

Call for Expressions of Interest- Field Researcher

Position: Field Researcher

Project: Onward Movement of Asylum Seekers and Recognised Refugees from Greece to the United Kingdom

Location: United Kingdom. The Field Researcher must be based in the UK, with fieldwork taking place across relevant regions to be confirmed with the successful candidate.

Duration: An indicative period between August 2026 and October 2026. The exact start date is agreed at the time of contracting.

Reporting to: Senior Researcher, MedMA

Contracting entity: European Public Law Organization

1. Background

MedMA is undertaking a policy research project on the drivers behind onward movement of beneficiaries of international protection from Greece to the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom sits outside the Common European Asylum System and no longer takes part in Dublin or Eurodac. This creates a gap in the available evidence on why and how people with a Greece leg in their journey go on to reach the UK. The project addresses this gap through primary qualitative research with people who have made this journey, complemented by key informant interviews and desk research.

MedMA is seeking a qualified Field Researcher to conduct semi-structured interviews with migrants and refugees residing in the UK who have travelled through Greece on their journey. The researcher will work under the guidance of the Senior Researcher and will contribute directly to the collection of high-quality, ethically sound primary data for the study.

2. Scope of work

The Field Researcher is expected to:

- Conduct 15 semi-structured interviews with migrants and refugees who travelled through Greece before reaching the UK, following the maximum-variation sampling strategy agreed with the Senior Researcher (nationality, gender, age, family status, time spent in Greece and intermediate countries, and prior asylum attempts elsewhere).
- Support recruitment of participants through NGOs, legal aid providers, UK state accommodation structures, and snowball sampling, in coordination with the Senior Researcher and local partners.
- Apply the interview guide and thematic framework developed for the study, adapting questions sensitively to each respondent's circumstances.
- Take detailed interview notes and, where consent allows, audio recordings, and transcribe or summarise interviews in a standardised format for analysis.
- Securely store and de-identify all interview data in line with MedMA's data protection protocols.
- Flag emerging themes, logistical issues, or safeguarding concerns to the Senior Researcher promptly.
- Contribute field observations and interview summaries to inform the analysis and drafting of the policy report.

3. Deliverables

Deliverables
Interview plan and recruitment log, agreed with the Senior Researcher
Completed semi-structured interviews (15), with notes and, where applicable, recordings
De-identified interview summaries in the agreed template
Final fieldwork report summarising themes, logistical notes, and recommendations for the analysis phase

4. Required qualifications and experience

- Based in the United Kingdom, with the right to work and travel freely within the UK for the duration of the assignment.
- A postgraduate degree in migration studies, social sciences, international development, law, or a related field.
- Demonstrated experience conducting qualitative interviews with migrants, refugees, or other vulnerable populations, ideally in a UK context.
- Familiarity with trauma-informed and do-no-harm approaches to fieldwork.
- Strong skills in note-taking, transcription, and thematic organisation of qualitative data.
- Cultural sensitivity and the ability to build trust with respondents from diverse backgrounds.
- Fluency in English is required; proficiency in additional languages relevant to the target population (for example Arabic, Tigrinya, Somali, Dari, Pashto, or Farsi) is an advantage.
- Availability to travel within the UK for fieldwork and to work flexibly around participants' availability.
- Prior experience working with NGOs, legal aid providers, or community organisations supporting asylum seekers and refugees is an advantage.

5. Ethics, safeguarding, and data handling

All fieldwork is carried out in line with MedMA's ethics and safeguarding framework, which includes informed consent, anonymity, secure data storage, and strict de-identification of respondent information. Interviews focus on decision-making, experiences, and perceptions, and do not seek operational details about smuggling or facilitation. Any safeguarding concerns that arise during fieldwork are reported to the Senior Researcher immediately. Data collected under this assignment is handled in line with UK data protection legislation (UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018) and EPLO's internal data protocols.

6. Remuneration and budget

The Field Researcher role is remunerated as a fixed, all-inclusive fee of €6,750 for completing the assignment described in this Call. Payment terms and invoicing arrangements will be confirmed with the successful candidate before the assignment begins.

7. Applications

Interested candidates should send:

- A cover letter
- A current CV, highlighting relevant qualitative research and fieldwork experience.

Applications should be sent to recruitment@med-ma.eu by 16 August 2026. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, and MedMA may proceed with a suitable candidate before the deadline.