



Introduction

[Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen](#) (VwV) is a platform of Belgian NGOs and volunteer groups (Flanders and Brussels based) defending the rights of asylum seekers and refugees in Belgium. [Startpunt](#) is in direct contact with asylum seekers, being a unique project in Belgium. It is a strongly developed volunteer structure within Vluchtelingenwerk, with four objectives:

1. Facilitate access to correct information for asylum seekers;
2. Contribute to lobby and advocacy work for the protection of the rights of asylum seekers through monitoring of the situation of asylum seekers and migrants in illegal stay;
3. Raise public awareness on asylum and increase solidarity;
4. Contribute to the integration of refugees through volunteering with Startpunt.

For the upcoming Startpunt project we will recruit 3 ESC volunteers:

1. One for the information activities, content training and coaching of the volunteers' team;
2. One for the volunteers coordination and activities for social cohesion in the neighbourhood;
3. One for communication with the larger public.

Participants Profiles

The 3 candidates

As Vluchtelingenwerk is a movement that is strongly embedded in civil society, we expect all candidates to have been involved in civil society activities and/or organisations in their home country. They should understand what the roles and added value of civil society are. The candidates must furthermore have a good disposition to interact with asylum seekers and vulnerable people.

Openness and non-discrimination are essential principles in the Vluchtelingenwerk approach and we expect candidates to share the Vluchtelingenwerk values and working principles. Successful candidates must not hold any prejudice against refugees and migrants, the target group of the project. On the contrary, they should be open to people from different ethnic and socio-cultural backgrounds, and be willing to develop their own intercultural skills.

They all should have analytical skills. They should be creative in finding solutions to overcome obstacles and be innovative in making suggestions for improving the project. They will have the elementary skills for training and teambuilding activities. Being multilingual is an advantage. English is commonly spoken at Startpunt and knowledge of French, Spanish or Arabic is a plus as many asylum seekers and volunteers at Startpunt speak these languages.

The Information volunteer

Job description

- Provide basic legal information to asylum seekers at the Arrival Centre in Brussels and other relevant places
- Monitor situation on the ground, collect data and prepare situation reports
- Contribute to capacity building activities of the volunteer group through delivery of trainings on all aspects of the asylum procedure
 - Elaborating performance assessments
 - Training modules development
 - Training
- Remain abreast of developments in international refugee law and subsidiary forms of protection, as well as domestic developments in asylum law, policy and case law.
 - Translate these developments into trainings
 - Participate in conferences regarding asylum policy
- Keep updated educational tools for awareness raising sessions on asylum and migration for the Belgian public and conduct these sessions
- Networking with other civil society actors
- Any other related relevant tasks

Profile, skills and competences

- Degree in Law, Human Rights
- Understanding of the situation of asylum seekers and refugees, and of the role of humanitarian and international agencies in providing to them protection and assistance
- Understanding of the role of civil society in migration issues
- Eager to learn and adapt to the Belgian legal and political situation
- Strong written and oral English skills
- Analytical writing in English
- Team player
- Good listener and strong communication skills
- Gender sensitive
- Flexible
- Planning and Organizational skills
- Preferably multilingual in addition to English

Candidates with a refugee status are strongly invited to apply.

For sending your CV and motivation letter: sollicitaties@vluchtelingenwerk.be

Mention: Information volunteer

Closing date: Friday 17 September 2021, 12am