AIM

The current Covid-19 pandemic has a big impact on the whole world. This study aims to better understand the impact of Covid-19 pandemic and the measures taken to prevent it on Migrants and Refugees around Europe. Up till now there is very little information available on how Covid-19 is changing the lives of Migrants and Refugees and what helps/could help them cope.

The results of this study will be used to inform and support policy makers and practitioners to support Migrants and Refugees better to deal with this global health crisis.

PARTNERS

Ghent University is partnering with Uppsala University (Sweden); Sussex University (UK); University of Toulouse (France); University of Copenhagen (Denmark); Lisbon University (Portugal); University of Sevilla (Spain); National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, NKUA (Greece); and academics of AUSL di Reggio Emilia (Italy).



WHAT IS THE STUDY ABOUT?

The ApartTogether study reaches out to refugees and migrants across Europe, with a particular interest in asylum applicants, undocumented migrants and recently arrived newcomers, to better understand the impact of Covid-19 on their social lives and mental health, as well as learn about what helps them cope. The survey contains 30 items to allow for a speedy completion by participants who can fill out the questionnaires using their phones or other handheld devices or laptops. It uses a simple language and has been translated into 26 languages. The questions cover socio-demographic details, Covid-19 and preventative measures, daily stressors, psychological well-being, social well-being and stigmatization and coping. Participants' age must be over 16-year-old to abide by GDPR regulations which will be checked in the online survey. Recruitment of participants will be done through organisations and institutions working with migrants and refugees, and an online campaign using different social media channels.

WILL INFORMATION BE KEPT SAFE?

All participants will be asked to fill out an informed consent form in which all their rights will be clearly described. Participants can respond anonymously to the survey, and all the information they give us will be stored and processed confidentially. The data coming out of the questionnaires will be stored on REDcap — a server at the University of Ghent. The server stores data in accordance with the GDPR regulations. Sharing of data between the research partners will be done through secured servers.

WHAT WILL COME OUT OF THE STUDY?

The finding of this study will be made public through reports, our website, social media and recommendations. We will also pass the findings from this research on to policy makers and practitioners around Europe. We will use the findings of this study to inform them and provide them with information to better support Migrants and Refugees during and after this global health crisis.

HOW CAN WE BE CONTACTED?

If you have any questions on this study or would like to be informed on its results please contact ilse.derluyn@ugent.be (Belgium)