

PACES

Making migration and migration policy decisions
amidst societal transformations



Policy Event

From Evidence to Action: Understanding Migration Choices in Times of Change

Date & Time: 6 March 2026, 09:00–13:00 CET

Venue: Library of the Institute of Economic Research, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Šancová 56, 81105 Bratislava

Migration policies are designed to regulate flows and influence decisions—but how well do we understand the choices migrants actually make, and whether policies achieve their intended effects?

This event brings together cutting-edge research and policy expertise to examine these questions. Drawing on findings from the EU-funded PACES project, it explores how migrants decide whether to move or stay, and how societal changes, public attitudes, and policy interventions shape those decisions in practice. The event combines evidence presentation with high-level policy reflection, offering a structured dialogue on implications for Slovak and European migration governance.

The event will:

- Present new evidence on migrant decision-making processes and the real-world influence of migration policies
- Bridge research and practice through dialogue between academics, policymakers, and international organisations
- Generate policy-relevant insights tailored to Slovakia's migration and integration priorities

The event is organised by the Migration Policy Institute Europe and the Slovak Academy of Sciences' Institute for Forecasting, in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) which coordinates the European Migration Network (EMN) in Slovakia.



**Funded by
the European Union**

This project has received funding under the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, grant agreement N 101094279. Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

For more information on the PACES project:



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08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome and Opening
	<u>Speaker:</u> • Jasmijn Slootjes, Deputy Director, Migration Policy Institute Europe
09:10 – 10:45	Evidence Session: Research Insights on Migrant Decision-Making and Public Preferences for Migration Policies <u>Speakers:</u> • Lucia Kováčová, Researcher, Institute for Forecasting, Centre of Social and Psychological Sciences, Slovak Academy of Sciences • María Jesús Cabezón Fernández, Associate Professor, Department of Human Geography, University of Alicante • Anne-Marie Jeannet, Associate Professor, Department of Social and Political Sciences, University of Milan <u>Moderator:</u> Simona Vezzoli, Principal Investigator of the PACES project, Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 – 12:15	Armchair Discussion: Policy at the Crossroads: Reconciling Evidence with Practice <u>Speakers:</u> • Valon Halimi, Chief of Mission, International Organization for Migration (IOM) Slovakia • Lucia Mýtna Kureková, Senior Researcher, Institute for Forecasting, Centre of Social and Psychological Sciences, Slovak Academy of Sciences • Alan Le Van, Integration Officer, City of Trnava Support Centre for Foreigners (ConnectT) <u>Moderator:</u> Jasmijn Slootjes, Deputy Director, Migration Policy Institute Europe
12:15 – 13:00	Lunch and Networking



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