

# Newsletter No.1 2025

## Transnational Exchange VI project comes to an end – thank you and goodbye!

Dear AVRR counsellors, partners and other colleagues in the AVRR field,

Since its inception in 2010, the Transnational Exchange project has grown into a well-established platform in the European AVRR field. Through conferences, workshops, trainings, and memorable field trips across Europe, it has fostered collaboration, learning, and professional connections. More than just a project, it has become a network — a space where colleagues and organizations can reach out, exchange ideas, and support one another.

But now, the time has come to bring this chapter to a close. Still, we sincerely hope that the doors we have opened will remain so, and that the dialogue and exchange will continue. Many of you have taken part in our events, built meaningful connections, and engaged with colleagues across Europe. We trust these relationships will last, helping you broaden your horizons and perspectives in the future as well.

Thank you for being part of this journey!  
Salome, Riikka and Verena – the Transnational Exchange VI team



Transnational  
Exchange VI  
field trip  
participants  
in Amsterdam  
in February  
2025.

# Up-coming Transnational Exchange VI events

## Online conference, 07.05.2025: AVRR systems in Europe

The next Transnational Exchange VI online conference will focus on the assisted voluntary return and reintegration systems in different countries in Europe. The conference will also provide updates on the latest news and programs related to the field of AVRR in Europe.

Please sign up on our website:  
<https://transnationalexchange.com/news/>

## Online workshop, 04.06.2025: Voluntary return to Syria

The fifth and last Transnational Exchange VI online workshop will focus on Syria. Renowned journalist and Syria expert Kristin Helberg will provide current insights from the region, while Dr. Osman Bahadir Dincer will share findings of the comprehensive study “Return and Belonging” on Syrian returnees ([RE-MIG project](#)).

More information coming soon! Signing up is already possible at:  
<https://transnationalexchange.com/news/>

## Latest events

### Fieldtrip in the Netherlands

The Transnational Exchange VI project organised its fifth field trip to the Netherlands from the 18<sup>th</sup> until the 21st of February 2025 for six European return counsellors from Iceland, Germany, Finland, Denmark, Austria and Switzerland. The group visited three prominent NGOs in Amsterdam, VluchtelingenWerk, Regiegroup Ongedocumenteerden Amsterdam and the Goedwerk Foundation. The second day was spent in Hague at IOM Netherlands and Ministry of Security and Justice. Read more in the report [here](#).



*Transnational Exchange VI delegation visiting ACO - the Amsterdam Centre for Undocumented Migrants. The center is operated by the NGO Regiegroup Ongedocumenteerden Amsterdam.*

## Workshop in Augsburg, 5.-7.11.2024: Voluntary return to the Russian Federation

The Transnational Exchange VI project organized its fourth workshop in Augsburg on November 5-7, 2024. The topic, “Voluntary return to the Russian Federation,” was addressed from historical, financial, political, and social perspectives. Inna Airapetian, a reintegration partner operating from Armenia, offered invaluable insight into reintegration challenges and realities in the Russian Federation, especially in Chechnya. Twenty-nine participants from six different countries further explored the topics in working groups. The report can be found [here](#).



*Reintegration partner Inna Airapetian from Resource Center “Steps” came from Armenia to share her expertise and experience from Caucasus region.*



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Caritasverband für  
die Diözese Augsburg e.V.

