

Intercultural Cities

JOIN THE FUTURE



www.coe.int/InterculturalCities

Diversity is richness

"There never were in the world two opinions alike, no more than two hairs or two grains; the most universal quality is diversity".

Michel de Montaigne

INTERCULTURAL CITIES (ICC) is a Council of Europe programme supporting local authorities to design and implement inclusive integration policies. The programme helps develop institutional capacity that ensures equal rights and opportunities for all, promotes positive intercultural mixing and interaction, and encourages participation and power-sharing.

Intercultural Cities is also more than a capacity-building programme: it is a platform to connect cities and leaders globally in a community where initiatives and practice from one city are analysed and shared to inspire the others. It is a unique laboratory for local policy innovation, as well as a coalition of cities that believe and prove that diversity, if managed responsibly and skillfully, is a major asset for European societies. Intercultural Cities is a global network that involves all citizens in building the future of their territory by using diversity as a resource.

No matter how big or small our city is policy-makers and citizens alike can define a vision for an open, pluralistic community together, and through this make inclusive democracy an everyday reality.

Joining Intercultural Cities gives you unique advantages

With more than 140 members, the ICC network is a unique global community of knowledge

To start the journey as an intercultural city, each new member is asked to complete the ICC INDEX in a collaborative cross-departmental process. This is a tool which visually illustrates the level of achievement of each city as well as the progress over time. Based on the ICC Index, the Council of Europe prepares an analytical report with recommendations and examples of good practice to inspire future work. Furthermore, a Council of Europe expert visit takes place to involve city officials and a wide range of local stakeholders in the process of reviewing the city policies through an intercultural lens and to start managing diversity as a collective advantage.

Equality, Diversity, Interaction

1

IDENTIFY

the potential of your city, the strengths, the needs and, the challenges

2

PLAN

how to use your potential and strengths to overcome the challenges

3

INVOLVE

all citizens to create and carry out policies for building a city for the future



The programme proposes a set of analytical tools and practical methodologies to accompany local leaders and stakeholders through the various stages of the process. Thematic policy development and vision-building events are regularly carried out to enable policy officers and elected officials to gain a deeper understanding of diversity-related challenges, developing targeted policy solutions and exchange with peers from across the world. Study visits take place to “mentor” members so as to enable fellow cities to learn from best practices. The annual meeting of ICC coordinators provides opportunities for exchange, networking, joint planning, as well as for discussing strategic matters such as impact evaluation and the sustainability of local intercultural strategies.

Finally, Intercultural Cities further promotes the development of multi-level governance of diversity and inclusion. The programme facilitates a continuous dialogue between local, regional and national leaders on inclusive migrant integration policies.

Diversity is the future of your city

The journey towards building the future of the diversity actions of your city will provide new inspiration to policy departments, educational and cultural institutions, public services, business and labour market organisations and civil society groups, and foster a culture of collaborative, participatory, creative and inclusive policy-making.

Working together on a global platform with other cities, makes plans grow and manifold



By joining Intercultural Cities, your city will be able to benefit from the ideas, experiences and initiatives that have been successfully implemented over more than a decade, based on the human rights standards of the Council of Europe and on the practices of local authorities across the Globe.



Diversity is about all of us, and about us having to figure out how to walk through this world together.

- Jacqueline Woodson

