FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS FALL SCHOOL AND TRAINING 2026
16–20 NOVEMBER · LEUVEN, BELGIUM

From Unrecognised Talent to Shared Prosperity: Social Investment in Refugees and Newcomers through Higher Education

Day 1 · Monday 16 November 2026

From Camp to Campus and the Social Investment Theory

Historic Irish College, Leuven

TIME	PROGRAMME	ROOM
11:00–13:00	**Registration** Welcome desk open	Entrance hall
13:00–13:30	**Prof. Dr. Ides Nicaise — KU Leuven / UCLL** Opening and welcome: From Camp to Campus Fall School	Auditorium
13:30–14:00	**Mohamed Ridouani — Mayor, City of Leuven** Investing in people, investing in cities: newcomer talent and shared flourishing	Auditorium
14:00–14:30	**Break**	Foyer
14:30–15:20	**Dr. Tobias Hentze — IW, Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft** Economic and fiscal reasons for social investment	Auditorium
15:20–16:15	**Dr. Chiemeka Onyeze-Joe — ULB** The challenges that educated newcomers face in Europe	Auditorium
16:15–18:30	**Reception**	Foyer

ORGANISED BY
UCLL HOGESCHOOL Research & Expertise

RESEARCH PARTNERS
KU LEUVEN HUVA VUB VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL PXL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS

FUNDED BY
fwo From Camp to Campus (S003124N) is funded by FWO – Research Foundation Flanders.

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS FALL SCHOOL AND TRAINING 2026
16–20 NOVEMBER · LEUVEN, BELGIUM

From Unrecognised Talent to Shared Prosperity: Social Investment in Refugees and Newcomers through Higher Education

Day 2 · Tuesday 17 November 2026

The bigger picture on migration and society

UCLL, Campus Hertogstraat, Leuven

TIME	PROGRAMME	ROOM
8:30–9:00	**Registration** Welcome desk open + welcome coffee	Entrance hall
9:00–9:45	**Dr. Hielke Van Doorslaer — Denktank Minerva** Part 1 — The migration paradox: demographic and economic trends	A107
10:00–11:00	**Dr. Hielke Van Doorslaer — Denktank Minerva** Part 2 — European Migration Pact and Belgian policies: between rhetoric and practice	A107
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**	Foyer
11:30–12:00	**Pol Barbé — KU Leuven** Recent research on the labour market in Flanders	A107
12:00–12:45	**Dr. Dries Lens - UAntwerpen** Paths to integration: labour market trajectories and skill investments among immigrants in Flanders	A107
12:45–13:45	**Lunch** Tables along topic lines	Cafeteria
13:45–14:30	**Dr. Peter De Cuyper — KU Leuven** High-skilled migrants and mentoring as a leverage for labour market integration, followed by discussion	A107
14:30–15:00	**Prof. Dr. em. Ides Nicaise — KU Leuven** Access of migrants to higher education in Flanders: positive trends despite socio-economic and cultural obstacles	A107
15:00–15:30	**Coffee break**	Foyer
15:30–16:00	**Panel discussion and reflection** Moderator: Sinem Yilmaz, Participants: Ides Nicaise, Véronique Pochet, Dries Lens, Pol Barbé	A107
16:00–16:30	**Walk to Naamsestraat as a group**	
16:30–17:30	**Site visit — KU Leuven Admissions** Hosted by Dr. Ed Guzman	University Hall

ORGANISED BY
UCLL HOGESCHOOL Research & Expertise

RESEARCH PARTNERS
KU LEUVEN HUVA VUB VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL PXL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS

FUNDED BY
fwo From Camp to Campus (S003124N) is funded by FWO – Research Foundation Flanders.

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS FALL SCHOOL AND TRAINING 2026
16–20 NOVEMBER · LEUVEN, BELGIUM

From Unrecognised Talent to Shared Prosperity: Social Investment in Refugees and Newcomers through Higher Education

Day 3 · Wednesday 18 November 2026

Pathways to higher education

UCLL, Campus Hertogstraat, Leuven

TIME	PROGRAMME	ROOM
8:30–9:00	**Registration** Welcome desk open + welcome coffee	Entrance hall
9:00–9:30	**Prof. Dr. Orhan Agirdag — KU Leuven** Inclusion and structural inequality: from formal access to genuine inclusion — multilingualism, inequality and hidden institutional barriers	A107
9:30–10:00	**Nele Vanderheyden — Atlas / THEA** Newcomer support: lessons from supporting newcomers into higher education in Antwerp	A107
10:00–10:30	**Nele Breuls — NARIC** Diploma recognition: recognising what students already bring — foreign qualifications and access to the labour market	A107
10:30–11:00	**Coffee break**	Foyer
11:00–11:30	**Dr. Christine Engelen and Sabine Steemans — Linguapolis** Language requirements: bridge to participation or barrier to inclusion?	A107
11:30–12:30	**Dr. Aleidis Devillé — Thomas More / Next Steps** Institutional responsibility and admissions: from recognition to admission — how can higher education institutions create genuinely inclusive pathways?	A107
12:30–13:30	**Lunch** Tables along sector lines	Foyer, A111-A112
13:30–14:00	**Afaf Reguib — IVANHOE** From aspiration to pathway: orientation, intake and individual guidance	A107
14:00–14:30	**Liesbeth Plateau — CVO CLT** Building the general language foundation for further study: can CVOs go the distance, e.g. B2/C1?	A107
14:30–15:00	**Prof. Dr. Ann Bertels — ILT** From general language proficiency to academic readiness	A107
15:00–15:30	**Coffee break**	Foyer
15:30–16:00	**Chiara Kerckhof — AMAL, VTHO foundation year** Bridging the gap: what an integrated preparatory year can offer students and society	A107
16:00–16:30	**Dr. Melanie Hall — UCLL** Why investing in foundational and language programmes matters for all	A107
16:30–17:30	**Reception**	Foyer

ORGANISED BY
UCLL HOGESCHOOL Research & Expertise

RESEARCH PARTNERS
KU LEUVEN HIVA VUB VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL PXL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS

FUNDED BY
fwo From Camp to Campus (S003124N) is funded by FWO – Research Foundation Flanders.

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS FALL SCHOOL AND TRAINING 2026
16–20 NOVEMBER · LEUVEN, BELGIUM

From Unrecognised Talent to Shared Prosperity: Social Investment in Refugees and Newcomers through Higher Education

Day 4 · Thursday 19 November 2026

Pathways to inclusion and belonging

UCLL, Campus Hertogstraat, Leuven

TIME	PROGRAMME	ROOM
8:30–9:00	**Registration** Welcome desk open + welcome coffee	Entrance hall
9:00–9:30	**Dr. Flore Geukens — UCLL** Beyond access: the Codex of Higher Education and why student support for refugees and newcomers is a needed social investment	A107
9:30–10:00	**Katrien Vermijlen — Alderwoman, City of Leuven** Belonging beyond the campus: how cities can support inclusion, participation and connection	A107
10:00–10:30	**Raf D'haese — KU Leuven** Social and academic inclusion: barriers, opportunities and institutional responsibility in higher education	A107
10:30–11:00	**Coffee break**	Foyer
11:00–12:30	**Katrien Mertens and Liesbeth Spanjers — UCLL** Sense of Belonging workshop: what does it take to belong? Student voices, lived experience and personal narratives	F104-F105, F108
12:30–13:45	**Lunch** Tables along topic lines	Foyer, A111-A112
13:45–14:15	**Joshe Kuypers and Paulien Haesen — PXL** Maximising learning potential: the student support model	A107
14:15–14:45	**Testimony — JENY BSG - UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador** Finding your place and giving back: a personal journey	A107
14:45–15:30	**Coffee break**	Foyer
15:30–17:30	**JENY BSG — Dancer, choreographer and UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador** Belonging in Motion: building trust, connection and community through movement	0.002A
17:30–17:45	**Katrien Mertens — UCLL** Seeing and belonging differently: introduction to the Photovoice exhibition	A107
17:45–18:45	**Photovoice exhibition and reception — UCLL** Through Our Eyes: student perspectives on inclusion, identity and belonging	Foyer

ORGANISED BY
UCLL Hogeschool Research & Expertise

RESEARCH PARTNERS
KU LEUVEN · HUA · VUB Vrije Universiteit Brussel · PXL University of Applied Sciences and Arts

FUNDED BY
fwo
From Camp to Campus (S003124N) is funded by FWO – Research Foundation Flanders.

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS

FROM CAMP TO CAMPUS FALL SCHOOL AND TRAINING 2026
16–20 NOVEMBER · LEUVEN, BELGIUM

From Unrecognised Talent to Shared Prosperity: Social Investment in Refugees and Newcomers through Higher Education

Day 5 · Friday 20 November 2026

The future of higher education solidarity

UCLL, Campus Hertogstraat, Leuven

TIME	PROGRAMME	ROOM
8:30–9:00	**Registration** Welcome desk open + welcome coffee	Entrance hall
9:00–9:20	**Prof. Dr. Tuba Bircan — VUB** From Camp to Campus Goals	A107
9:20–9:50	**Ben Jordan — UCAS** What UCAS can teach us about fairness and transparency	A107
9:50–10:20	**Jennifer Moesker — Studielink** How institutions share infrastructure without losing the capacity to respond to individual circumstances	A107
10:20–10:50	**Dr. Ed Guzman — KU Leuven Admissions** What coordinated admissions mean in Flanders: institutional realities, opportunities and limits	A107
10:50–11:20	**Coffee break**	Foyer
11:20–12:15	**Speakers panel — Jennifer Moesker, Ilse Beerland, Minne Philippe, Ed Guzman, Tuba Bircan and Nele Van Holderbeke** From individual challenges to shared responsibility.	A107
12:15–12:45	**Dr. Imran Uddin — UCLL, closing keynote** From access to responsibility and shared prosperity: making the right to quality education (SDG 4) real for all	A107
12:45–13:45	**Lunch**	Cafeteria
13:45–14:15	**Lalynn Wadera — Alderwoman, City of Leuven** Shared prosperity: why access to higher quality education and lifelong learning (SDG 4) matters to all	A107
14:15–15:00	**Anton Neronov — VUB** Policy round tables	A107, A113 D107-D108
15:00–15:15	**Coffee break**	Foyer
15:15–16:30	**Anton Neronov — VUB** Policy round tables continued	A107, A113 D107-D108
16:30	**Good-bye**	A107

ORGANISED BY
UCLL HOGESCHOOL Research & Expertise

RESEARCH PARTNERS
KU LEUVEN HIVA VUB VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL PXL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS

FUNDED BY
fwo
From Camp to Campus (S003124N) is funded by FWO – Research Foundation Flanders.