

**Navigating  
Career  
Transformation  
in Finland:  
Opportunity and  
Vulnerability**

SYED MUSA KAJIM NURI

PhD Researcher

University of Lapland

snuri@ulapland.fi

# I'M EXCITED TO BE HERE TODAY! THANKS FOR HAVING ME

- Hi, I'm MUSA
- I have been living in Finland for the last three and a half years
- Doing my PhD in Social Work
- MSc in Criminology and Police Science
- MSS in Social Welfare

# PRESENT STATISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN FINLAND

- **Finland's unemployment rate (9.9%)** has surged to one of the highest in Europe, surpassed only by Spain (10.4%) [EUROSTAT]
- The average number of unemployed people in **August 2025 was around 267,000** (Statistics Finland)
- In August 2024, it was 214, 000
- Increase in **Unemployment-53,000** (in one year)

# I WILL START WITH THREE CASES

CASE X, Y, Z

## **Motive to Come to Finland**

- Happiest Country in the world
- Wants to live a better, peaceful, and secure life
- Move with some dream-For an individual, their family, and children
- Social Welfare will be ensured

# CASE X

- From War Zone (Middle East)
- Came here as an asylum seeker in 2022
- Previous background in Media and Journalism for the last 17 years
- Has English Proficiency
- Trying to find jobs here related to this
- Couldn't find anything related to his/her previous experience for the last 2 years
- Trying to transform the motive of job seeking and trying to get involved in Entrepreneurship

# CASE Y

- From War Zone (Ukraine-Russia)
- Came here for temporary protection in 2022
- Previous background in the Service sector as a Bucher
- Does not have English Proficiency, the Language integration program has started
- Couldn't find anything related to his/her previous experience for the last 2 years
- Trying to transform the motive of job seeking and trying to get involved in Entrepreneurship

# CASE Z

- From 3<sup>rd</sup> world Country
- Came here to complete higher studies in 2022 and Master's Completed
- Wants to stay
- Previous background in teaching for 10 years in Business
- Has English Proficiency
- Trying to find jobs here related to this
- Couldn't find anything related to his/her previous experience for the last 2 years
- Trying to transform the motive of job seeking and trying to get involved in Entrepreneurship

# SIMILARITIES IN THOSE CASES

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Came to Finland for a different purpose and wants to stay

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Preferred job is not available

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Trying to transfer the job-seeking situation

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Wants to become an Entrepreneur

# CHALLENGES THEY FACES IN BECOME AN ENTREPRENEUR

Not having enough  
funding by themselves

Startup grant is not  
enough

Language Barrier

Information is a bit  
difficult to find on the  
website

Challenge for a low-  
skilled person-  
Agreement, Paperwork,  
Taxation, and  
registration of Business

Renting Places-  
Discrimination

Resident Permit Issue

Feeling-Isolated

# VULNERABILITIES IN THOSE THREE CASES

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Not using previous experiences

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Underemployment

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High-skill vs. low-skill gap

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Vulnerable groups: older and younger  
internationals

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Resources not used properly

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Regional disparities: urban vs. rural job  
markets-sustainable business situation

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Mental well-being-Psychological & social  
pressures of constant reskilling

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Not succeed in the Entrepreneurship

# OPPORTUNITIES



Strong Startup system



Government Support-  
Business Finland grants &  
loans and Startup Permit  
for non-EU founders



Technology & Innovation  
Focus-Strength in gaming,  
Growth in AI, health-tech,  
and ICT



Quality of Life-strong  
digital infrastructure and  
welfare policy

# WAY FORWARD

- Supportive policies: Reskilling programs-Learning by Doing
- Better to use previous experience and resources
- Easy access to the business operating system
- Funding as a one-time or installment grant could be helpful
- A better model of the renting operation for a new entrepreneur
- Support in growing tech, AI, and digital services
- Support in innovation & entrepreneur education

THANKS FOR  
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THANKS FOR LISTENING