WEBINAR

Access to Quality Education and Training: An Intercultural Approach

WEBINAR | 24 May 2022 | 15:00-16:30 (CEST)

Access to Quality Education and Training: An Intercultural Approach

Includ-EU

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AER — Assembly of European Regions

IOM UN MIGRATION

Intercultural Regions Network

INTERCULTURAL CITIES CITÉS INTERCULTURELLES

REGISTRATION LINK:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvceqhrzgtG9J0WdBiicb86DsqPpNCUHxL

How to unlock the potential of education and training as key enablers for inclusion?

Formal education and extracurricular activities have a powerful influence on how individuals perceive diversity. From early childhood education to lifelong learning, **education and training are therefore powerful tools for building more inclusive societies.**

Actions to support the inclusion of third-country nationals and to harness the diversity advantage include work on the school and extracurricular programmes, when this falls under the competences of the region or city, as well as the creation of opportunities for children and adults (parents, educators) of different cultures to build trust and mutual respect and create thereby favourable learning and working conditions for all pupils, irrespective of their nationalities, origins, languages, sexual orientation or gender identity, religions/beliefs.

Learner-centered approaches that take into consideration the needs, talents, skills, desires and mindset of individual learners (including their backgrounds), as well as the need to ensure learning is accessible at all stages of their lives, are **crucial to achieving personal development and participate fully in society.**

As for language, the provision of courses and other facilities for people with migrant backgrounds to learn the receiving country's language(s) is important to ensure social and economic integration. It does however need to be supplemented with activities that highlight the value of other languages and enable people with migrant origins not only to preserve and transmit their languages to their children and other members of the community but also to take pride in them as a heritage enriching the local community. An intercultural city/region promotes multilingualism as a resource for education, business, tourism, cultural life, etc.

Setting the scene

15:00	● **Emanuela Di Paola,** Integration and Technical Cooperation Unit, IOM, Coordination Office for the Mediterranean: Enabling students to be agents of social change.
15:05	● **Bruno Mesquita Valle,** Chief of Unit, Capacity Development and Field Support, UNESCO: Mapping host countries' education responses to the influx of Ukrainian students
15:15	● **Irene Psifidou,** Senior Expert, CEDEFOP, VET and Inclusion: a European Picture
15:25	● **Maria Podlasek-Ziegler,** Policy Officer at European Commission:Erasmus+: Inclusion policy and practice

Focus on "Includ-EU" Project

15:35	● **Eleonora Milazzo,** PhD, researcher and migration policy consultant, Kings College London: Presentation of thematic briefing on Access to Education.
5:45	● **Includ-EU Video: Adult Education Center Jesenice** (with special Introduction by **Maja Radinovič Hajdič**, Director): the initiative aims to enhance the digital skills and language skills of migrants.

Successful practices at the local and regional level

15:55	● **Ourania Xylouri -** Director, Athens Lifelong Learning Institute, Greece -
16:05	● **Wendy Heezen**, Senior Relation Manager, Foundation for refugee students (UAF), Netherlands: Mentoring and coaching newcomers.

Discussion and Conclusion

16:15-16:30	Facilitated by **Anna Comacchio,** Project and Policy Officer at Assembly of European Regions