



## CONTACT DETAILS

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VolkswagenStiftung

## Diversity of asylum seekers' needs and aspirations

### RESEARCH PROJECT

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Since 2015, thousands of refugees and asylum seekers have arrived in Europe as a result of violent conflicts, political persecution and precarious living conditions in many world regions. Because the complexity of the situation, there is an urgent necessity to learn more about the newcomers. Therefore, this new research project has two related goals:

1. seeking to understand better the wide range of needs and aspirations among the recent asylum seekers – concerning, for instance, their everyday living conditions, education, family life, legal processes and labor market access;
2. examining how local municipal, civil and voluntary institutions arrange the reception of newcomers in refugee homes, where such institutions are managing logistical challenges, providing services and responding to the diverse needs and aspirations of asylum seekers.

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## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH?

By investigating these two focuses – asylum-seekers' needs and aspirations along with institutional arrangements for addressing them – we aim to gain clearer and more far-reaching knowledge surrounding the contemporary migration flow into Germany, its complexity and effects.

## WHO ARE WE?

The project team – comprised of four professional researchers and several research assistants – is based at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen. The project is funded by the Volkswagen-Foundation, Germany's largest private non-profit organization for the promotion of research and education.

## WHY WE NEED YOU TO PARTICIPATE

Because we wish to build a comprehensive picture of the situation in and around Göttingen, we wish to learn from as many people, with as many perspectives, as possible. Therefore, we are interviewing asylum seekers as well as city officials, professionals and volunteers working in refugee accommodations. We hope that you will agree to participate and share your views, experiences, and insights with us.

## YOUR RIGHTS

If you would like to withdraw from the research, you can do so at any time. You do not have to answer all of our questions - and even after an interview or conversation, you can request that your material be deleted. You will be able to see any material you have provided at any time.

*P.S.:* Your participation in, or withdrawal from, this research will in no way influence your asylum application process.

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE?

All information collected will be anonymous. That is, your name and personal details will not appear anywhere. All your identifiable information such as age and gender will be coded (i.e. identified with a code number known only to project team members). Any answers you provide will not be passed to any third parties, and will only be used to write articles, reports or books.

Results of the project will be published in local media and academic articles, and will be available online at [www.mmg.mpg.de](http://www.mmg.mpg.de). We will be happy to address any questions you might have: please contact us by way of the details below.