



ODYSSEUS NETWORK SUMMER SCHOOL  
IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION POLICIES OF BELGIAN  
REGIONS: A MIRROR OF THE DIVERSITY IN THE EU ?  
EVENING DEBATE

**Evening debate « Immigrant Integration Policies of Belgian Regions:  
A mirror of the diversity in the EU? »**

with

**Ms Françoise SCHEPMANS**, Mayor of Molenbeek,  
**Ms Yasmine KHERBACHE**, Member of the Flemish Parliament,  
**Prof. Ilke ADAM** from the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB),  
**Prof. Marco MARTINIELLO** from the Université de Liège (Belgium),  
Chair: Prof. Achilles SKORDAS, University of Copenhagen (Denmark)

Integration is only marginally an EU competence, leaving aside the definition of legal migrants' rights. If the EU support policy is not considered as neutral, national policies are often the object of controversies like it is for the moment the case in the UK after the recent terrorist attacks. Belgium, seen the decentralisation of immigrant integration policies, is characterized by opposite integration models of the Flemish Community and the Walloon Region. This divergence internal to one Member State mirrors actually the European diversity: a continent without a 'European' model for integration, with only a modest input from the EU and of the case law of the Strasbourg and Luxembourg Courts. This debate aims at better understanding the situation in the EU through the lenses of Belgium with the help of two political sociologists (of course one Flemish - but from Brussels, and one French-speaking from Wallonia), the Mayor responsible for a commune famous in the entire world and a Flemish Member of Parliament, also former chef de cabinet of the Belgian prime-minister and engaged in local politics in Anwerp. The debate will be chaired by a Greek academic.

*This event co-organised with the Institute for European Studies of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)  
with the support of the Belgian Contact Point of the European Migration Network (EMN)  
and is exceptionally open to persons not registered to the Summer School*

*Date: 13 July, 19:30-21:00*

*Location: Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Solbosch Campus, Building A, Door Z, Room 1.101*

*Entrance is free upon registration at*

*<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/public-evening-debate-at-the-odysseus-summer-school-tickets-35780903646?ref=estw>*

