

Activity report Italian ICC Network *Rete Città del Dialogo* July-Sept 2023

Summary

During the third quarter of 2023, intercultural cities involved in projects both at local and international level implementing strategies and activities on their territories, exchanging practices and models, sharing experiences and processes. Together with the cities, we are keeping on engaging citizens, focusing specially on the themes of participation, inclusion and interculture, targeting primarily young people, to develop and promote intercultural and inclusion values and behaviours in the communities. Two new cities, Parma and Orvieto, are approaching the process of becoming members of the Italian Network RCD.

Network coordination

During the third quarter of the year, we kept on informing the network about ICC and RCD activities and resources, in alignment with the ICC Programme team, and disseminated cities' initiatives especially through social media channels.

2 new cities, Parma and Orvieto, are in the process of joining the Programme. We had presentation calls with both, taking the intermediate steps for membership.

Moreover, within the framework of the network's activities, the Municipality of Zagarolo proposed the realisation of an intercultural Certamen, which will involve the schools of the member cities. The Certamen foresees a contest for students who will work on UNESCO heritage sites as an element of dialogue between cultures. Afterwards, the students from different cities will meet for a 3-day event in Zagarolo in April 2024.

With the coordination of ICEI, the following cities have expressed interest in participating in the initiative: Zagarolo, Modena, Palermo, Casalecchio di Reno and Montesilvano. A webinar with the cities is planned in October for the preparation of the initiative.

Activities

The project NET-IDEA Network of European Towns for Interculturalism, Diversity, Equality and Anti-Discrimination continued its activities aiming at strengthening the competences of European cities in implementing effective policies to promote equality, diversity, and the inclusion of minorities.

The following cities of the Italian ICC Network are directly involved in this initiative: Torino, Modena, Pontedera, Reggio Emilia.

The activities carried out in the trimester are:

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• Capacity building activities dedicated to the cities: in Italy the project NET-IDEA supported a wide capacity building programme addressed to all the educational staff for the 0-6 y.o. children.

A training programme has been delivered to **150 participants** with the following objectives:

- Improving the ability to manage intercultural interactions, including the development of communication skills intercultural communication skills.
- Feel confident to navigate successfully in different youth contexts.
- Improving involvement and engagement in intercultural policies and intercultural practices.
- Acquire skills to design and promote policies or public projects targeted at young people that promote an intercultural approach intercultural approach, making them more effective.
- Creation of a **Community of Practice** for the transnational exchange of experiences and good practices, including the preparation and dissemination of common guidelines and a template to design the local actions of the Community of Practice.

A set of activities related to the Community of Practices has been organised in each country for the target cities, including knowledge sharing moments, thematic sessions, peer-to-peer learning events, etc.

The main goal of Community of Practice is to continue developing and placing into practice intercultural competences and initiatives that foster them within each city. In order to achieve that, NET-IDEA aim to create a community of practice with training participants or related target groups not initially covered by the training. This can take on different formats for each country/city.

- Planning and organization of a **Youth Summit in Lublin**, thaw will be held in the first week of October, with the participation of young activists from different countries. The First European Youth Summit Against Rumours will be held in the city of Lublin (Poland) with a total of 60 participants from 14 European Cities and 6 Countries. The summit is included and created synergy with the activities of Lublin European Youth Capital 2023.
- Design of the international communication campaign to raise awareness, that will be carried out with the contribution of cities involved in the project.
 The Campaign will use the "Photovoice" methodology: a qualitative research method used in community-based participatory research that gathers participant-taken photographs and narratives to translate experience into actionable knowledge.
 Moreover, the Campaign will be included in the InsideOut project, an international initiative that helps communities around the world to communicate and spread their messages: www.insideoutproject.net







The project **DIVERCITIES** – *European cities for diversity and participation* aims to promote an effective bottom-up approach, which stimulates citizens' participation in the elaboration of local intercultural policies in European cities.

It started its activities in the 8 partner cities, in particular for the design of the local public consultation process on intercultural issues in Italy (cities of Montesilvano, Modena and Pontedera), Spain, Portugal and Greece.

In the trimester, the project worked to **strengthen competences & methodologies** in 8 European cities in the implementation of effective bottom-up democratic processes with the active cooperation of local stakeholders, including training sessions for LAs staff and the sharing of guidelines on the **Intercultural Assemblies methodology**.

The Intercultural Assemblies methodology applied by the project DiverCities is based on the following elements:

- It involves a representative sample of residents.
- It produces decisions which are evidence-based.
- It generates strong engagement and bonding among members.
- It is example of democratic participation and inclusion of diversity.
- It helps the society understand and accept the decisions.

In Italy, the **City of Modena started its first Intercultural Assembly** while the cities of Pontedera and Montesilvano planned their Assemblies for the next months.



The **Project #Diversamente** – *Young people against discrimination* (targeting the cities of Torino, Milano, Reggio Emilia, Pontedera and Montesilvano) carried out a large number of activities promoting the active role of young people and the educational community in the construction of inclusive and intercultural cities.

In particular, the following actions have been implemented:



- Development of a set of recommendations for anti-rumours actions ("Kit antirumours")
- Creation of groups of 'youth leaders' and training of youth activists in anti-rumours methodology: 14 groups of young activists (youth leaders) created and active in the 5 partner cities: 5 in Milan, 5 in Turin, 2 in Reggio Emilia, 1 in Pontedera, 1 in Montesilvano
- Non-formal education activities for the emergence of rumours in the contexts frequented by young people and elaboration of a **Concept Map** of the main rumours and prejudices for each city
- Creation of an edutainment tool for combating discrimination (ongoing), including a needs analysis with youth workers and the development of edutainment concept and testing of the game demo
- Starting of the **participatory process for co-designing city strategies** to fight youth discrimination, including:
 - The development in each city of a stakeholders map.
 - The collection of rumours by young activists during public events in Pontedera and Montesilvano.
 - Starting and/or planning of consultation meetings between young people/operators and municipalities for the elaboration of the city anti-rumours strategy



- Implementation of Anti-Rumours actions to fight discrimination within youth spaces in 5 cities:
 - o Implementation of anti-rumour actions within a music contest in Reggio Emilia
 - o Organisation of the Stop Rumours evening in Pontedera
 - Youth participation with anti-rumour actions at the Pulpa Festival in Montesilvano



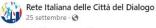
Communication

Our communication activities in the third quarter mainly developed and promoted the initiatives and campaign addressed by the projects and realized locally by the intercultural cities (see also section above).

RCD Facebook Community is solid at 12.650 followers. On social media channels we published 7 posts under the umbrella of ICC/RCD network with a slowdown in August, and we realized 2 video describing projects' local initiatives and practices. We updated our public about the activities of the projects NET-IDEA, Diversamente, DiverCities and shared some of the cities' news.

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"Sai cos'è un rumour?"

Durante la serata Stop Rumours organizzata al Circolo Arci "Il Botteghino" di Pontedera, i Giovani Attivist3 del progetto #Diversamente, con capofila ICEI, finanziato da Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo e in sinergia con la Rete Italiana delle Città del Dialogo, hanno raccolto le risposte a questa domanda: storie personali, esperienze condivise e un forte impegno per creare un mondo più inclusivo e accogliente, che ispirano e guid... Altro...



YOUTUBE.COM STOP RUMOURS! IL TRAILER

L3 giovani attivist3 del progetto #Diversamente hanno raccolto int...

W Rete Italiana delle Città del Dialogo 6 luglio · ⊗

PARTECIPAZIONE INTERCULTURALE E GESTIONE DELLA DIVERSITA A MONTESILVANO!

Il Comune di Montesilvano, città della Rete Città Del Dialogo, e ICEI, all'interno del Progetto DIVERCITIES, finanziato dalla Commissione Europea, hanno organizzato una formazione in presenza sulle competenze interculturali dedicata a funzionari pubblici e attori rilevanti della società civile.

Il principale obiettivo è stato quello di fornire competenze e strumenti ai/alle partecipanti per gestire le... Altro...



Rete Italiana delle Città del Dialogo 26 luglio · 🗞

Un nuovo capitolo di solidarietà internazionale si apre tra Reggio Emilia e Melitopol in Ucrainal Queste due città, già collegate dalla Rete delle Città interculturali del Consiglio d'Europa, stanco dando vita a un ponte di collaborazione ancora più stretta, siglata in videoconferenza dal sindaco di Melitopol Ivan Fedorov e il sindaco di Reggio Emilia Luca Vecchi.

Dopo mesi di lavoro, è finalmente giunto il momento di celebrare guesto importante passo avanti che vede numer... Altro...





Al via lo European Summit of Youngsters Against Rumours, evento di 3 giorni che si terrà a Lublino in Polonia, Capitale Europea della Gioventù 2023, dal 6 al 8 ottobre.

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60 giovani provenienti da 6 Paesi europei impegnati nel contrasto agli stereotipi e alle discriminazioni si incontreranno per scambiare esperienze, buone pratiche e strategie per promuovere società più eque e inclusive.

L'evento è realizzato nell'ambito del Progetto NET-IDEA, Network of European Towns for Interculturalism, Diversity, Equality and Anti-Discrimination, con capofia ICEI e partner 4 reti nazionali di città interculturali - Rete Italiana delle Città del Dialogo, RECI Red de Ciudades Interculturales, Rede Portuguesa das Cidades Interculturais e Interkulturali Statief Sverige e 16 Città europee.

Il progetto è finanziato dall'Unione Europea, con il supporto di Intercultural Cities / Cités interculturelles Programme del Council of Europe.





The social media channels of the cities involved in the initiatives shared the same contents, increasing coverage, awareness, and disseminations. RCD social media posts are relaunched by the ICC Facebook Page.

Next steps

We are working on the organization of the next RCD Network Event that will be held in Modena on November 28th – 30th 2023, in collaboration with DiverCities project. Alongside moments of coordination and planning for the Network's activities, the agenda will include thematic sessions on the topic of citizen participation for the development of intercultural policies, a fundamental element within the intercultural approach promoted by the Intercultural Cities Programme, with city experiences sharing and external experts, as well as moments of comparison and debate between cities.

Moreover, in the next months the ongoing projects involving the RCD' cities will have their peak of dissemination activities with a rich calendar of events on the territory and local campaigns and initiatives.