



20 June 2025

ICC/AG(2025)5

## **Intercultural Cities (ICC) Programme Advisory Group**

### **5th meeting**

**18 March 2025 - online**

### **Summary report**

#### **Present**

Silvia Carballo Paz, Donostia/San Sebastian, Spain

Gregory Jaquet, Neuchâtel Canton, Switzerland

Vesna Haracic, Salisbury, Australia

Ingrid Hauge Rasmussen, Stavanger, Norway

Gemma Pinyol-Jiménez, Spanish network of Intercultural Cities (RECI)

Thorsten Afflerbach, Rita Marascalchi, Nichola Howson, Ben Freeman, Célia Charre, Council of Europe

#### **Welcome and update on ICC work and upcoming activities**

The Secretariat briefly updated on the reform process and the 2025 ICC calendar:

- Launch of the intercity grants call
- Study visit taking place next week in Wroclaw
- Coordinators meeting will take place in Bergen on 29-30 October
- NSW taking place again in Strasbourg on 18-20 June
- Launch of the interagency initiative in the Baltic States
- City of Ansan in Korea is organising a symposium in the second half of the year with participation from ICC members
- Index visits to come and proposed to national networks in addition
- Placemaking Week in September in Reggio Emilia

#### **Follow-up to the last meeting**

The objectives of the AG were reviewed at the last meeting in Braga were considered over-ambitious and will be more realistic under the next mandate.

#### **Work in progress**

- Template for city strategies – the work on a template to design a city intercultural strategy is ongoing in the RECI working group with the aim to have a joint common framework.

- FAQ/tools (or other support on engaging) politicians – RECI narrative working group are preparing 10 intercultural questions for politicians.
- Annual Welcome Session for new cities – could be attached to the annual coordinators meeting/held online.

#### Possible future work

- A workshop on communication (both internal and external) was raised as a possible future area of work for the ICC Coordinators. Consider ways to train ICC coordinators on communication and better communicating the ICC approach to elected representatives.

It was suggested that the future work of the AG should be task orientated, more focused, with a member of the AG taking the lead, and being prepared for work exchanges/shorter ad hoc working meetings in between the formal AG meetings. Also written consultations could be carried out when the AG's opinion or ideas are required.

#### **Revised terms of reference and call for new members**

The members of the AG discussed the revised terms of reference which had been simplified and shortened. It was agreed that half of the membership of the AG will be renewed to ensure continuity. The possibility of ad hoc meetings was also added. The secretariat presented the procedure for the call for new members for the June 2025-June 2027 mandate.