

Participant Information

1. Participation

You are invited to participate in a focus group discussion as part of the research project "Integration of highly educated migrants", conducted by Nordregio. Participation is voluntary.

2. About the project

Project title: Integration of highly educated migrants

Project period: 2026-2028

Funding body: European Commission (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, 2021–2027) and Nordic Welfare Center

Research organization: Nordregio

Ethical approval number: Etikprövningsmyndigheten Dnr 2026-01459-01

Purpose of the project: The project examines how highly educated migrants establish themselves in the labour market in the Nordic countries, what barriers exist, and what measures may improve integration.

3. Method and what participation involves

You will participate in a focus group with 4-7 people, held online. During the discussion, we will go through a number of questions concerning your experiences of seeking employment in the Nordic countries, including what has worked well, what barriers you have encountered, and what improvements may be possible. You will receive the more detailed questions well in advance of the focus group so that you have time to reflect on what you wish to share.

The discussion will be facilitated by researchers from Nordregio and will last approximately 90 minutes.

4. Possible risks and how they are managed

The discussion may sometimes touch on difficult experiences, such as experiences of discrimination. This may cause discomfort. You decide yourself what you wish to share. This means that you may decline to answer any question, take a break, or withdraw from the discussion at any time without providing a reason.

If you withdraw, no further data will be collected from you. Any data already collected will not be used in the project. The researchers will facilitate the discussion in a sensitive manner and will pause or stop the discussion if anyone shows signs of discomfort.

In a focus group, participants may recognize one another. We therefore remind everyone to show mutual respect and not to share what other participants disclose during the discussion.

5. Collection and use of material

The discussion will be audio-recorded if you consent. The recording will be transcribed and pseudonymised. The recording will be deleted once transcription is complete. If you do not wish to be recorded, the researchers will take notes instead.

The results of the discussion will be presented in aggregated form. Quotations may be used, but we will never include your name in any publication or presentation. Instead, we use pseudonyms.

The material may also be reused in future scientific research projects at Nordregio, in accordance with GDPR Article 5(1)(b) and Article 89, as well as applicable national legislation. Any such future research will be reviewed by the Swedish Ethical Review Authority.

6. Data protection

Nordregio is responsible for the processing of personal data within the project. Personal data are processed for scientific research purposes in accordance with:

- Article 6(1)(e) GDPR (task carried out in the public interest), and
- Article 9(2)(j) GDPR (scientific research).

Data are stored on secure, multi-factor authentication (MFA)–protected computers at Nordregio. Pseudonymised data are retained only as long as necessary for the research and in accordance with applicable legislation. No unauthorised persons will have access to your responses.

7. Your rights

You have the right to:

- Request access to personal data concerning you
- Request rectification of inaccurate data

You may withdraw your consent to participate at any time. You have the right to lodge a complaint with the Swedish Authority for Privacy Protection.

However, the right to erasure and the right to restriction of the processing of personal data do not apply where the data are necessary for the research in question.

8. Contact information

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For questions regarding data protection:

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