

Impact café of Helsinki

Have the human rights of asylum seekers been forgotten?

Tuesday 17 May at 4 pm – 8 pm. Koneen säätiö (Kone foundation), Tehtaankatu 21 b 49



What are the basic needs of the asylum seekers that have to be assured? What are the best means to do so in the Helsinki capital region?

Welcome to the Impact café, which is a new relaxed way to participate and influence topical issues. The purpose of this café event is to discuss these themes with other residents, asylum seekers and decision makers. In this event we first hear expert presentations about the refugee situation in Helsinki and Finland, and then there is a chance to ask questions and talk with experts and fellow citizens. The overall objective is to produce deliberated citizen opinions of this important theme, make them heard by decision makers, and support public debate on this issue. Please register to this event by Wed 11 May at 10 pm in the following address:

<https://www.webropolsurveys.com/S/D294129C5DF10A6E.par>, or www.deliberaatio.org

Programme

16.00 Coffee and registration

16.15 Poetic and musical performance by MaaIlmanlopun kahvila

16.30 Welcome – why are we here? Kalle Korhonen, Kone Foundation & Mikko Rask, Finnish Institute for Deliberative Democracy

16.45 Expert presentations

- Refugee situation in Finland and in Europe, spokesperson **Verna Leinonen**, The Finnish Immigration Service
- Asylum seekers and completion of human rights in Finland, head of communication, **Kaisa Väkiparta**, Finnish Refugee Council
- Measures at the Helsinki capital region, head of immigration and employment issues, **Ilkka Haahtela**, City of Helsinki

17.15 Discussion about presentations, Q&A

- Discussion chaired by parliamentarian Ozan Yanar

17.45 Discussion at small tables

- Commentary by europarlamentarian Sirpa Pietikäinen – how can the results be used?

19.30 Vote – on what issues do we agree?

19.50 Concluding words

20.00 Closing of the event



Impact cafés are not only talking. The idea is to support decision making through the considered opinions of the citizens. Different viewpoints can enrich political consideration and lead to better decisions. A note will be prepared on the basis of the citizens' viewpoints and recommendations, and replies will be invited from political decision makers. The event is organised by two unpolitical organisations, the Finnish Institute for Deliberative Democracy and Kone Foundation, in collaboration with Iso Numero.

We welcome a most diverse set of participants representing different age and socio-economic groups of residents in the Helsinki capital region. The event is directed at citizens over 18, and there is room for 30 participants. Participants will be randomly selected to represent different socio-economic categories. We will contact the applicants by Thursday 12 May. The event is free, and there is free coffee service with snacks. Participants will be compensated with a gift voucher of the value of 20 €.