European Union of Women

MIGRANTS REFUGEES AND DEMOGRAPHY COMMISSION

Josephine Barrett, Chairman

March 2013

The uncertainty of the future of EUW and Commissions has deterred this commission from working. There has been contact with reply from Petra Gardos (Sweden) and it has been agree to wait the future was clearer and arrange a meeting later in the year.

Migration is much in the news- large concentrations of migrants already in four countries: Britain, Germany, France and Spain.

How to fund the extra costs of thousands of people moving across Europe for a better future

Migrants are those who wish to live in another country for various reasons to improve their life style, a better living for themselves and family.

In Britain -currently - migrants are able to claim funding assistance from the State: there are moves that this should not be available in first year.

in Belgium legislation has been passed so that migrants have to pay a certain sum of money (fewer than three hundred Euros) on arrival.

In the United Kingdom the birth rate has doubled in the last five or so years partly because of the increase in birth rate but also because of incoming of Mothers from the European Union.

There are problems with building new schools to cope with the new arrivals especially in the London Area

There is also the matter of the different languages, In Peterborough in Cambridgeshire one school, Gladstone Primary School has become the centre of attention after it was revealed that all 445 pupils do not speak English as a first language.

How can these people and children be helped? Could the European Parliament make payments to procure housing and school building in those countries having the largest number of migrants?

There is a big increase at the moment in the numbers in southern Europe learning German so as to take up opportunities in Germany and it seems from reports that the scheme is proceeding very well.

Refugees are in a different situation: they do not have a choice of where to go; they have more often than not lost everything, their homes and businesses.

There are voluntary centres and assistance for refugees, usually from local authorities to help with the integration and provide women and children to have a place to visit and make friends and learn the host language.

Many refugees subequently take Citizenship of their host country. In Britain considerable numbers are attending citizenship ceremonies each week. Citizenship can be taken away if serious crimes are committed.

Those who come voluntarily and work hard are usually very successful in their new country.

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