

## **Fostering Inclusion of Newcomers:**

### **Access to Employment, Long-Term Residence and Participation in Decision-Making**

17 November 2023, 09:00 – 13:15

Press Club Brussels Europe, Rue Froissart 95, Brussels

**09:00 Registration and welcome coffee**

**09:30 Opening remarks**

Begüm Dereli, Project Officer, ECRE

**09:40 Session I: Promoting the Inclusion of Refugees and Migrants: Access to employment and long-term residence**

In this session, the panelists will address common challenges faced by refugees and migrants to access employment in the EU, share good practices to facilitate their labor market integration, especially where multi-stakeholder partnerships are applied, and insights on the related EU-level policy developments, such as EU Long-term Residence Directive.

**Moderator:** Iryna Hnasevych, Senior Legal Officer, ECRE

**Speakers:**

- Naima Musse Farah, Legal and Policy Officer, European Commission, DG HOME
- Kamilla Solieva, Policy Advisor, LIBE Committee, European Parliament
- Mohammed Badran, Syrian Volunteers in the Netherlands & G-100
- Teresa Hornung, Deputy Director Brussels, European Affairs, BDA

**11:15 Coffee break**

**11:30 Session II: Meaningful participation in decision-making processes from the local level to the EU Level**

This session will reflect policies from the local to European levels on promoting meaningful participation of refugees and migrants in decision-making processes, and share the experiences based on the project activities and good practices from different stakeholders from the local level to the EU level.

**Moderator:** Yordanos Tekle, Advisor, Trainer and Intercultural Mediator, Cultuur in Harmonie

**Speakers:**

- Gabriele Puccianti, European Commission DG HOME, Legal Pathways and Integration Unit
- Steve Bazikwinshi Irakoze, Member of EC Expert Group on the Views of Migrants
- Jana Radić, President, Coordination of the City of Zagreb for the integration
- Elena Ponzoni, Coordinator, Refugee Academy, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- Regine Nguini Dang, Director, African Media Association Malta

**13:00 Closing remarks**

Mahdia Hosseini, Greece Steering Committee

**13:15 End of the event**

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**Background:**

The “*2incING - Thinking of the integration process as a two-way inclusion*” project aims to promote and support refugee and migrant participation in the design and implementation of integration and related policies at the local, regional, national, and European levels. The project produced an interactive map of refugee and migrant advocates and the Shadow Report Toolkit and organized several workshops, lectures, trainings, and conferences to create a dialogue among refugees/migrants and policymakers. Steering Committees that consist of refugee and migrant advocates produced four national reports in Croatia, Malta, Greece, and the Netherlands with the objective of advocating for more inclusive integration policies for refugees and migrants in their respective countries and in the EU. The roundtable as the final stage of the project will put into practice the knowledge and experience shared during the activities last two years and create a dialogue on policymaking. The roundtable will bring together project partners, refugee and migrant advocates and policymakers from each country, and Brussels-based policymakers, international organizations, CSOs, and other stakeholders.

This project was funded by the European Union’s Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. The content of this contract represents the views of the parties only and is their sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.



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