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<u>A story you might find worth following up (and Migrant Voice can help by lining up interviews)</u>:

More than 500,000 degree-educated migrant women in the UK are underemployed, underpaid and overworked, says Paulina Polak, the founder of Onpartu, motto: 'Build on your home country experience and get UK job market-ready'.

"That's a lot of under-utilised knowledge and experience," says Polak, the founder of Onpartu, motto: 'Build on your home country experience and get UK job market-ready'.

Polak identifies the key bottlenecks as: \* Lack of job market awareness \* Lack of personal networks \* Lack of confidence

She says that 80 per cent of participants on her first two courses for female migrant graduates reported they had found better, more fulfilling jobs.

The next course is scheduled for March. She's aiming to involve 1,500 women in five years.

Among those available for interview:

+ **Paulina Polak** (Poland), "The programme is designed to boost confidence through numerous small steps rather than one life-changing moment"

+ **Aleksandra Lesiak** (Poland) was a nanny and is now a laboratory supervisor

+ **Manuela Iovanel** (Romania) was a nanny and is now a pharmacy branch manager

+ **Anna Gburczyk Shraga** (Poland), is an Opartu trainer and mentor who survived over 50 interviews before securing a role matching her experience and education.

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Migrant Voice is a migrant-led organisation which develops the skills, capacity and confidence of members of migrant communities. It works to amplify migrant voices and representation in the media and public life, and has a network in London, Birmingham and Glasgow