

8 tips for migration coverage



Migrants who joined a caravan take shelter in Mexico City's Palillo Stadium in 2018. Photo: Sean Hawkey/ACT Alliance

The tips below are a summary of a speech by Michael O'Flaherty, the Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, as reported by the European Federation of Journalists [in this article](#).

1. Collect **impeccable data**: the big picture is known but we know little about the details and the lack of quality information is a problem when we write about human stories
2. Report the whole story about migration policies by **reporting on local communities** and **challenge myths** about migrants
3. Produce videos where refugees speak and explain their situation: **give a voice** to local communities
4. Use **correct wording**: 3/5 people are coming from the top 10 refugee camps in the world, by deduction we can clearly say that the majority of them are fleeing persecution; instead of writing "migrant or refugee crisis" which makes the people a problem it's better to write "crisis of migrant policy" ; instead of talking about the "EU / national values" or "moral values", it's

better to talk about the “universal values which Europe hold dear”

5. **Correct misleading images:** refugees and migrants are not young strong men using smartphones or tourist family members travelling with expensive luggage.
6. Use **international tools** like FRA’s [Media Toolkit](#), [EJN’s ethical guidelines on migration reporting](#), [Charter of Roma](#), [Charter of Idomeni](#), to enhance your reporting skills on migration
7. Develop better skills on **media literacy**, help your audience better understand how to consume your contents and counter fake news or propaganda
8. Engage with **social media** and accept the fact that you can’t fully cover and understand that world.