



https://lib.uliege.be

https://matheo.uliege.be

Master thesis: "The health-related challenges Brazilian women employed in the cleaning sector in Brussels face, and their health-seeking strategies"

Auteur : Dantas Rattmann, Valkyria

Promoteur(s) : Lafleur, Jean-Michel

Faculté : Faculté des Sciences Sociales

Diplôme : Master en sociologie, à finalité spécialisée en migration and ethnic studies

Année académique: 2024-2025

URI/URL: http://hdl.handle.net/2268.2/24107

Avertissement à l'attention des usagers :

Tous les documents placés en accès ouvert sur le site le site MatheO sont protégés par le droit d'auteur. Conformément aux principes énoncés par la "Budapest Open Access Initiative" (BOAI, 2002), l'utilisateur du site peut lire, télécharger, copier, transmettre, imprimer, chercher ou faire un lien vers le texte intégral de ces documents, les disséquer pour les indexer, s'en servir de données pour un logiciel, ou s'en servir à toute autre fin légale (ou prévue par la réglementation relative au droit d'auteur). Toute utilisation du document à des fins commerciales est strictement interdite.

Par ailleurs, l'utilisateur s'engage à respecter les droits moraux de l'auteur, principalement le droit à l'intégrité de l'oeuvre et le droit de paternité et ce dans toute utilisation que l'utilisateur entreprend. Ainsi, à titre d'exemple, lorsqu'il reproduira un document par extrait ou dans son intégralité, l'utilisateur citera de manière complète les sources telles que mentionnées ci-dessus. Toute utilisation non explicitement autorisée ci-avant (telle que par exemple, la modification du document ou son résumé) nécessite l'autorisation préalable et expresse des auteurs ou de leurs ayants droit.

Appendix I: Biographical presentation of the interviewees, in their order of appearance

Interviewee	Date of Interview	Description
Tereza	15/06/2025 Online	A 60-year-old Brazilian woman who has lived in Belgium for the last 21 years. She has been working in the cleaning sector since she arrived. Before coming to Europe, she worked at the office of an important transportation company in her region. She obtained her documents following the 2009 amnesty for undocumented migrants, and since then, she has worked through the voucher system.
Catarina	16/06/2025 Online	The 39-year-old holds a degree in Geography, but started working as a cleaner after moving to Belgium. She migrated with her daughter 7 years ago, following her husband, who migrated upfront. They arrived undocumented, but are attempting to regularize their situation with Portuguese documents.
Rachel	09/06/2025 Online	The 32-year-old has been living in Belgium for six years. Since migrating with her husband and daughter (and joining other family members who lived in the country), she has worked as a cleaning lady. She recently had a baby and followed the perinatal care in Belgium.
Rafaela	18/05/2025 In person	A 27-year-old cleaning lady who has lived in Belgium for two years. She does not have documents, but is expecting to obtain regularization through Portugal. She migrated alone, though she has acquaintances in Brussels who supported her.
Sofia	14/05/2025 Online	A 46-year-old pharmacy technician who has lived in Belgium for about a year and a half. She migrated with her husband and her son (both Portuguese citizens). Her documentation is pending, though she is entitled to it through family reunification with an EU citizen. She works in the cleaning sector as she lacks language skills and the recognition of her diploma to search for a better job.
Luzia	12/06/2025 In person	The 51-year-old Brazilian service voucher worker has lived in Belgium for the past 21 years. She migrated after her sister. She obtained her documents following the 2009 amnesty for undocumented migrants.
Joana	29/05/2025 In person	A 24-year-old who migrated with her Belgian-Brazilian husband. Her documentation is temporary, though she is attempting to obtain a 5-year residence permit through marriage to a Belgian citizen. Since arriving in Belgium almost 2 years ago, she has worked as a babysitter and cleaning lady. At the time of the interview, she was unable to work due to her high-risk pregnancy.
Ana	29/05/2025 In person	She has been living in Belgium for 6 years with her husband and children. She has always worked informally in the cleaning sector, and does not have documents, but seeks regularization through her husband, who obtained a working permit in Portugal.

	1	
Rosa	15/06/2025 Online	At 62 years old, Rosa is one of the most experienced in migration matters. Before migrating to Belgium, she already had experience in the United States. After her husband acquired European documents, she moved from the US to Belgium 15 years ago. She works as a service voucher cleaner.
Bárbara	01/06/2025 Online	She has lived in Belgium for 28 years, the longest length in the sample. Though her main occupation, at the time of the interview, was as a museum worker, she has taken the role of an <i>Ad Hoc</i> interpreter several times to aid members of the Brazilian community in healthcare-related contexts. Her long experience in the country has helped her
Margarida	11/06/2025 Online	The 58-year-old works informally in the cleaning sector. This has been her occupation since she arrived in Belgium 17 years ago. Despite attempting regularization twice, both her requests were denied. Her dream is to work in the healthcare sector, as she used to be a nursing technician in Brazil.
Fátima	18/05/2025 In person	A 43-year-old cleaning lady who has lived in Belgium for 13 years. She is married to a Spanish citizen, with whom she has a daughter. She has documents and works as a cleaner through an agency.
Rita	09/06/2025 Online	At 47 years old, she has been living in Belgium for three years with her husband and children. She used to work as a Human Resource Manager in Brazil, but after being laid off, she decided to migrate to Belgium. She has documents and intends to leave the cleaning sector when she receives an opportunity
Cecília	26/05/2025 Online	A 23-year-old bachelor of law who migrated to Belgium following her husband. She does not have documents, and since moving to Belgium a year and 6 months ago, she has been working informally in the cleaning sector. At the time of the interviews, she was expecting her first child.
Esther	24/05/2025 Online	A 46-year-old accountant who migrated to Belgium a year ago, following her husband, intending to attain financial stability. She does not have documents and works informally in the cleaning sector as she lacks the diploma recognition and language skills necessary to work in her field.
Mônica	13/06/2025 Online	After coming to Belgium to pursue her higher education, she settled in the country. Since the beginning of her journey, she has been involved in voluntary projects to address this community's demands. She is currently the leader of a group dedicated to Brazilian women in Belgium.
Clara	15/06/2025 Online	The 59-year-old has lived in Belgium for 12 years and has always worked in cleaning; however, she intends to leave the sector and become a masseuse. She is undocumented and employed in the informal sector. She is currently attempting regularization through Portugal.