ABSTRACT DELIVERABLE 3.1

INTERIM REPORT ON EU-NC COUNTRY MOBILITY AND RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MIGRATION, SOCIAL CAPITAL & OTHERS

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The SEARCH project is aimed at analyzing the impact of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) on the integration of the neighbouring countries with the EU with respect to several areas, such as trade flows, people mobility, human capital, technological activities, innovation diffusion and institutional environment.

This interim report is aimed at specifically taking into account the role of labour migration and its economic and social consequences for both destination (EU) and origin (ENP) countries. In particular, it summarizes the state of the research related to migration determinants within the ENP framework and the role of human capital on labour market integration.

The interim report collects the nine working papers produced up to now within the context of this work package. A first group of working papers analyses bilateral migration flows and the effects of different push and pull factors using a unique database that has been built within the project. A second group of working papers specifically looks at the role of human capital within the context of the labour market integration of immigrants.

The obtained evidence in these working papers permit us to concluded that regulated or managed migration policy is perceived as benefitting both origin and destination countries, but the existence of strong spatial spillovers in migration flows points out the need of a migration policy globally defined, rather than one designed by a specific country. Another important area for policy improvement requires the awareness of the interrelation between traditional migration policies and other policies that also affect migration flows (for instance, labour market institutions). Last, the labour market picture of migrants in host countries shows lack of equality between migrants and native workers in terms of wages and employment. In order to improve the situation, migration policies should be designed in order to attract more skilled migrants. However, even if immigrants are relatively high qualified this does not guarantee the success in the EU labour market due to the existence of skill mismatches, a problem that requires specific policy actions such as improving the system of recognition of foreign-acquired educational degrees.