

BEFORE YOU START:

- THE RISK OF OVER-QUALIFICATION IS HIGHER FOR MIGRANTS THAN FOR THE NATIVE-BORN POPULATION (OECD, 2017).
- FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS TEND TO HAVE LESS VALUE IN HOST COUNTRIES' LABOR MARKETS (DUSTMANN, FRATTINI AND PRESTON, 2013).
- MIGRANTS WORKERS ARE MORE LIKELY TO ACCEPT LOWER QUALITY JOBS AND OVER-QUALIFICATION IS A TREND AMONG ALL OECD COUNTRIES (OECD, 2017).
- OVER-QUALIFICATION OF MIGRANT WORKERS MIGHT LEAD TO FEELINGS OF FRUSTRATION AND WORTHLESSNESS (FGV, 2015).
- BRAZIL'S REFUGEE ACT STATES THAT "RECOGNITION OF CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS [...] SHALL BE FACILITATED, TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION THE UNFAVORABLE SITUATION FACED BY THE REFUGEE."

WASTED POTENTIAL: HIGHLY SKILLED FORCED MIGRANTS AND THE RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DIPLOMAS IN BRAZIL

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RESEARCH QUESTION

HOW DO STRUCTURAL HINDRANCES IN THE RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DIPLOMAS AFFECT THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF HIGHLY SKILLED FORCED MIGRANTS IN BRAZIL?

METHODOLOGY AND METHODS

QUALITATIVE METHODOLOGY - CASE STUDY
EVALUATION RESEARCH
POLICY REVIEW AS A METHOD



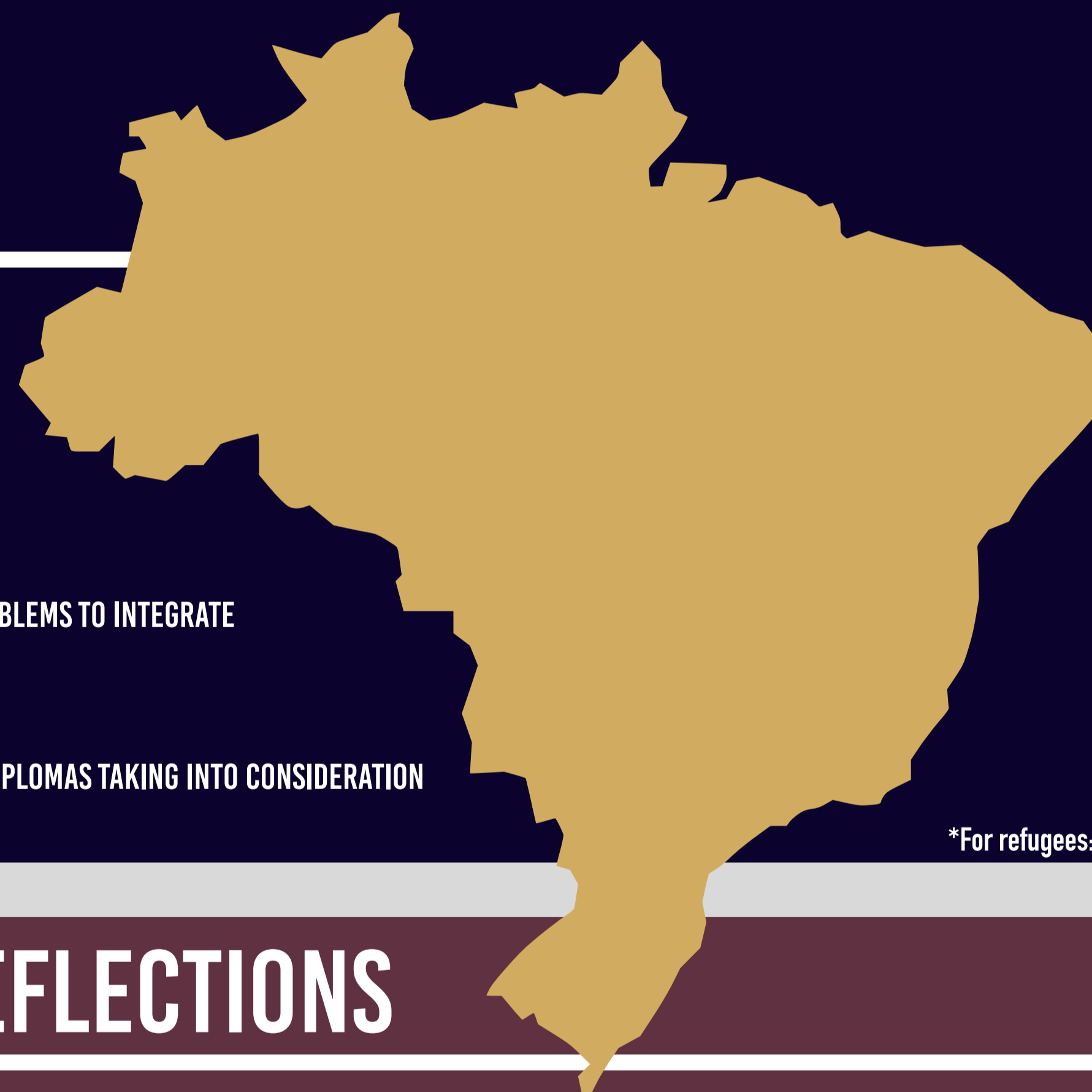
EUROPEAN MASTER IN
MIGRATION AND INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS

WHAT IS THE ISSUE WITH BRAZIL, THEN?

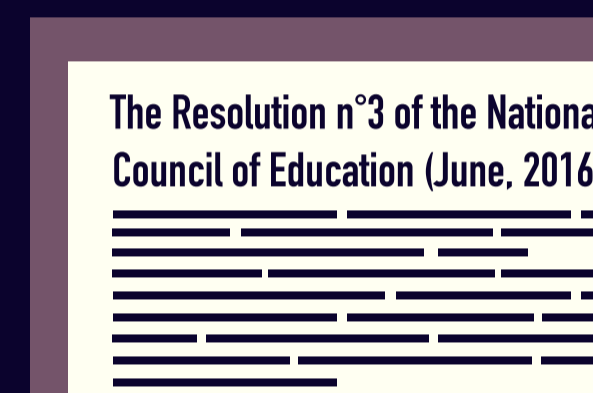
- BRAZIL FIGURES AS THE COUNTRY WITH LARGEST INCOME INEQUALITY DEPENDING ON EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (OECD, 2018).



- THE PROCESS OF RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DIPLOMAS IS CONSIDERED BY ALL STAKEHOLDERS ONE OF THE MAIN PROBLEMS TO INTEGRATE QUALIFIED WORKFORCE IN THE COUNTRY (FGV, 2017).
- MANY MIGRANT WORKERS GIVE UP ON THE PROCESS BECAUSE THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT (FGV, 2017).
- ONLY IN 2016 THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT CREATED SPECIFIC NORMS REGARDING THE RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DIPLOMAS TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION HARDSHIPS REFUGEES EXPERIENCE



OUR DATA



- 180 DAYS TO FINALIZE THE PROCESS
- EACH INSTITUTION STIPULATES THE FEE FOR THE PROCESS
- AN EXTENSIVE LIST OF DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING THE PEDAGOGIC PROJECT OF THE COURSE AND SYLLABI OF ALL THE COURSES ONE HAS TAKEN)*
- THE DIPLOMA AND THE TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AUTHENTICATED BY A CONSULAR AUTHORITY OR WITH THE HAGUE APOSTILLE
- TRANSLATION TO PORTUGUESE BY A SWORN TRANSLATOR

*For refugees: They can have their qualifications recognized by taking an exam testing their knowledge and such exam has to be taken in Portuguese

RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS

- NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
- LIMIT OF 180 DAYS FOR A DECISION (BEFORE IT COULD TAKE UP TO 3 YEARS!)
- A COMPUTERIZED PROCEDURE (CAROLINA BORI PLATFORM)
- THE SKILL-BASED TEST MUST BE TAKEN IN PORTUGUESE
- THE CAROLINA BORI PLATFORM IS ENTIRELY IN PORTUGUESE
- MIGRANTS THAT HAVE COMPLEMENTARY PROTECTION MIGHT NOT BENEFIT FROM THE PRIVILEGES REFUGEES RECEIVE (LIKE THE HAITIANS WHO HAVE A HUMANITARIAN VISA)
- FEES ARE HIGH AND FORCED MIGRANTS DO NOT NORMALLY RECEIVE CASH BENEFITS FROM THE GOVERNMENT

REFLECTIONS

- THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD ADOPT A RADICAL EMPOWERMENT (FERNANDES, 2015) APPROACH TO PUBLIC POLICY.
- PARTNERSHIPS WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED CONSIDERING THE GOOD CASE OF THE NGO COMPASSIVA IN SÃO PAULO
- POLICY-MAKERS SHOULD CONSIDER:
 - CREATING NATIONAL GUIDELINES ON THE FEES CHARGED AND GRATUITOUSNESS FOR FORCED MIGRANTS;
 - RELEASE A VERSION IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH OF THE CAROLINA BORI PORTAL;
 - THE POSSIBILITY OF TAKING THE SKILL-TEST IN ENGLISH OR SPANISH;
 - THE CREATION OF PARTNERSHIPS AND BILATERAL AGREEMENTS FOR AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMAS;
 - INCLUDE ALL FORCED MIGRANTS IN THE POLICIES, NOT ONLY THOSE UNDER THE REFUGEE ACT.

BOTTOM-LINE

THROUGH THE ANALYSIS OF POLICY DOCUMENTS AND LITERATURE, IT IS POSSIBLE TO AFFIRM THAT THERE IS A LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL AND STRUCTURE BARRIERS PREVENT FORCED MIGRANTS FROM GETTING THEIR QUALIFICATIONS VERIFIED IN BRAZIL. THE MAIN EFFECT ON INTEGRATION THEORIZED BY THIS STUDY IS THE CREATION OF A NUMEROUS OVER-QUALIFIED WORKFORCE. FURTHER RESEARCH HAS GOT TO BE EMPIRICAL, CONTAINING INTERVIEWS AND NATIONAL SURVEYS WITH DIFFERENT FOCUS GROUPS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN QUANTITATIVE DATA TO BE PRESENTED TO AUTHORITIES.