

## RECI MEMORANDUM 2021 –

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## #01 / ACTIVITIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ICC-COE PROGRAMME

### A) Coordination meeting of national networks

On 11 February ICC2021 convened a coordination meeting with the ICC cities and the persons responsible for the state networks. During the meeting, the respective plans and common priorities for the coming year were discussed. In the first part of the meeting, participants were asked to summarise the main actions undertaken and progress achieved during the previous year, as well as the plans of their city or national network and its future challenges. In the second part, the results of the [ICC survey of 2020](#).

The second co-ordination meeting took place on 17 November and 16 November, also 2021, online. During the meeting, the future challenges and the work programme for the coming year were discussed. In this regard, the ICC cities and the persons responsible for the networks were invited to collect proposals for priority topics from the cities. During the meeting, the RECI team held two sessions: one on the [Intercultural Citizenship Test](#) and the other on the Escape Roomours. In addition, there was a training session on the ICC Index as well as a workshop on the design of intercultural strategies.

### B) More RECI cities review their public policies with the ICC Index

At the same time, RECI has given a boost to the completion of the ICC Index, reviewing which cities have yet to complete it and offering the necessary support to those that have not yet started. Specifically, there have been two sessions with the cities of Valencia and Castelló de la Plana where the tool and the way to fill in the questionnaire have been explained. Likewise, support was offered to the city of Barcelona for the elaboration of the Index in the framework of the support in the elaboration of its new [Intercultural Plan 2021-2030](#).

During this period, the report has been updated for two RECI member cities, [Tenerife](#) (published in April 2021) and [Cartagena](#) (published in June 2021).

### C) ICC funds a project driven by RECI cities

In April 2021, the ICC programme launched a call for proposals aimed at cities participating in the ICC network or national networks. The call aimed to fund projects led by member cities of the network that address priority themes of the ICC programme. On this occasion, a project of RECI cities has been selected for funding: DIVERSITOURS, intercultural community intervention through visits and interaction experiences in neighbourhoods with a high representation of migrant population in the municipalities of Bilbao and Valencia. The project aims to develop a socio-educational programme of visits and experiences in neighbourhoods with a long history of internal and external migration. The idea of the project, inspired by the European Migrantour initiative, is that people of migrant origin can guide tourists or residents of the same city to tour and get to know the participating territories. This will be carried out by social entities with institutional support (Koop SF 34 in the case of Bilbao and Valencia Acoge).

The project is divided into different phases. During the first phase, a case study on the European Migrantour initiative was carried out to assess the adhesion of these cities to the initiative. The second phase consisted of carrying out an exploratory study on the memory and history of migration in each of the selected neighbourhoods with the help of the University of Valencia and the Aldauri Foundation. During the third phase, different routes were designed with the guides, and they were given training. Finally, four pilot visits were carried out in each of the territories, one of them with all the RECI cities in the meeting that took place in Bilbao in November of 2021.

### D) WG-ADI-INT

The Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CD-ADI), which includes a working group on intercultural integration (WG-ADI-INT), was set up in 2007. This working group is composed of ten countries represented by state and local authorities.

The group has different functions, including promoting and reviewing the implementation of the Recommendation CM/Rec/(2015) of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on intercultural integration, supporting the work of intercultural city networks, promoting and facilitating awareness-raising on Council of Europe standards on intercultural integration, and contributing to the achievement of the United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2030. During the course of this period, the working group has held four meetings:

- The group organised its third session on 24 February 2021. Following feedback from Council of Europe member states at the second CDADI meeting, the group reviewed the draft Guidelines and Model Policy Framework for Intercultural Integration and the draft Recommendation on Multilevel Governance of Intercultural Integration. The aim of the meeting was to finalise the Guidelines and the Model Policy Framework, and to agree on a final Draft Recommendation to be submitted to the Council of Europe.

will be submitted to the ICSID for possible adoption. The session also provided an opportunity to exchange views with the ECRI President, as well as to learn about the work of the Commission on Gender Equality.

- An extraordinary meeting of the Working Group was convened on 26 May 2021. During the session, amendments submitted by CDADI and WG-ADI-INT participating States to the documents being worked on were discussed:
  - [Model Framework for an Intercultural Integration Strategy at the National Level](#)
  - *Recommendation on multi-level policies and governance for intercultural integration*

The meeting resulted in final versions of these two documents, which were forwarded to the third meeting of the CDADI on 15-17 June for discussion and, if necessary, adoption.

- The fifth meeting of the working group was held in person in Valencia from 28-30 September. The meeting served to share the latest developments since the fourth meeting of the WG-ADI-INT, and the third meeting of the CDADI. It also served to share the main results of the public consultation process and recommendations regarding the work and working documents of the group. A recommendation for states to implement the intercultural model at state level is being developed.
- The conclusions and outcomes of this meeting were presented at the fourth meeting of the CDADI held on 7-9 December 2021 in person in Strasbourg and by videoconference. The CDADI discussed and approved the draft text of the Recommendation on policies and multilevel governance for intercultural integration and decided to submit it to the Committee of Ministers for adoption.

Bilbao is a member of the working group and is its vice-chair.

## E) RECI participation in ICC events:

- Webinar on Interculturalism and Anti-Racism in Cities (part 1) in 26 February 2021.
- Presentation of the RECI work on Intercultural Competences in the framework of the European project ECCIPA (Erasmus+), Marta Pérez and presentation of the project 'Intercultural Competences applied to the development of projects in public administration', Ekain Larrinaga, in 2 March 2021
- Event on the intercultural model of integration in the Asia-Pacific region, 25 March 2021

- ICC Academy on Intercultural Communication and Alternative Narratives, with a presentation by Dani de Torres, 19-21 April 2021.
- Training session "*The design of an intercultural integration strategy*" in the framework of the European Pact of Integration Project (AMIF), by Dani de Torres and Marta Perez, 10May 2021
- Presentation of the Intercultural Strategies/Plans of Bilbao and Sabadell within the framework of the European Pact of Integration Project (AMIF), by Claudia Emmanuel and Cristina Puente, 10May 2021
- Whats' app'ning in your city? session, Event on innovative and effective ways to encourage new citizens to participate in the cultural life of the community 17 May 2021
- Webinar on Interculturalism and Anti-Racism in Cities (part 2) "From Theory to Practice", 20May 2021
- Extraordinary meeting of the Working Group on Inclusive Integration of the Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion - Policy Lab, 26May 2021
- Webinar "Rethinking Reception from an Intercultural Perspective", Organised by RECI with the support of ICC, from 22 June 2021
- Session "*Reshaping Narratives on Migration through interreligious and intercultural dialogue*", International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID) and the Network for Dialogue "Promoting Social Inclusion of Refugees and Migrants in Europe: Solutions for Policymakers on education, trust building and narrative change", 6 July. 2021
- Webinar "*Sustainable cities: how to make them more inclusive? - An eco-intercultural transition*" organised by ICC and with the presentation of Gemma Pinyol- Jiménez, 16September 2021
- Meeting of the Working Group on Inclusive Integration of the Committee on Antidiscrimination, Diversity and Inclusion in Valencia, with the participation of Claudia Emmanuel and Gemma Pinyol-Jiménez, 28-30 September. 2021
- Launch of the Cartagena Integration Strategy, in the framework of the *European Pact on Integration* project, with a speech by Gemma Pinyol-Jiménez, 29 September 2021
- Webinar 'On the road to integration: understanding human mobility, its benefits and successful practices of cultural and social exchange' by Gemma Pinyol-Jiménez, 15October 2021.
- Transnational meeting of the European project 'European Pact of Integration', 9-11 November Dietzenbach.2021,
- Panel 'City of the Future', Nobel Global Senior Leader Symposium, with Dani de Torres' presentation, 16December 2021.

## F) RECI cities contribute to ICC campaigns

- **Campaigning together**  
In February 2021, a meeting organised by ICC took place where several RECI cities participated together with other cities of the international network. During this session, working groups<sup>3</sup> were organised to co-design the actions, slogans and messages of the campaigns that would be launched jointly (ICC-cities and state networks) on three international days (migrants, refugees and cultural diversity).
- **21 May World Day for Cultural Diversity**  
For the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development 2021, celebrated on 21 May, ICC launched a campaign together with the cities entitled "Feel the diversity - revive your senses". The aim of the campaign was to offer a feast for the senses through social media with images, videos and audio files. From RECI we offered our support in the dissemination of information to the cities and our commitment to disseminate the results on social networks. Consult the map of the cities' initiatives [here](#).
- **Refugee Day**  
Similarly, to commemorate Refugee Day in 18June, a virtual campaign was developed to highlight the welcoming capacity of the local world, and the contribution of refugees in the construction of intercultural cities. RECI cities joined the initiative carried out by ICC in collaboration with UNHCR with the hashtag #WithRefugees.
- **International Migrants Day**  
The third 2021 joint campaign between ICC and its cities was in 18December and consisted of several parallel actions, mainly institutional messages, citizens' videos and an essay/poetry and illustration competition in schools. Social media [material](#) and a concept note have been prepared.

## #02 / RECI WORK PLAN 2021

### A) RECI working meetings

The 20th RECI working meeting was organised on 3 March 2021, virtually due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19. This meeting, which marked the beginning of the 10th anniversary of the network, was attended by more than participants 30 representing the different territories of the network. The work done so far in the framework of both the *Intercultural Cities* programme and RECI was reviewed. In addition, the launch of a RECI communication campaign to reinforce the intercultural narrative, in the form of a "Travelogue", was discussed.



The second meeting of the year took place on 12 July, and was attended by more than representatives 20 of RECI territories. This meeting was also held virtually, and served to share ideas around the products and actions of the 10th anniversary of the network, as well as to share the status of the working groups, the RECI communication campaign and the work of the ICC. During the meeting, participants were also invited to the third and last meeting of the year, scheduled for November in Bilbao.





The third working meeting of the RECI took place in Bilbao on the 3rd of 23 November and was attended by more than 16 people from 16 RECI cities and territories, with an outstanding presence of councillors from different municipalities. The working day served to take stock of the work carried out in recent months, including the tools of the ICC programme, the work of the intercultural integration group GT-ADI-INT and an update of the network's working groups. In this sense, the new group on intercultural policy impact indicators was launched. In the turn of the working group on narratives, the launch of the "Travelogue towards Intercultural Cities" was presented as part of the RECI communication campaign #unviajenecesario and a *brainstorming session* was held in groups to reflect on the possible uses of the notebook and on concrete actions of the campaign. Finally, there was a reflection on the network's priority areas of work, challenges and areas for improvement.



## B) RECI visits

Within the framework of the ICC, expert visits to cities are carried out, which consist of two or three-day visits to a city by two experts who meet with political representatives, municipal technical staff and different representatives of the city's civil society. RECI does the same and during this period two visits have been made to cities that have joined the Network in recent years: [Barakaldo](#) and [Valencia](#). The objective was to learn first-hand about the situation, challenges and evolution of intercultural policies in the city, and to be able to provide practical recommendations in a subsequent report.

In the case of Valencia, the visit took place on 13-14 September. During the first day of the visit, and after the reception by the Mayor and the Councillor for Development Cooperation and Migration, meetings were held with various councillors, heads of various City Council services, entities that form part of the



Local Council of Immigration and Interculturality and some schools that are part of the *Xarxa Apuja el Tó*. The following day we visited two schools in the Orriols neighbourhood and attended the presentation of the Diversitours project.

The visit to Barakaldo took place on 7 and 8 October. The visit included an institutional reception, where the government team and the opposition shared some reflections on the need for an intercultural perspective and its practical application in local politics. There was also a working session with technical staff from different municipal areas and a more specific one where the service and facilities for reception were explained in depth, and the main challenges of the current system were debated. The visit also offered the possibility of getting to know the city's associative fabric and the links between some projects such as the Anti-rumour Strategy and the Time Bank.

In addition to these two visits to the network's newest member territories, a visit was also made to Tenerife as part of the presentation of the results of the fourth wave of the ICC Index. During the visit, a meeting was held with the Cabildo Insular, with the participation of the

president, Pedro Manuel Martín, the Island Councillor Carmen Luz Baso, the president of the RECI, Jaime Lanaspá, the RECI coordinator, Gemma Pinyol-Jiménez and the technician responsible for the network in the Cabildo, Julio Ramallo. The visit also served to learn about experiences within the framework of the Juntas en la misma Dirección project, such as the Interreligious Dialogue table, or the work with the municipalities of Adeje and San Cristóbal de La Laguna.



### C) Tools for the creation of intercultural narratives

Over the last few years, RECI has accumulated significant *know-how*, both from an intercultural and anti-rumour perspective, which allows us to identify the criteria we consider most effective for building alternative, more rigorous and positive narratives on diversity. Within this framework, the Alternative Narratives working group formed by the cities of Bilbao, Castelló, Salt and Santa Coloma de Gramenet, is developing tools that facilitate the use of this accumulated knowledge.

On the one hand, a **practical guide** for the construction of intercultural narratives has been developed in response to an evident demand and need in cities. This guide aims to provide tools for the elaboration of communication strategies from an intercultural perspective and is aimed not only at personnel linked to interculturality but also at communication technicians of City Councils. During the



In the different working sessions of the narrative group, the table of contents and the basic structure of the guide have been elaborated. In addition, parts of the guide have been nurtured, especially those referring to the challenges and opportunities cities face when developing a communication strategy that takes into account the intercultural approach. Cities have also participated by providing practical examples, experiences and good practices.

On the other hand, this year the alternative narratives group has also been working to develop a communication campaign in the framework of the 10th anniversary of the network. This is the first joint communication campaign of RECI cities that will offer a common framework, but can be adapted to the specific contexts of the cities involved. The star product of the campaign is a [travelogue](#) illustrated by Miguel Gallardo in which the technician Mila and the parrot Melo embark on "a journey towards coexistence". The main objective of the campaign is to disseminate the approach and principles of interculturality. In addition, the campaign seeks to promote reflection, the creation of intercultural narratives and to reinforce the visibility of RECI. The travelogue is an innovative format that works both online and offline and allows combining written content with illustrations. The campaign was launched in the framework of the network's 10th anniversary celebration, which coincided with RECI's 22nd working day. At the latter, the notebook was shared and the cities reflected together on possible ways of using and disseminating the material adapted to the needs and context of each territory.



In addition, in the field of alternative narratives, training with an international dimension has been carried out through an "Academy on alternative narratives" launched by ICC. This training was attended by technicians from RECI cities and other ICC cities. The agenda and more information can be found [here](#).

## D) Intercultural Competences

In February 2020, the ICC programme launched a survey on the needs and interests of cities in which the results showed that intercultural competences for public and elected positions were at the top of the list. In this context, RECI, with the help of the working group on intercultural competences, has been working on the following topics

developed the document "[Intercultural competences for technical and political positions in local government](#)". After an exercise of reflection and conceptualisation, a training module was designed as one of the necessary tools for the improvement of intercultural competences designed for a virtual modality. After the training, an evaluation was carried out to adjust the design of the training proposal according to the needs of the cities.

Taking into account the above-mentioned achievements, the working group held its last session on 13 May 2021, at which it was agreed to close, since the objectives set for the group had been met. However, there is still a commitment to follow this issue closely at RECI meetings and in other spaces (ECCIPA project, ICC). In addition, all the cities in the Network will be informed of the progress made by the working group created by ICC (experts and representatives of the national networks) to address the creation of training tools in the framework of intercultural competences.

### **E) A welcoming framework from an intercultural perspective**

Over the last few years, the RECI intercultural reception working group has worked on the systematisation of the information gathered and the development of a workproposal that has focused on developing an intercultural reception model. In 2020, the main product of the group "[Rethinking Reception from an intercultural perspective](#)" was launched, which seeks to contribute to the reflection on the reception that has been developed in Spain in recent decades from the local level and with an intercultural perspective, to promote debate on the subject and to help identify challenges and opportunities in this area.

### **F) COVID-9: Challenges and Opportunities in Intercultural Cities**

The current situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic has challenged our ability as a society to cope with extraordinary and unpredictable circumstances. The pandemic has had a negative impact on the entire population, and has hit the most vulnerable groups particularly hard. In this context, RECI has initiated a process of analysis of the challenges of the immediate future from an intercultural perspective. Since the beginning of the pandemic, RECI has been actively working on the issue, among other things through the identification of experiences and good practices of RECI cities, in coordination with the ICC programme, which has dedicated a [web](#) page to Covid-19.

### **G) Diagnosis, monitoring and evaluation of intercultural policies**

One of the most complex issues faced by RECI cities and territories is to be able to elaborate good diagnostics to identify priorities for the design of intercultural strategies and policies, and also to be able to evaluate their impact.

The ICC index is a good tool that allows cities to obtain a snapshot of the situation at a specific moment in time, both of the reality and of the set of policies, and to compare the evolution over time. In addition, it allows, in a very practical way, to identify strengths and weaknesses of the set of municipal policies. However, it does not allow for a more detailed monitoring of the impact of intercultural policies, and it has been shown that it is necessary to go into this issue in greater depth and to equip oneself with other complementary instruments.

In coherence with the need to reinforce the intercultural approach and its principles, RECI has promoted this line of work that aims to complement the ICC index with the definition of a common framework that facilitates cities to carry out these diagnoses and evaluate the impact of their policies, with a system of indicators based on the principles of equality, diversity and interaction.

In this sense, an initial work of compilation and analysis of existing indicators has been carried out. To this end, the work of Sabadell City Council in this field was taken as a reference, as well as the work carried out by other city councils and territories such as Barcelona, Logroño and Tenerife. The complexities related to the collection of information on interculturality (municipal competences, data that do not exist or cannot be obtained, etc.) have been assessed.

On 9 December, a working meeting of the Working Group formed by Bilbao, Tenerife, Sabadell, Logroño, Barcelona and Donostia was held, at which a work plan and next steps in the identification and definition of a set of agreed indicators in the areas of public action and coexistence were produced through the available information (both quantitative and qualitative). The next meeting of the group is scheduled for February 2009. 2022.

## H) RECI Dialogues

In the first half of 2021, the first RECI Dialogue was held, a [webinar to discuss hosting](#) between technical staff from cities inside and outside RECI and experts. The webinar was held virtually on 22 June from 10:00 to 13:00. It was promoted by the RECI Welcoming working group and counted with the presentation of Jaime Lanaspá, president of RECI, Ivana d'Alessandro, ICC-Council of Europe, Gloria Rendón, expert and collaborator Diversit and Albert Mora from IDH-Universitat de València and with the participation of more than members40 from inside and outside RECI. In addition, the RECI cities themselves shared their experiences and good practices in terms of reception: Mercedes Nicolás from the City Council of Zaragoza, Jone Pariza, from the City Council of Barakaldo and Cristina Puente from the City Council of Sabadell. In this meeting space, the participants reflected on the reception that has been developed in the Spanish state in recent decades from the local level, the challenges and opportunities from an intercultural perspective.

In the framework of the work done to analyse the impact of COVID-19, Fuenlabrada City Council has organised a technical workshop with the support of RECI. The conference,

entitled "[The social impact of the pandemic on the migrant population](#)", aimed to analyse the social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the migrant population through an intercultural and cross-cultural approach. The event was attended by around 70 participants and included presentations by Álvaro Revilla, Director General of the Social Area of Fuenlabrada City Council, Jaime Lanaspá, President of RECI-Red de Ciudades Interculturales, Ivana d'Alessandro, head of *Intercultural Cities* of the Council of Europe, Albert Mora, representative of the Institute of Human Rights, University of Valencia, and Virginia Paloma and Rocío Garrido from the Centre for Research and Community Action of the University of Seville. The document resulting from the conference is available on our [website](#).

On 16 December, and in the framework of the International Migrants Day celebrated on 18 December, we held a webinar on discrimination in the local sphere, inspired by a guide produced by the Institut de Drets Humans de Catalunya "Guide for the preparation of comprehensive reports on discrimination in the city". This guide is presented as a practical tool at the service of public administrations and organisations for a comprehensive analysis of discrimination in cities, based on a more realistic diagnosis of what is needed to make equality and non-discrimination a reality, not only in legal regulations, but also in the lives of everyone. The author of the guide, Karlos Castilla, will participate in the seminar. In addition, Albert Fages, Director of the 'Oficina de No Discriminació' of the Barcelona City Council and Javier Pérez, Coordinator of Biltzen, the Basque Service for Integration and Interculturality that manages Eraberean, the network for equal treatment and non-discrimination in the Basque Country, will also participate.

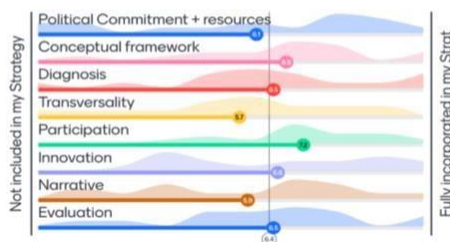
After this first edition of the webinars on reception, the impact of COVID-19 and the fight against discrimination at local level, the possibility of continuing with these discussion cycles is being considered.

### I) Participation in the European project 'European Pact for Integration'.

The European 2019 Commission approved the '[European Pact for Integration](#)' project. The project officially started in January 2020.

During the first half of the year the cities have been working on the definition of their Intercultural Integration Plans. In May 2021, a comprehensive 3-day online training was organised for technical staff of the cities in the project. In the framework of this training, Diversit - ACI prepared a workshop on the key elements of any intercultural strategy. In addition, two RECI cities presented their experiences in the elaboration of Intercultural Strategies: Bilbao and Sabadell.

## Key elements of an Integration - intercultural Strategy



In the second half of the year, the cities have started to implement their plans with pilot actions. The monitoring of these actions is carried out by a committee (*Coordination Body*) which in the case of Cartagena is made up of:

- An external expert: Ramón Sanahuja, former immigration technician of Barcelona City Council.
- The city's technical partner: Diversit - ICA
- A scientific expert: Dirk Gebhardt, UPF and collaborator of Diversit -ACI

### J) 10 years of RECI

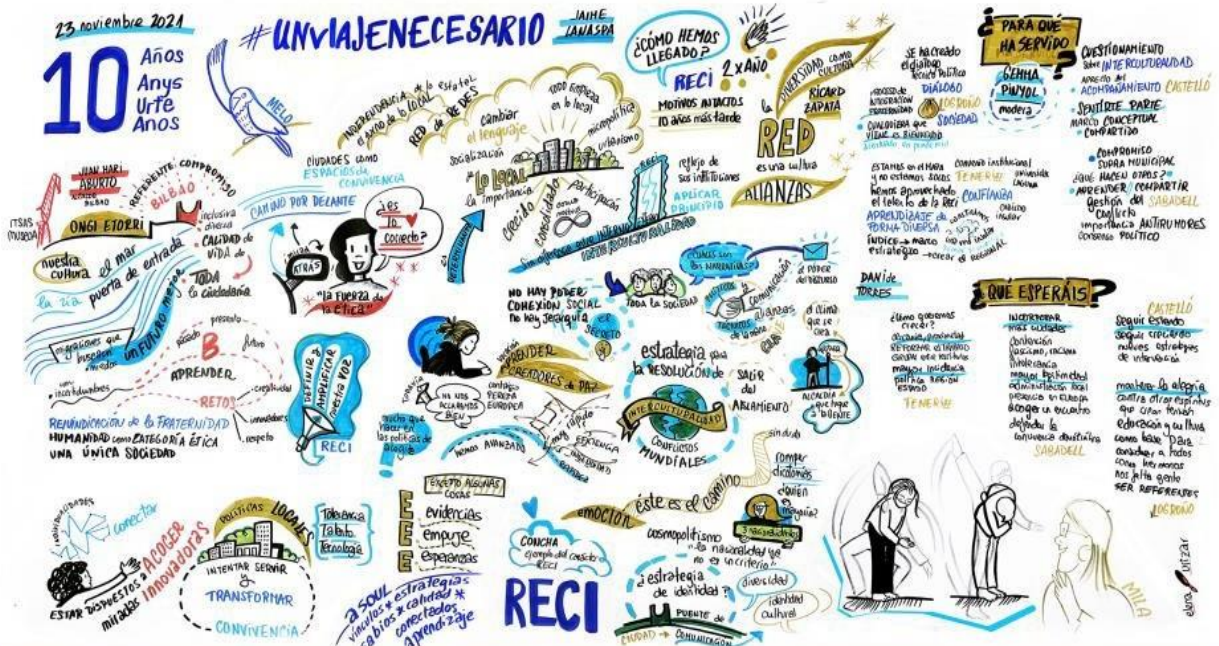
Since its creation in the year in the framework of 2011 the *Intercultural Cities* programme of the Council of Europe, the RECI has established itself as a key space for cooperation between different territories of the State in the promotion of Interculturality. On 23 November last, the 10th anniversary of the Network was celebrated at the Maritime Museum of Bilbao, coinciding with the 22nd working day of the network held on 22.

The celebration event, which was attended by more than participants 60, began with an Auresku that fused traditional Basque dance with African and contemporary dance. The event was inaugurated by the Mayor of Bilbao, Juan Mari Aburto and the President of RECI, Jaime Lanaspá. Ricard Zapata, Professor at the Pompeu Fabra University, gave some reflections on the importance of the network, its achievements during this time, and some possible challenges for the future. A video was also shown with a compilation of greetings and reflections from people who have played an important role over the last 10 years, but who either could not attend the event or are no longer linked to RECI.

The event hosted a round table to reflect on what it has meant for cities to be part of RECI. It was attended by Pablo Hermoso, Mayor of Logroño, Vicente Manuel Zapata, Professor of Human Geography at the University of La Laguna, María Limonge, intercultural mediator of the City Council of Castellón and Marta Morell, Deputy Mayor for Feminism, Animal Welfare and Participation of the City Council of Sabadell.



At the end of the event, a summary of the day was presented in the form of a *visual thinking* projection by Elena Uriza, which, in addition to visualising the key ideas and moments of the day, also included the main ideas and values of RECI and its work over the last decade.



## #03 / COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY RECI

### A) Newsletter

The RECI-Antirumores newsletter has been published every four months. In 2021 it was published in March, July and December. This internal communication tool has made it possible to share the acts and events in which both the Association and the cities have participated, the documentation published on relevant topics for the cities or the upcoming meetings and activities programmed. In addition, a direct subscription channel to the newsletter has been created for those who wish to subscribe to it through our [website](#).



### B) RECI Visibility

#### In the media

In the framework of RECI's tenth anniversary, Dani de Torres, director of the network, was interviewed in EL PAÍS. The article discusses the work of the network in promoting and supporting innovative policies that promote and take into account diversity. The interview is available [here](#).

*"In order to promote the design of innovative policies at local level based on the intercultural approach or to foster anti-rumour strategies to prevent discrimination or improve coexistence and social cohesion, some twenty Spanish cities are members of the Intercultural Cities Network (RECI), a project that has been operating in Spain since January 2011".*

#### Campaigns

RECI is participating in the design of an awareness-raising campaign on youth and migration. This campaign is part of the project "Awareness-raising for tolerance and social cohesion in Spain" funded by the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security. It is coordinated by the Atenea Foundation, with the participation of various social entities such as CEAR, UNHCR and the PorCausa Foundation.

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## #04 / COORDINATION AND INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

### A) Management of agreements and quotas

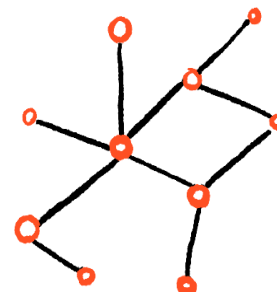
During the last year, the agreements that expired in 2020 and 2021 have been renewed. In addition, the RECI cities of Barcelona and Malaga are in the process of signing the MoU with the *Intercultural Cities* programme of the Council of Europe.

### B) Seeking resources to strengthen the functioning and activities of RECI

In the framework of the search for other finalist and non-finalist resources to reinforce RECI's operation and activities, the following actions have been carried out:

- Participation in the design of the LYLA (**Local Youth Integration Lab**) project submitted to the European Union Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund under the call AMIF-2019-AG-CALL. The project, coordinated by Pro Arbeit (Germany) aims to develop a model of innovative participation of young people in the design of youth strategies from an intercultural perspective. Diversit has participated in this proposal with the city of Castelló de la Plana. Unfortunately, the project was not selected for funding.
- Participation in the design of the **Debate Schooling** project for the Erasmus + programme. The project, coordinated by the Swedish Intercultural Cities Network, aims to create an open and effective tool to counteract the growing polarisation and disengagement of young people through debate and play. Diversit has participated in this proposal with Santa Coloma de Gramenet, with whom it would implement elements of the anti-rumour approach. Unfortunately, the project was not selected for funding.
- Application for a **grant from the ICC programme** of the Council of Europe to implement a work plan that, on the one hand, is complementary to the current one and, on the other hand, strengthens internationalisation and the commitment to networking with ICC from both Antirumores and RECI. The grant, which has been approved, has a period of implementation from April to December of this year. 2021.
- Another project presented this year was STRengthening local action to counter discriminatory violence (**STRIVE**) in the framework of the call 'Promoting equality and combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination'. On this occasion, the project is led by EFUS, the European Forum for Urban Security and seeks, on the one hand, to raise awareness of violence and discrimination among politicians and technicians and, on the other hand, to share good practices in the field of prevention and intervention in this area. Unfortunately, the project was not selected for funding.

- In this same call we joined the project led by the Government of Malta to support the design of its Anti-Racism Strategy 'Towards the implementation of an Anti-Racism Strategy for Malta'. The project has been approved and from Diversit - ACI we will offer training and advice for the design and implementation of an Anti-Racism Strategy at state level.
- The NET-IDEA project has been submitted to the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV) and specifically to the 'Network of Towns' call. The project stems from the ICC Intercultural Competences working group and the idea of seeking funding for the design and implementation of training in intercultural competences. The ICC city networks of Portugal, Italy and Sweden have been joined by the cities of Erlangen (Germany) and Lublin (Poland). Bilbao is a partner in the project.
- The SCORE project aims to create a coalition of European cities and local authorities for the promotion of inclusive sport, as well as the prevention and fight against racism, xenophobia and related intolerance in the field of sport. Four RECI cities are part of the consortium: Getafe (consortium leaders), Sabadell, Bilbao and Tenerife. In addition, they have several partners including the cities Limerick (Ireland), Botyrka (Sweden), Ioannina (Greece), Graz (Austria) and Rennes (France), as well as the Spanish Observatory against Racism and Xenophobia (OBERAXE), and Cidalia, a diversity consultancy.
- The European project FAST-LISA aims to reduce online hate speech among young people. The project, which is part of the AMIF (Asylum, Migration and Integration) programme, has been approved and involves the city of Santa Coloma de Gramenet. Although Diversit is not a 'formal' partner in the project, it will participate in the training on the formation of stereotypes and prejudices and their impact on hate speech.



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## #05 / DIVERSIT: AT THE SERVICE OF CITIES

### Intercultural Barcelona Plan

A diagnosis and evolution of the city from an intercultural perspective has been carried out over the last 10 years. To this end, all areas of the City Council have been involved, promoting a process of internal reflection with the different municipal areas, in order to reinforce transversality. The process has culminated in the elaboration of a new Intercultural Plan that has been presented in May together2021, with a Government Measure that aims to reinforce the institutional commitment to interculturality and the integration of the intercultural perspective in the whole of the municipal government action through the improvement of governance instruments.

In relation to the Plan, two reports have been produced: 'Proposals for action to promote diversity among the public staff of Barcelona City Council' and a proposal that identifies a relatively small number of indicators to be able to periodically monitor the evolution and trend of some variables related to the objectives defined in the city's new Intercultural Plan.

### Sabadell Intercultural Plan

During the first months of 2021, the development of the [Sabadell Intercultural Plan](#) was launched in collaboration with the Sabadell City Council and with the financial support of the Diputació de Barcelona. The process has been similar to the other strategies: a diagnosis has been drawn up, which has just been validated by the City Council, and axes, objectives and actions have been defined and designed to advance intercultural action from there. The result was set out in a Plan that was presented and approved at the November Plenary Session of the City Council. 2021.

### Getxo Welcome Plan

The Getxo Town Council has been advised on the design of a reception strategy aimed at people in international mobility (immigration, emigration, refuge). Firstly, a participative diagnosis was carried out and the main lines of action for reception in the city were defined. Next, advice was offered on the lines of action to be included in the future Municipal Office for Reception and Mobility.

### Intercultural training for the Sabadell Police Force

Training in intercultural competences was given to the local police of Sabadell. The aim of this training was to offer an approximation of the intercultural perspective, bringing the theoretical framework closer to the professional practice of the service. The 4-hour training sessions were held for the staff of the community police teams (in person during the month of March), as well as for all the staff of the city's police force (telematically in May and June).

### Awareness-raising campaign with the Atenea Foundation



We signed a collaboration contract to be part of the working group for the design and dissemination of an awareness-raising campaign on youth and migration in the framework of the project "Awareness-raising for tolerance and social cohesion in Spain" funded by the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security.

#### Training in intercultural competences Tenerife

During the last year, a training on intercultural competences has been held at the Cabildo de Tenerife (5, 7, 13 and 14 October). This training replicated the model tested last year in the framework of the intercultural competences working group, to which a session on the intercultural perspective in the design, implementation and evaluation of projects was added.

#### Pla de Barris Training

This training offered an approximation of the intercultural perspective to the project managers of the *Pla de Barris* in Barcelona, bringing the theoretical framework closer to their professional practice in the design and management of projects in the neighbourhoods.

#### Host training Donostia

The aim of this 3-hour training-workshop was to facilitate reflection and debate within the administration in order to identify challenges and possible alternatives to the work carried out to date, as well as to work on the formulation of proposals to improve reception.

#### Intercultural education training Castelló

In the framework of a training on the intercultural approach in the educational field for teachers from schools in Castelló, two sessions were offered on the anti-rumour strategy as a creative approach to tackle coexistence and its implementation.

#### Anti-rumour training Portuguese Intercultural Cities Network

In the framework of the 'Inclusion Influencers' project, the Portuguese Network of Intercultural Cities organised two online training sessions: one for teachers and the other for technical staff of the network's municipalities. For this purpose, it was supported by the Antirumours Global team. The training took place on 120 October.

#### Anti-rumour strategy in Gatineau

Work has begun with the Canadian city of Gatineau to support the design and launch of an anti-rumour strategy and anti-rumour actions. The planned actions include an initial anti-rumour diagnosis, training actions for key actors and municipal staff, training, communication, evaluation and monitoring.

#### Anti-smoking training Fuenlabrada

Anti-smoking training has been carried out in the framework of the Fuenlabrada Anti-smoking Strategy, which took place on 2628October, in person. The following were given

two sessions aimed at citizens covering an approach to the Anti-rumour approach and how to incorporate it into everyday life.

#### Anti-rumour training València

Two Anti-Rumour training sessions were held for organisations that form part of the *Apuja el Tó Against Racism Network* and for teachers at educational centres in the city of Valencia. The aim of the training for organisations was to train the technical staff of these organisations to be able to incorporate the Anti-Rumour approach in the activities they carry out in the educational centres that are members of the *Network*. Likewise, the training for teachers sought to empower people with knowledge and practical tools to promote the Anti-Rumour approach in the school environment.

#### Anti-rumour training in Limassol

The Cypriot city of Limassol has been supported to design an Anti-rumour Strategy in the city in the framework of a European project of the *Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund* programme. The support is mainly focused on technical training for both key actors in the city and city staff on anti-rumour strategies.

#### Xarxa Antirumors Barcelona

In the framework of the current process of evaluation of the Action Plan of the BCN Anti-Rumour Network 2016-2021 and the design of the new Action Plan of the Network for the next five years, a contract has been signed with the City Council of Barcelona to provide support during this process. The purpose of this support is to analyse the different models of Anti-Rumour networks and experiences that may be useful for the design of the new Action Plan of the BCN Anti-Rumour Network. In addition, an analysis of the challenges and debates shared by many territories in identifying strategic objectives and defining their activities will be carried out.

