

Integrating Cities online conference – workshop 2

Integrating cities IX: Invest in local solidarity - Cities and volunteers building inclusive society

The Integrating Cities Conference is part of a series of events underpinning the [Integrating Cities process](#). Having started in 2006, this partnership between EUROCITIES and the European Commission seeks to maintain a policy dialogue between the local and the European EU level and brings together cities, civil society and EU institutions in a multi-stakeholder approach. It is an important opportunity to highlight the crucial role cities play in developing innovative strategies for the integration of migrants.

This year's conference is organised in the framework of the VALUES project - Volunteering Activities to Leverage Urban and European Social integration of migrants, and co-hosted by the city of Nuremberg, partner of the VALUES project. It will focus on building cohesion and inclusive society at the local level, by involving and engaging communities and citizens.

Kicking off on 2 December, our very first online Integrating Cities Conference takes place at a time when integration is moving up on the policy agenda of the EU. As such, the European Commission's Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion, which will be released by the end of 2020, will set the policy context in which a closer involvement of cities in designing integration policies is indispensable. A series of workshops is organised during the week before the conference and will tackle different key local integration challenges and possible solutions.

List of workshops

- Protecting the rights of migrant children and youth: good practices and challenges (25 November, 10:00-11:30 CET)
- **How to work on human rights and anti-racism at local level. The contribution of human rights education to anti-racism and equality (26 November, 10:00-11:30 CET)**
- The role of civil society and volunteering organisations in contributing to integration policies at the local level: a tool for social innovation? (27 November, 10:00-11:30 CET)
- Labour market integration: how can the EU support the labour market integration of migrants at the local level? (30 November, 10:00-11:30 CET)

Workshop title: How to work on human rights and anti-racism at local level. The contribution of human rights education to anti-racism and equality

Workshop's objective

The workshop will focus on the following themes:

- Experiences of other cities
- Examples of successful involvement of civil society
- What is the main task of the present?
- Where do we see the challenges of the future?
- Lessons learnt

Programme

Moderator: Jean-Paul Judson

Thursday 26 November

09.30 - 10.00	Connection to meeting
10.00 – 10.10	Welcome and introduction by moderator
10.10 – 10.35	Speakers Shams Asadi – City of Vienna Helga Riedl – City of Nuremberg Niene Oepkes – City of Utrecht
10.35 – 11:25	Discussion with participants
11.25 – 11.30	Conclusions – EURO CITIES

Background note:

Implementing the human rights idea as a fundament of local policies is a long process and it requires vigilance and permanent practice. Recognition of equality is the basis for peaceful coexistence and social cohesion. Anchoring the human rights topic in educational processes for students, different target groups, like junior members of city administration staff or refugees, can be an important preventive barrier against all forms of racism and discrimination. Approaches from three cities are presented.