



NEWSLETTER ISSUE #2

EDITORIAL



The MIMY project set out to investigate and support the integration processes of young migrants (18-29) from non-EU-countries, living in vulnerable conditions in Europe. To achieve this ambitious goal, during the first year of the project we had elaborated our theoretical framework and the key concept of liquid integration, carried out a statistical overview of the dimensions, characteristics and dynamics of youth migration to Europe and the socio-economic integration of young migrants, analysed the integration policies and opportunity structures at the EU and national level, and examined the service provisions for migrant youth in Europe. Some of our findings are now available on our [website](#) in the form of public reports.

During this second year of the MIMY project, the focus was on conducting empirical in-country research with young migrants and wider communities.

Each MIMY team carried out several research activities with different participants in two case study context in their respective countries: England, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Romania and Sweden. Across these 18 case studies MIMY researchers undertook a great number of **interviews** and **focus groups** with young migrants, parents of young migrants, migrants from previous waves, local youth, and stakeholders active in the integration field in Europe.

Overall, over **1150 participants** contributed to our project, bringing a great amount of information and insights on the integration processes of young migrants living in our communities. We would like to thank all our participants for supporting our research and sharing with us their unique experiences and points of view. Below you can find some further description of our various project activities and some preliminary results. Stay tuned for more!

A special thank goes to our [Peer Researchers](#), who became an essential part of each MIMY research team. I invite all of you to read their interesting experiences and reflections in the [MIMY youth blog](#).

With this second newsletter we would also like to give you an overview of our upcoming activities and invite you to our **final conference** in Brussels on the **13 and 14 October 2022**. We hope to see many of you in Brussels or join us online!

For now, we wish you a good reading.

Birte Nienaber for the MIMY Consortium

OUR WORK



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE 2nd PROJECT YEAR

Migrant youth between vulnerability

A group of research activities in MIMY focused on migrant youth aged between 18 and 29 and aimed at understanding migrants' perspectives on difficulties and resources within and along with integration processes. To achieve this, research teams across the 9 MIMY countries conducted a total of **50 focus groups with 221 non-EU migrants** (both youth and parents), **290 interviews with non-EU youth in particularly precarious circumstances**, and **85 interviews with visible migrant youth with positive migration histories**.

The information gathered across the 9 national contexts through focus groups reveals a perceived unbalance between difficulties and resources in the host country by migrant youth and migrant parents. Indeed, **perceptions of difficulties appear more prominently in our data than resources available to young non-EU migrants** and include several dimensions such as linguistic, cultural, educational, occupational, material, bureaucratic, and psychological.

The most widespread difficulties faced by young migrants in their host countries include language barriers, perceived discrimination, and exclusionary practices within education systems, leading to a perceived lack of social mobility. The host society's discriminatory practices and attitudes also seem to clash with (and therefore exacerbate) needs, migration mandates and gendered expectations. In turn, this can push young migrants (especially if they are alone and without family in the host country) towards quick earning opportunities rather than long-term education.

Effects of Local Actors on Migration and Integration Dynamics

Data collection about the Effects of Local Actors on Migration and Integration Dynamics has now been completed. Across the MIMY consortium, and its 9 countries, a total of **266 stakeholder interviews** and **32 focus groups with previous waves of migrants** have been undertaken. National reports regarding stakeholder interviews have been elaborated in a comparative **analysis of local provision for young non-EU migrants**, while information gathered through focus groups across case studies has been instrumental in **learning lessons from the past**. Additionally, Peer Researchers who have been working with partners to undertake focus groups with earlier waves of migrants have been writing up their [intergenerational learning experiences](#) in the [MIMY Youth Blog](#). Partners have also continued to engage with key stakeholders through regular meetings of their Multi-level Stakeholder Platform.

As leading partner, the University of Sheffield has now begun work on its final report: a **Cross-national synthesis of findings** in which the various sets of data collected on this topic will be integrated. The synthesis aims to develop a critical analysis of the role of local actors in identifying and challenging conditions of vulnerability to facilitate young migrants to build their lives in local places. In the third year of MIMY, partners are preparing to organize **workshops for their Multi-level Stakeholder Platform** at which key research findings will be discussed, with the aim of co-producing key recommendations for local actors.

Assessing the critical role of the local population

To assess the critical role of the local population, interviews with vulnerable non-migrant youth have been conducted. Across the 9 participating countries, the MIMY partners conducted **152 biographical-narrative interviews with local youth**. This research focused on non-migrant youth's own experiences with vulnerabilities and resilience as well as their perspective on integration and migration.

For the MIMY research agenda on vulnerable migrant youth, **the local youth experiences and perspectives are considered crucial** on two accounts. On the one hand, they are part of the local reception society for arriving young migrants. On the other hand, they are age group peers for migrant youth. Therefore the interviews aim to gain insights into shared or differing localized experiences of vulnerability during the transition into adulthood.

The analysis highlighted that **experiences of social exclusion due to 'Otherness' are a major vulnerability factor for youth that cross-cuts the distinction into migrant and non-migrant**. Interestingly, the non-migrant youth perceived integration and the situation of migrants mostly against the backdrop of their own experiences of vulnerability.

Youth-informed Delphi Study

In December 2021, the MIMY consortium has started the Youth-informed MIMY Delphi Study with policy makers, policy users and youth voices (mostly through migrant youth organisations). The Delphi study aims to reach a consensus around migration/integration policies addressing young adult migrants and to catalogue indicators relating to their integration.

To learn more about the Delphi study in MIMY click [here](#)

The first wave of the MIMY Delphi survey saw 114 stakeholders across 7 European countries participating. [Read about the main findings of Wave 1 in the MIMY Youth-Informed Delphi Study Brief.](#)

The second wave is underway, and conclusions and discussions based on the Delphi Study will be presented at the MIMY final Conference. Join us!

Upcoming activities of the 3rd project year

The 3rd year of MIMY is dedicated to integrating, disseminating, and collaboratively elaborating the great amount of information gathered through our empirical activities.

Starting from the local MIMY findings, **workshops** are being organized to promote knowledge exchange and creative co-creation of new ideas between young people with and without migration experiences, stakeholders, and researchers. Stakeholders, including representatives of youth organizations, are also engaged through the second wave of the MIMY Delphi Study.

In line with the participatory approach of MIMY, different **art-based projects** to engage and empower a diverse group of young migrant and local residents will be organized by MIMY. Through the implementation of art-based methods, MIMY researchers will promote a transformative and creative

process meant to give a voice and empower the participants and offer them new and different ways to express themselves. The projects will culminate in art-based events.

Finally, the great insights gathered throughout MIMY will be elaborated and collected in the **MIMY Hand(BOK)**, in a **synthesis report, methodological guidelines** as well as in 2 **special issues** in peer reviewed journals.

Stay tuned for more!

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



Peer researchers & the MIMY Youth Blog

In November 2021, we launched the MIMY Youth Blog, a space dedicated to the voices of youth with experiences of migration and integration who have become invaluable collaborators in our MIMY research teams across Europe. Through the **Peer Research** approach, around **40 young people with migration experiences** have been actively involved in creating, shaping and delivering the research of MIMY. Read more about the Peer Researcher role in MIMY [here](#).

Within this approach, the MIMY Youth Blog reflects our commitment to inclusive and empowering research. It gives a space for peer researchers to share their unfiltered ideas, experiences, and reflections about their involvement in MIMY and the issues being explored in the research. Since the launch, almost **30 posts** written by over 15 young people have been published on the MIMY Youth Blog!

Youth Blog

[Peer Research Reflections](#) include thoughts and stories on the journey of a peer researcher within MIMY.

"Almost immediately after participating in the MIMY project, I felt how my attitude and worldview regarding migrants, not only from my native country, but also others, had changed."

Oksana Breittkreits,
23/02/2022, SWPS team
(PO)

"This experience was the beginning of a journey that I believe will never end."

Marle, 07/02/2022, UL team (LU)

[Learning from Previous Generations](#) draws of Peer Research participation in group discussions with previous waves of migrants in the area. Here you can read young migrants reflecting on the stories of those who came before them to foster understanding between generations.

"Listening to their stories made me reflect on my own journey, acknowledge the importance of naming things and giving them a space in our timeline, as well as feeling grateful for the people who walk with me along the river and who have had to provide me with the necessary equipment to keep swimming without being carried away by the current."

Cristina Blumenkron,
26/04/2022, USFD team (UK)

"Despite everything, however, a person's individual will counts, and the participants I listened to demonstrate this. People have to believe that difficulties can be overcome and that this is what makes us strong!"

Malamine Ba, 01/04/2022,
UCSC team (IT)

[Insights on Migration and Integration](#) is made up of a collection of personal experiences, opinions and critical insights by young people on key themes around migration and integration.



ZOOM IN: MIMY research in...

...LUXEMBOURG

During the second project year, the team at the University of Luxembourg was conducting fieldwork in its two case studies. Overall, almost 120 participants contributed to the project with their experiences and opinions on integration in Luxembourg, producing a great amount of material.

Click [here](#) to read more about MIMY research in Luxembourg and some preliminary results!

...SWEDEN

The team at Malmö University carried out a high number of interviews in the second year of the MIMY project. Despite challenges in recruitment posed by the pandemic, the team was able to find and interact with many participants. The data collected were enriched by the insightful contribution of the two peer researchers' part of the team.

Click [here](#) to read some reflections on the team's work process and the academic texts in the works in this last year of MIMY exploring some their interesting findings.

UPCOMING EVENTS



MIMY @ 19th IMISCOE Annual Conference

June 29 - July 1, 2022, Oslo (hybrid)

Once again the MIMY project will be featured prominently at the annual conference of the IMISCOE network, Europe's largest interdisciplinary research network in the field of migration, integration and diversity studies. We are happy to announce that this year's programme will include 13 papers organized in 3 panels, and 1 workshop presenting findings from the MIMY project.

Click [here](#) for a comprehensive list of MIMY's contributions to IMISCOE 2022!



MIMY Final Conference

October 13 & 14, 2022, Brussels and online

We hope to see many of you there! Stay tuned for more information...

CONNECT WITH US



Homepage



Twitter



Facebook

This email was sent to news@mimy-project.eu
You received this email because you are registered with MIMY

[Unsubscribe here](#)





The MIMY project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 870700.

[Contact](#) [Privacy Policy](#)

Legal Notice:

Eurice GmbH, Heinrich-Hertz-Allee 1, 66386 St. Ingbert

© 2022 MIMY project, All right reserved