

On the occasion of the publication of the results of a Europe-wide research project on the harmonisation of statistical data on international migration and asylum

**Michel Poulain (University of Louvain), Ann Singleton (University of Bristol) and Nicolas Perrin (UCL) present the current situation on international migration in Europe and in Belgium**

**Press conference : Thursday 30th March at 10h30am**

In the **Résidence Palace**, rue de la Loi 155, Brussels (**Reading Room, ground floor**)

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International migration and asylum are at the top of the political agenda in the European Union. In order to interpret changes in trends, journalists, NGOs, researchers, lawyers and policy-makers need reliable information. A forthcoming EU regulation will improve the future availability of statistical data. In the meantime the results of a 6th Framework Programme research project, have just been published by the Presses universitaires de Louvain. This project was funded by DG Research, led by seven European research teams working in collaboration with Eurostat, and co-ordinated by Prof. Michel Poulain of UCL.

THESIM – Towards Harmonised European Statistics on International Migration – compares statistical sources in the 25 Member States. It makes available up to date and comprehensive information on the systems which produce migration statistics for every Member State of the European Union. If this information has been keenly awaited and geared towards the needs of specialists, it also gives the wider public access to information on the question of migration, which is of ever increasing importance to society.

**Michel Poulain**, Professor at the Catholic University of Louvain-la-Neuve (UCL)

**Ann Singleton**, Senior Research Fellow, University of Bristol

**Nicolas Perrin**, Researcher at UCL

Co-ordinators of the research and editors of the THESIM publication

Are pleased to invite you to a press conference :

**Thursday 30th March at 10.30am**

**at the Résidence Palace, rue de la Loi 155, Brussels (Reading room, Ground Floor)**

*The press conference will be held in English. The speakers will also be able to answer questions in French.*