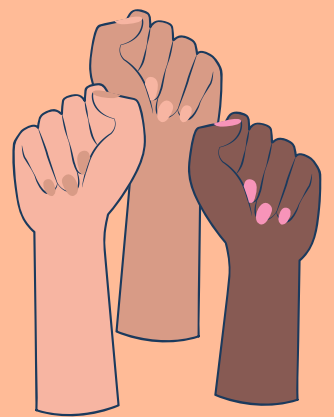
ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT & DECENT WORK



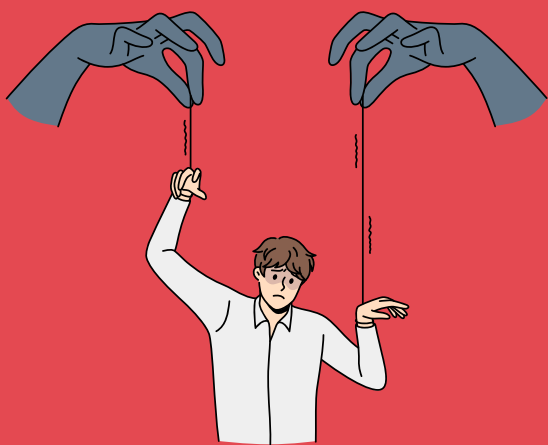
Access to Employment Opportunities and Decent Work Inclusion of migrants and refugees in the labor market is essential for their successful integration into host societies. Many people migrate to escape poverty and unemployment. Providing employment opportunities to migrants in countries of destination is not only beneficial to the individual and their families, but contributes to the overall economic growth and development of the destination country.

Breaking the Stigma

"The government could also help to break the stigma of being a 'refugee' that acts as a barrier to accessing employment and rental properties, particularly through using more positive and humane language in discussion, and shape policies based on a sense of duty and pride in providing welcome and support towards people from different countries. The government's leadership in offering a welcoming and fair stance towards refugees would surely flow on through other sections of society." Ada Snell, Young Mercy Links, Australia



Exploitation in the Workforce



Carmen Rosa Callomamani rsm on situations of labor exploitation of Venezuelan migrants in Peru: "The population in the host countries began to see them [migrants] as cheap labor, even in some cases they stopped hiring people from their own country to give work to migrants since they could pay much less, or sometimes they were not paid at all ... many young people have been captured for sexual exploitation and labor exploitation"

Access to Decent Work

For migrants and refugees, decent opportunities in the labor market are usually hard to come by and many barriers exist for them to secure employment in both the public and private sectors. Due to the shortage in mainstream employment opportunities for people with a migrant background, migrants and refugees are often overrepresented in "low-wage labor sectors." Migrants and refugees in low-wage labor sectors are especially vulnerable to situations of exploitation where they are overworked in hazardous conditions, underpaid, and under-protected by social policies.



Take Action!

- **Promote the right** to just and favorable conditions of work and fair remuneration.
- **Address issues of discrimination** and exclusion in finding stable and well paid employment with safe, equitable and humane working conditions for migrants and refugees.
- **Implement policies which address the pay gap** for migrants, promote opportunities to upskill, and improve the safety of working and living conditions.
- **Recognize the need for effective policy measures** to improve recognition of migrant skills and migrant integration in the workforce.

