

## Integrating Cities online conference – workshop 4

### **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: Labour market integration - how can the EU support cities' efforts in improving labour market integration at local level**

#### **Workshop's objective**

Cities play a central role in the labour market integration of migrants and refugees. Although national governments have competence in employment policies, cities are in charge of providing a number of services to their migrant population, such as language training, skills assessment and orientation, counselling and vocational training and alternative pathways to employment (e.g. entrepreneurship). This workshop aims to look at the innovations introduced at the local level and the challenges encountered when ensuring migrant's access to the job market. Finally, the speakers will discuss how the EU level can support cities' efforts at the local level.

The workshop will discuss the following topics:

- EU initiatives and measures in relation to migrants' access to the labour market
- Good practices at the local level
- Challenges faced by cities and possible solutions

## Programme

Moderator: Jean-Paul Judson

### Monday 30 November

09.30 - 10.00 **Connection to meeting**

10.00 – 10.10 **Welcome and introduction by moderator**

10.10 – 11.10 **Speakers**

**Laura Corrado**, Head of Unit, DG Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission

**Marta Mancini**, Officer, Municipal Centre for labour market integration, Municipality of Milan

**Shoresh Ibrahim**, Senior officer, International relations and EU-projects, City of Stockholm

**Rebecka Hagman**, Strategist at the Labour Market administration, City of Stockholm

Q&A with participants

11.10 – 11.25 **What our cities do on labour market integration in the CONNECTION project** – Dirk Gebhardt, Consultant, Migration Work

11.25 – 11.30 **Conclusions** Katharina Bamberg, migration policy advisor, Eurocities