**SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW SCHEDULE – TIME GUIDE**

**Please note that this is to be used as a guide only. Our aim is to provide opportunities for more open narrative responses from interviewees, so this document informs you of what we want to cover but there is no need to cover this in a formulaic way in survey-form. Sometimes that may be appropriate, but for any interviewees who are more talkative please allow them to add narrative detail.**

00.00: Introduction, overview of expectations and data use; confidentiality and consent form (as appropriate); personal data; introduce map as tool to use within the interview

00:10: Discussion of conditions prompting migration, including experiences at sites of origin and transit

00:20: Discussion of conditions *en route*, including routes and methods of travel and experiences of the journey to the EU

00:30: Discussion of reception conditions in Europe / situation in Turkey

00:40: Discussion of expectations, forms of communication, aspirations and demands

00:50: Flexible section – opportunity for discussion of context-specific and demographic-specific policy issues; if relevant/possible collection of existing visual material [photos and videos] *Note that dependent on situation and time available, focus here may only be on the latter*

01:00: Summary and feedback

**NB:** Project proposal states interviews of 1.5 hours. This may not always be feasible hence timings here are designed to keep interviews to time of 1 hour if the perception of interviewer is that time is limited. The final section can be used follow up points brushed over quickly if appropriate.

**INTERVIEW SCHEDULE – CODED QUESTIONS**

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU RECORD THE DATE, TIME, LOCATION OF EACH INTERVIEW

PLEASE ALSO RECORD THE INTERVIEW IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (with site, phase and interview number), e.g. ATH2.1., BER2.23, IST2.25, ROM2.30 (note that these will form the basis of both mp3 .doc and .jpeg file names; coding refers to site, phase of research for which this is phase 1, and interview number at the site in question)

I am a researcher. I work for [institution] and I am currently researching the situation that migrants face in [Athens/Berlin/Istanbul/Rome]. I am not associated with the government, the police or any of the organisations here, and will not be able to help you with asylum or assistance - but I think your story is important and should be told.

[Please invite them to look at the overview of the project and/or give summary of the main aims as you feel appropriate, consent issues can be agreed later in interview if more appropriate: *namely* to examine the impact of current EU policies on migratory experiences and journeys, and to evidence current conditions from the perspective of those migrating]

I will not share any personal information about you with authorities or anybody else, and participating in the research will in no way effect your current or future situation. We will not refer to your real name in our research - would you like to choose an alternative name that I can call you here and in our written reports and publications?

Would you be willing to let me record our conversation? The recording is simply to ensure the accuracy of the research findings, and we will ensure that it is securely stored and will not be used in any other way.

I have a map here, would you like to use it to record your journey and experiences? [please use this as chance to confirm initial information, retrace journey, and invite annotations and drawings on the maps by the interviewee – NB please record interview number on the maps]

**A. Personal information:**

1. Gender:

□ male □ female □ other (please specify)

1. Marital status:
2. Number and ages of dependents / travelling alone or with others (how many, relationship):
3. Age:
4. Language spoken (main and additional):
5. Religious background/beliefs:
6. Any health issues or disabilities:
7. Level of Education:
8. Employment status in country of origin:

□ employed □ unemployed

* 1. Please give further information about your work (type of work, skill level, paid/not):

Employment status in country of transit (this refers to Turkey and other transit countries)

□ employed □ unemployed

a. Please give further information about your work (type of work, skill level, paid/not):

b. If not in formal work, do you work in an informal sense (e.g. as carer):

1. Country of origin [consider if appropriate to ask if there are any documents proving nationality?]:
2. Country of departure:
3. Arrival location in EU country/Turkey (locality/municipality, region, country)
4. Intended destination, if any:

**B. Reasons for migrating:**

1. When did you leave the country you originate from?
2. Why did you leave? Why now? What were the conditions like when you left? Do you know if anything has changed since you left?
3. How did you secure the money for the journey? (e.g. from family, friends, a loan, did you sell property…?)
4. Did you decide to migrate alone? Why was this? Did you discuss it with your family-did they participate in the decision? (need to draw reasons for sons being sent if relevant here…)
5. Has anybody else migrated from your family or your wider network to the EU? If yes, how long ago and to where? (some of the subjects do not join family members – if this is so, as why not?)
   1. What do you know about the country/place they are in?
6. What was your country of destination when you left, and why?
   1. Have you chosen your destination to meet with family? Are they expecting you? (as above: some of the subjects do not join family members – if this is so, as why not?)
   2. Are you expecting family members to join you? Were you when you left?
   3. Has your intended destination changed here since you left originally, and if so why?
7. Were you encouraged to migrate before leaving or on your journey? If so, when, by whom or what, and in what way?
8. Did others discourage you from migrating at any stage of the journey? If so, when, by whom or what, and in what way?
9. What information did you have about travelling to Europe, and how did you get this information?
10. How does migrating change your life? What does asylum/migration mean to you [chance to unpack forced/voluntary divide from migrant perspective]

**C. Journey towards the EU**

1. You started from [X] and arrived [here]/ Can you describe your journey? [Focus on countries to get the geographical route, and then after the general description ask more specific questions]
2. Did you stop along the way? If yes, why? If you stopped by someone else, who was this? Were you informed why you were stopping and for how long?
3. Was the journey difficult or well organised? What were the conditions like?
4. Did you stop for a length of time in a transit country? If so, did you think of staying there? Was that ever an option and if yes why did you continue onwards?
   1. For those who have travelled via Libya in particular: Can you describe the conditions in Libya? Can you tell me about any measures you are aware of that are taken to prevent people from migrating to Europe from Libya? Are you aware if there were any changes in conditions for migrants in Libya when you were there? Have you heard of any changes recently, and if so by whom?
5. How did you travel to [Athens/Berlin/Istanbul/Rome] from your last point of departure?
6. How long did it take?
7. Why did you take this route and method of travel? Did you have a choice?
8. How much did the journey cost? Did you pay the money in advance, or in parts?
9. Do you know of any legal means of migrating to the EU? Have you heard of any programmes? [if yes, do you know how to apply for them?]
10. Who helped you on your journey? Would you be happy to share any information with me about your relationship with them, about how you made or were put into contact with them, and any information about the cost of your journey?
11. Have you had any experiences with border guards or policy on your journey? [if yes, then the follow up question should be open/descriptive depending on info offered]
12. Have border guards, police or other organisations offered you information on migration, asylum along the way and what is currently happening in Europe? Do you know which organisations these were? [consider asking questions about uniform/identifying data]
13. What information did people organising your journey give you?
14. Did you know about changes in policies or route openings/closures along the way? If so, from whom/where?
15. Are you satisfied with the way you were treated by facilitators during your journey? Why? [chance to unpack how smuggling is understood]

**D. Section for Istanbul only – excluded here**

**E. ONLY for interviews in Athens, Berlin, Rome: Experience of arriving to the EU**

*Arrival/expectations*

1. When did you arrive in the EU?
2. Have you been to Europe before? If so, under what circumstances?
3. Do you know people who are already here? If so, who and in what capacity?
4. Did you have prior knowledge of [Italy/Germany/Greece]?? If yes, from whom and what was it?

*Experiences of support/reception*

1. What happened when you first arrived? Where did you go? How did you know where to go? How did you get there? Did anyone from the local population assist you? Or anyone else? Who was your first point of contact? Police, coastguard, aid agencies…?
2. Did you undergo a screening/registration process? If yes, where? What was your experience of this? Who registered you and who interviewed you?
3. What support, if any, have you had here from NGOs and/or international organisations (e.g. UNHCR)? Do you know the names of the groups supporting you?
4. What support, if any, have you received from local organisations? Where was this? Do you know the names of the groups supporting you?
5. Do you know if you have been in a ‘hotspot’ centre [interesting to check awareness, if not known ask if they have been detained in Europe and if so where, then pursue additional questions]?
   1. If so, were you fingerprinted? Were others? Did you or anyone else refuse?
   2. What information were you provided about options to move to other countries in Europe [relocation policy check]?
   3. Were there any concerns raised by you or others in the centre about these processes? Any protests? If so why [find out more about claims and actions]?

*Current situation*

1. Where are you staying now? Can you please describe the conditions in the place that you are located?
2. How does it compare to other conditions you have experienced within the EU?
3. Are/were you aware of any difficulties in travelling along the route you planned [check knowledge of closure of Brenner Pass for Rome/Berlin interviewees; check knowledge about closures of Balkan route for Berlin/Athens interviewees]

*Information provision/knowledge*

1. What information were you given on arrival here? Who provided this information to you? [follow up with location, uniform etc. questions, to get more accurate information]
2. In what form did you receive information (word of mouth, leaflets, other…)?
3. Did you receive information about claiming asylum? Who gave this information and did you understand it? What does asylum mean to you? [chance to check understanding through description of asylum]
4. Do you know of refugee reception centres set up in [Italy,/Germany/Greece]? Did you receive information about options available to you for shelter?
5. Are you aware whether you can apply for asylum in the reception spaces? Would you be willing to stay in [Italy/Germany/Greece] if you received some form of international protection?
6. Do you know what asylum is? Can you explain what you think it means? What does being a refugee mean to you?
7. For minors: Have you been registered as a minor? Have you been allocated a reception place? Do you have family in another country? Have you informed the authorities?

*Localised experiences/future plans*

1. Have you had any interactions with members of local communities here? If so, can you please briefly describe these experiences?
2. Have you had any interactions with police/authorities here? If so, can you please briefly describe these experiences?
3. What are your future plans? Are you planning to remain in [Italy/Germany/Greece/Turkey]; Are you planning to move on somewhere else in the EU? If so, where? Are you planning to return to your country of nationality?
4. Do you think that you have the right to enter the EU? If so, why?

**E. Expectations on arriving to the EU [section to be adapted appropriate to context]**

1. You said you were planning on reaching country X. Are you still intending on reaching that country? If your destination has *not* changed, why? If your destination *has* changed, can you explain why?

[Athens-if they cite the closure of the W.Balkan route, follow up question should be included on whether they are looking into leaving using a smuggler or whether they are contemplating applying for asylum to Greece]

1. What did/do you know about [[Italy/Germany/Greece/EU] before you arrived, if anything? How did you get this information?
2. Did/do you have any expectations of how you would/will be treated on arrival in the EU?
3. Were/are you aware you might be rescued at sea by the coastguard or any other agency? What are your sources of information on this? Do you think search and rescue is important?
4. Are you aware of any military operations in the Aegean/Mediterranean Sea?
5. Did/do you know that facilitators could be prosecuted? What is your view of smuggling? Do you think people should be charged/imprisoned for this?
6. Had/have you heard of detention? Do you know for how long and for whom it applies? What are your sources of information on this? What is your experience of detention (if any)?
7. Had/have you heard about deportations within and from the EU? [this does not apply to Syrians, Iraqis and Eritreans] If yes, what is your source of information?
8. Are you aware of the EU-Turkey deal? Do you know what the deal entails?
9. Have you ever seen a leaflet informing you about the difficulties of the journey to the EU and the possibility of being returned? Have you ever heard or seen something similar on TV or radio? If YES, how did you perceive the info-did you understand it? If NO, would it have deterred you?
10. Were you given on arrival to [\*\*islands] or here in [\*\*Rome/Berlin/Athens/Istanbul] any information in written form? Do you trust it? If NO, what would make you trust the information offered by authorities?
11. What EU policies on migration were you were aware of before arrival? What policies are you aware of now?
12. How has your experience [in EU/on way to EU] compared to your expectations? How do you think you should be treated? What would you change?
13. If you had the opportunity to speak with European policy makers, what would you say to them?
14. What do you think is the most important way to use our research?

(NB This is also a flexible section, which will enable us to follow up any context-specific or demographic-specific experiences or policy impacts.)

Do you have any personal photos or videos on your phone or elsewhere that you would like to share with the project? [please explain that these will be used by the project only and that if they agree we will use them online providing they do not enable identification of anybody – please provide email addresses for this, either [crossingthemed@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:crossingthemed@warwick.ac.uk) or [crossingthemed@gmail.com](mailto:crossingthemed@gmail.com) as appropriate, and help upload there and then if possible]

If appropriate, please invite the interviewee to visit the project website if they wish in the future <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/crossingthemed>

Please consider if it is appropriate to double check again now on consent, specifically if consent has not been given in writing at the start – it is a chance to reassure them about confidentiality and trust may have been built sufficiently

Thank you so much for taking the time to discuss these questions with me. Is there anything that you think is important that I have missed? Do you have any questions about the research, or suggestions of for the research?