

# Time to Rethink EU Free Movement of Persons?

# A Roundtable Discussion

## Friday 26 February 2016, 14.00-17.00, Cavonius Centre, Gonville and Caius College, West Road, University of Cambridge.

## Hosted by ESRC Britain in a Changing Europe Senior Fellow, Professor Catherine Barnard and Principal Researcher, Dr Amy Ludlow.

Some people believe that EU migrant workers come to the UK in order to claim benefits, or to work in jobs that are low paid so that they can claim in work benefits like tax credits. Others believe that EU migrant workers ‘take’ jobs from UK workers and undercut wages and other labour standards. The British Prime Minister, David Cameron, takes the view that EU migration to the UK is inflating the costs of social security and burdening over-stretched public services. He has successfully sought changes to the rules on free movement in his negotiations with the EU prior to the UK’s referendum about EU membership on 23 June 2016.

In this roundtable discussion, experts on EU migration law consider the pull factors that bring EU migrants to the UK, what we know about migrants’ experiences once they are living and working in the UK, and prospects for reform in the light of the crucial European Council meeting the previous week.

# Programme

Tea and coffee will be available from 13.45 onwards.

14.00 Welcome and context: the ‘Honeypot Britain’ project and enforcement of labour rights by EU-8 migrant workers in the UK

Catherine Barnard, Professor of European Union Law, Trinity College, Cambridge, Senior Fellow, ESRC UK in a Changing Europe

Amy Ludlow, Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, Principal Researcher, ESRC UK in a Changing Europe

14.15 Panel discussion (part 1): time to rethink EU free movement of persons?

Chair: Dr Julie Smith, Director of the European Centre, POLIS, University of Cambridge

Jonathan Portes, Principal Research Fellow at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research and Senior Fellow, ESRC Britain in a Changing Europe

Charles Clarke, former Home Secretary, King’s College, Cambridge

Bernard Ryan, Professor of Migration Law, University of Leicester

Marie-Noelle Loewe, Trustee, New Europeans

Between 14.30 and 15.00 we will be joined by Heidi Allen, MP for South Cambridgeshire

15.30 Tea and coffee

15.45 Panel discussion (part 2): time to rethink EU free movement of persons?

Chair: Professor Catherine Barnard, Professor of European Union Law, Trinity College, Cambridge, Senior Fellow, ESRC UK in a Changing Europe

Joanna Hofman, Senior Analyst, RAND Europe

Damian Chalmers, Professor of European Union Law, London School of Economics, Senior Fellow, UK in a Changing Europe

Tadeusz Stenzel, President, Federation of Poles in Great Britain

Agata Dmoch, Solicitor and Member of United Poles

16.30 Challenges, possibilities and ideas going forward

17.00 Close

\*\*\*

Advocate General Julianne Kokott will be delivering this year’s Centre for European Legal Studies’ annual Mackenzie Stuart Lecture in the Law Faculty from 17.30 on ‘Investment Arbitration and EU Law’. Roundtable participants are warmly invited to attend the lecture.