



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From: Commission
To: Council

Subject: "Science4Refugees" Initiative
- Information from the Commission

Delegations will find attached information note from the Commission on the above-mentioned subject with a view to the Competitiveness Council on 30 November and 1 December 2015.

SCIENCE4REFUGEES

Information note from the Commission

In the overall context of the refugee crisis that Europe is faced with, the European Commission has launched the Science4Refugees initiative to help refugee scientists and researchers find suitable internships and jobs that both improve their own situation and put their skills and experience to good use in Europe's research system.

Science4Refugees matches talented refugees and asylum seekers who have a scientific background with positions in universities and research institutions that are 'refugee-welcoming organisations' and that have suitable positions available, including internships and part-time and full-time jobs.

Science4Refugees is accessible to refugees and institutions through the *EURAXESS - Researchers in Motion* portal, a pan-European initiative providing access to a complete range of information and support services to researchers wishing to find jobs and pursue their research careers in Europe.

Recruitment through EURAXESS and Science4Refugees is open, transparent and merit-based. Refugees and asylum seekers with a scientific background will compete for employment on the same basis as non-refugee applicants. It is also compulsory to follow national employment law, and rules on residence, visas and work permits, when applying for a job. Participating in Science4Refugees does not mean that these national conditions have been met and that there is entitlement to work in the EU.

So far, a number of ERA Stakeholder organisations have endorsed the Science4Refugees initiative (including LERU, EARTO, EUA, Science Europe and CAESAR). Within only one month, more than 150 jobs have been flagged with the Science4Refugees emblem; many institutions have requested the Science4Refugees emblem to be displayed at their webpages.

The Science4Refugees initiative is a euro-wide initiative that seeks practical support for the integration into the job market while being linked to EURAXESS, where support and information to researchers on the job market, mobility and career development is provided in collaboration with 40 European countries.

More information can be found at [www. http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/](http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/)
