

**OSCE CONFERENCE ON TOLERANCE AND THE FIGHT AGAINST RACISM,  
XENOPHOBIA AND DISCRIMINATION  
(Brussels, 13-14 September 2004)**

**Session III: Combating Discrimination against Migrant Workers and Facilitating  
Their Integration into the Societies They are Legally Residing**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The participating States

- should take legal and administrative measures enabling migrant workers and their families to participate in the social, economic and cultural life on an equal footing;
- should allow participation of migrant workers and their families in the decision making processes;
- should pursue policies of integration rather than assimilation;
- should encourage and assist migrant workers to preserve their national and cultural identity;
- should pay special attention to the specific needs of the second and third generation migrants and develop special education strategies to facilitate their integration;
- should adopt a multilateral, transparent and coherent approach, taking into account and addressing various factors affecting the situation of migrant workers, like labour market conditions, education, health and social security systems, visa and citizenship policies, return and reintegration schemes;
- should engage all relevant governmental departments in the elaboration of migration policies;
- should create national monitoring systems to inspect enforcement of relevant legal and administrative provisions and should involve the representatives of migrant communities in these mechanisms;
- should facilitate access to information and legal counseling for migrant workers and their families;
- should become party to relevant international instruments including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
- should rapidly translate existing international commitments into national legislation and ensure their effective implementation;
- should facilitate naturalization and family unification of migrant workers;
- should implement pro-active policies to prevent negative stereotyping towards migrants in the media and to promote tolerance, non-discrimination, respect for diversity and mutual understanding;
- taking into account their demographic forecasts, should undertake to prepare well defined plans to compensate future labor shortages in a way not to repeat the past mistakes in procurement of migrant labour.

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- The OSCE should continue to focus on the situation of migrant workers and follow-up the conclusions of the debate in relevant OSCE meetings.
- The ODIHR and the HCNM should include the situation of migrant workers in the OSCE area into their monitoring activities and provide advice and assistance to the participating States on practical implementation of the relevant OSCE commitments as appropriate.