INTERVIEW: GREEK EMIGRANT/ BRAIN DRAIN

Interviewer: How old were when you left your country?

S.K: I was 35

Why did you leave? Was the decision difficult or easy? Why?

S.K: I left Greece looking for a better career path and potential for self realization. It was a hard decision due to taking distance from family and friends

Where did you go? Did you have relatives or friends there?

S.K: I went to the UK at the beginning, then Belgium. I had no relatives there but some friends.

How long have you been there?

S.K: I have been here for two and a half years.

Do you ever return to visit your country of birth? why or why not?

S.K: I go back to visit family and friends.

How were you treated/ received at first? Have you had to face any racism?

S.K: I was received well. Did not face racism neither discrimination.

Do you believe that your quality of life in your new country has improved?

S.K: My life has changed. Although professional life has improved yes my social one has not.

There are those who say that leaving your country instead of staying and laboring to improve it is a betrayal. What would you answer them?

S.K: I struggle with the thought that it was wrong to leave, that I should have stayed improve my country every day. Is leaving betrayal?. It can be seen in both ways. Anyway, I hope that the majority of people immigrating (including me) will sooner or later be repatriating and bring on board their bandwidth to the benefit of the country

Under what conditions would you return home?

S.K: I am not sure. Maybe if things improved greatly.