

# RETE CITTA' DEL DIALOGO

APRIL – JUNE 2022 ACTIVITY REPORT

## **STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE NETWORK**

On June 14<sup>th</sup> – 16th we held in Tourin the RCD Annual Thematic Meeting **"The role of young people in promotion of diversity and in fighting discrimination. Experiences and tools for the network of the Cities of Dialogue".** 

The 2 days' event was particularly focused on YOUTH and their role in promoting diversity and fighting discrimination. Synergies were created, within the cities, between the services coordinating the ICC Program and the services dedicated to young people activities (Youth Policy Departments or similar Departments).

Representatives of the Municipality were invited to participate, together with who was more directly involved in working with young people.

The event was organized in collaboration with the project Youth Spaces Free of Rumours. Representatives of 18 youth centers from 8 cities of the network involved in the project were invited. It has been an interesting moment of comparison and sharing of experiences and practices, which could be a driving force for other cities that want to invest in the role of young people as intercultural agents.

The agenda of the meeting included the following main sessions:

#### 15 June 2022

- Welcome and opening remarks (Municipality of Turin, ICEI)
- Presentation of the network Cities of Dialogue and of the project Youth Spaces Free of Rumours: focus on interculture and youth protagonism.
- Discussion among participants on youth protagonism today, intercultural aspects and rights: priorities, challenges and tools for the future.
- Practices of intercultural community development Presented by the City of Turin
- Presentation of the project Youth Spaces Free of Rumours: results, methodologies and points for reflection
- Working group Comparison and reflections on the effectiveness of the tools used, the critical points faced and possible proposals to overcome these difficulties
- Working group The Cities of Dialogue Network and initiatives for youth leadership and combating discrimination: comparison; reflections and future perspectives
- Good practices and criticalities of the actions for youth protagonism: comparison between operators and city representatives
- Visit to the photographic exhibition "Lights and shadows of Aurora: diversity, stories and contradictions that only those who really live the neighbourhood can tell" final activity of Youth Spaces Free of rumours at the youth center "Cecchi Point" in Turin

#### 16 June 2022

• Greetings and intervention of youth protagonism and anti-discrimination - Ms. Salerno, Councilor of the City of Turin

- Thematic interventions:
- "Telling the Other" Francesca Folda, Journalist and Social Impact Consultant
- "Intersectionality in Youth Work" Annamaria Simeone, Youth worker and trainer, President of Giosef Torino
- Working group Definition of network priorities and future proposals
- Next steps and final greetings



SAVE THE DATE 15 e 16 giugno 2022 - TORINO

IL RUOLO DEI GIOVANI NELLA PROMOZIONE DELLA DIVERSITÀ E NEL CONTRASTO ALLE DISCRIMINAZIONI

ESPERIENZE E STRUMENTI PER LA RETE CITTÀ DEL DIALOGO

Evento della Rete Città del Dialogo Rete italiana Città Interculturali ICC Program - Consiglio d'Europa

In collaborazione con il progetto "Spazi Giovanili Free of Rumours"









The thematic sessions and the working groups of the meeting have been focused on collecting ideas, proposals and priorities from youth workers and cities' representatives. The 4 main intervention areas identified are:

- 1. Social inclusion of young people: reorganise activities and rethink the services offered by the CAG and the municipalities in the post-pandemic perspective emerged.
- 2. Involvement of different age groups in the work of youth centres and municipalities
- 3. Realisation of common spaces adapted to young people's needs. The discussion revolved around two points:
  - Creating alternative and self-managed spaces for young people.
  - Adapt the CAG facilities to the activities.
- 4. Participation of young people at political tables where decisions are taken for them

<u>Regarding the priorities</u>, the following elements have been identified for the next months:

- a) Support the professional development of youth workers;
- b) Increase the active involvement of the public side;
- c) Promote the activation of young people as "anti-rumour ambassadors" and the emergence of new youth movements against discrimination;
- d) The creation of moments of exchange between the young people involved;
- e) Shared planning;
- f) Continuous training;
- g) Exchange of good practice between participants;
- h) Promoting dialogue between young people and decision-makers;
- i) Including young people from the various centres in the network's training and design;
- j) Expansion of the network to other youth centers
- k) Increasing the visibility of the anti-rumours actions through the involvement of media, society and profit-making organisations

The conclusions and recommendations issued from the working groups and the plenary sessions focuses on the willing of participant organizations in continuing the cooperation on the topic of youth activism to fight discrimination in the Italian intercultural cities.

For the next few months, 'light' contacts will be maintained until September/October, then the planning, drafting and scheduling phase will gradually begin to support the creation of an informal network of youth centers connected to the Italian ICC network.

## **COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES**

We kept on focusing on increasing the reach and engagement of our online community, while raising the awareness about intercultural topics and activities at local and national level.

The Rete Città Del Dialogo Facebook fanbase is solid with 12.720+ followers and interactions are growing. In the second quarter of 2022, the editorial plan included 23 posts with almost 2 posts published per week, including graphics, photos, videos leveraging ICC Program, Rete Città del Dialogo, COE and 3<sup>rd</sup> parties' resources, initiatives and thematic materials. 5 videos were published, 2 of which with local contents on Antirumours activities and 1 presenting the role of sport as driver of human rights enhancement and equality. On RCD Facebook, we obtained more than 200 interactions, about 8.3 interactions per post, involving about 2000+ persons.

We also created and published a downloadable Booklet promoting intercultural values and collecting intercultural terms, part of the online campaign "Glossario Interculturale".







Finally, from 7 March on, we are on air with our social **communication related to the emergency in Ukraine**, and we kept on sensibilizing and updating our public on Ukraine situation and how Intercultural cities are collaborating to support **Ukrainian population and cities' needs.** 

ICEI implemented this wide local editorial plan in coordination with the ICC social media team, leveraging synergies and cross-posting.

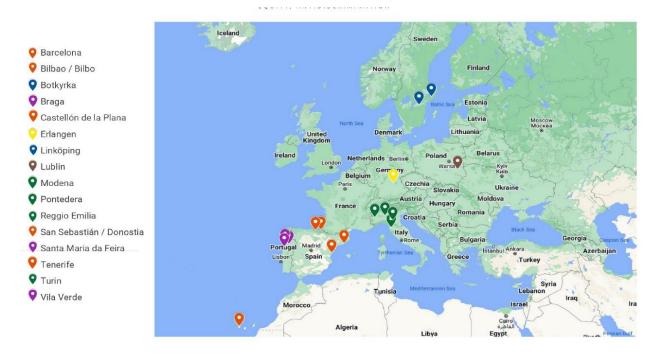
### SUSTAINABILITY TO STRENGTHEN THE NETWORK

The project **"ITACA – Italian Cities Against discrimination"** funded by the RIGHTS, EQUALITY AND CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME (REC) of the European Commission concluded its training activities targeting the staff of the 7 municipalities involved in the initiative (Reggio Emilia, Modena, Novellara, Olbia, Viareggio, Fucecchio, Casalecchio di Reno). The training program aimed at improving the skills of the staff of municipalities, supporting the development of intercultural and anti-discrimination competences. Approx. 130 people from the staff of the 7 cities participated in the training courses with 7 modules delivered both in presence and online. In June 2022 the Project started a set of capacity building workshops for CSOs organisations of the 7 partner cities, in cooperation with the municipalities. The workshops focused on the Antirumours methodologies and targeted several organisations in each city. Moreover, ITACA is supporting the City of Reggio Emilia and the City of Modena in developing internal guidelines and tools to provide a structured framework for anti-discrimination strategies and actions.

The project "**NET-IDEA** "**Network of European Towns for Interculturalism, Diversity, Equality and Anti-discrimination**" developed in cooperation with the ICC Programme has officially started its activity on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

The project involves the ICC networks in Italy (ICEI is the lead applicant), Spain, Portugal, Sweden and the Municipalities of Erlangen (Germany) and Lublin (Poland). The objective of the proposal is to reinforce the role of local authorities and their cooperation in the fields of diversity promotion, interculturalism, anti-discrimination and inclusion of minorities.

16 cities members of the ICC Programme have been selected:



Working with these 16 cities, the NET-IDEA project will:

- Strengthen the competences of LAs in the implementation of effective policies to promote Equality, Diversity and Inclusion of Minorities.
- Promote a long-term cooperation between European Cities and the exchange of best practices.
- Increase among citizens, and youth in particular participation and rights awareness on interculturalism and anti-discrimination.

The first activity, launched in June 2022, is the elaboration of an analyses on the topic of intercultural competence of participating Cities, issued from a wide survey involving more then 100 public and private stakeholders in the 16 cities.

In June 2022 ICEI also concluded the implementation of the Project **"Youth Spaces Free Of Rumours – Young people against discrimination**", with the direct participation of 8 Italian municipalities, members of the Italian network: Milano, Torino, Venezia, Casalecchio di Reno, Novellara, Palermo, Modena, Reggio Emilia.

A total of more than 310 young people from 18 youth centres have been involved in the 8 cities to promote youth activation and civic protagonism to establish youth centres "free of prejudices", applying the antirumours" methodology.

The last activity of the project consisted of the realization of anti-rumours city events in each of the 8 cities. The antirumours actions and the multimedia contents have been presented within events open to public. Young people became ambassadors of the work done in each youth center and actively cooperated with associations and municipalities to realize events in their neighbourhoods (in open-air spaces, parks , etc).

These actions strengthened young people engagement and, at the same time, increased the awareness of other youth groups and families, reaching about 900 people.

Communication materials have been produced and disseminated, such as:

Campaign Materials	
Video - Manifesto	Campaign Manifesto
<u>1st Video – Diary</u>	Digital Magazine
<u>2nd Video – Diary</u>	<u>Cartoon Magazine "I giovani protagonisti contro le</u> <u>discriminazioni" – by CAG Lambrateam – Milan</u>
<u> 3rd Video - Diary</u>	







**Campaign Manifesto** 

Cartoon Magazine

#### ENLARGE AND DEVELOP THE NETWORK RETE CITTA' DEL DIALOGO

An online meeting with the **city of Bolzano** has been organized on May 11<sup>th</sup> : the city was very interested in joining the Italian network and they also signed a letter of intent for the NET-IDEA project.

It's been quite a while since Bolzano showed its interest in intercultural matters, and in the meeting we acquired important information about their social fabric and their political priorities: they are an open and inclusive city, have a few LGBTQ+ associations and declare having 10% foreigners in the province and 15% in the city. They have a high cultural richness they want to value.

Bolzano is a border city. It has been interested in the last years to SPRAR projects for widespread hosting, they have a big priority in housing because there is no accommodation in the city and it is very expensive, there are homeless people and people living in public structures. It is very difficult to find a house in Bolzano, many people work there but live elsewhere for the very high prices.

There is a creeping discrimination on migrants that they would like to address, together with the housing problem, which is widespread. They want to plan about the future and prevent discrimination from getting worse, working on integration and learning, through study-visits and meetings with other realities, how to make the most of the intercultural richness they experiment in their city and province.

With the opportunity of the NET-IDEA project this is a very interesting reality, also covering an new geographical territory for the RCD, to involve in the network.

There is an interesting city-twinning background of Bolzano with Erlangen (already an ICC city) that pushes and motivates Bolzano. We are very happy about Bolzano's engagement and will follow up closely on the next steps for them to join the Italian ICC network and start working with us!