**Policy expert interview topic guidelines**

**A. Position of the expert in relation to social policy and EU migration**

• Please explain a bit about your role in relation to social policy and EU migration.

**B. Experts view on the national welfare system in general**

• All welfare systems have their own history, purpose and role in national societies; How would you describe the [*country name*] welfare system, and its main strengths and weaknesses today?

**C. Experts view on EU migration/free movement in relation to the national welfare system**

•What would you describe as the main issues surrounding EU migration in [*country name*] over recent years?

•Can you explain a bit more about any particular national controversies or problems over EU migration in recent years?

•What do you think about the way these controversies have developed?

• How far are any of these problems on the policy or political agenda in [*country name*]?

• What things make a difference in whether they get on the agenda?

• How far do you see these as shared problems, faced by other welfare systems?

**D. Experts view on national reforms, which may effect EU migration/free movement.**

• Are there any reforms being recently introduced or proposed in [*country name*] which (might) affect if, when and how EU migrants can access welfare?

[*Adjustments can be made by individual CTs here – perhaps even reference to specific reforms in particular countries*].

•How would you describe the purpose of these reforms?

•What do you think about the reforms and what they are trying to achieve?

• Are there any other reforms you would propose to deal with any of these special problems or wider controversies around free movement and social policy?

[*Where there aren’t any reforms recent or forthcoming, the question can be posed as:]*

• Are there any reforms you would propose to deal with any of these special problems or wider controversies around free movement and social policy?

**E. Experts view on EU and national institutions or authorities, which matter for policy of free movement and welfare.**

• Which are the key national institutions or authorities that really matter for setting the political agenda around free movement and welfare?

• Are there any key institutions or authorities in EU that really matter for setting the political agenda around free movement and welfare?

• How do these institutions matter and how would you describe their role in relation to [country name]?

•What can or should the EU do differently in relation to EU free movement?