# RETE CITTA' DEL DIALOGO

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2022 ACTIVITY REPORT



#### STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE NETWORK

We are working for planning the 2022 National Intercultural Cities Meeting of Rete Città Del Dialogo!

More information in the coming months!

#### **COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES**

We kept on focusing on building and nurturing our online community, focusing on increasing engagement and raising the awareness on intercultural activities and topics at local, national and European level.

Our online editorial plan included posts published both on The Rete Città Del Dialogo (RCD) Facebook page and ICEI social media channels.

The RCD Facebook community is still solid and made up by 12.695+ followers. In the third quarter of 2022, the editorial plan included 20 posts with almost 2 posts published per week, using graphic formats with photos and videos of the activities realized.

We are giving visibility to a wide variety of training and awareness-raising resources developed by the ICC Network and Council of Europe, such as toolkits, policy papers and videos.

We presented activities related to local intercultural projects, involving Italian intercultural Cities members of ICC Program, in particular ITACA, NET-IDEA and Youth Spaces Free of Rumours.

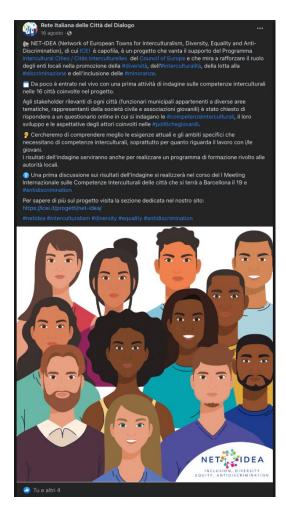
We also gave visibility to some International Days: World humanitarian Day, International Day of Democracy and Peace Day.

7 videos were published, presenting topics like Intercultural Communication, Sustainable Development, Refugees and Antidiscrimination, Women in Leadership and the antirumours project "Youth Spaces Free of Rumours".

The RCD editorial plan is always implemented 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 has carried out a set of capacity building workshops addressed to civil society organisations of the municipality involved in the initiative (Reggio Emilia, Modena, Novellara, Olbia, Fucecchio, Casalecchio di Reno).

The Workshops (1 in each city) aimed at empowering teams of practitioners to be the "on-the-field agents" at local level, with a focus on vulnerable users groups and their organisations.

Local CSOs (NGOs, migrants' associations, vulnerable users groups, etc.) are involved through the Municipalities participating in the process. Each LA selected the most relevant organisations in its local context according to their competences and interests in the targeted fields, the added-value that they can bring to the Action and their commitment in participating in the design of awareness-raising actions.

A total of approx. 65 technicians from local CSOs participated in the workshops. Following the local workshops, a 3-days national anti-discrimination Lab will be organized with the participation of representatives of the CSOs and LAs in October 2022 (12-13 october)

This group of practitioners, coming from the Italian cities, will work on the elaboration of recommendations on the design and implementation of joint public-private actions to fight discrimination, promote rights-awareness and advocacy.

Moreover, the project ITACA is planning a 3-days Study Visit in Ireland, involving partners organisations and Cities with the goal to provide a in-dept exchange with other 2 European Cities: The City of Dublin and the City of Galway.

The Visit will be carried out on the 25-28 october 2022.

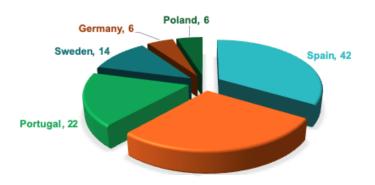
Finally, ITACA is support the Municipalities of Reggio Emilia and Modena in the definition of a inter-department working group, involving personnel (political and technical) for the design of anti-discrimination guidelines to prevent and fight systemic discriminations. The result of this process will be available in November 2022.

The **NET-IDEA Project**, after the official launch with the partners in May (ICEI / ICC Italian Network, DIVERSIT-ACI / ICC Spanish Network, ICC Portuguese Network, ICC Swedish Network and the cities of Lublin & Erlangen) and with the cities (16) in June (in both online events a representative of ICC Programme / CoE participated), started in July organising and implementing the first activity, which was an **online survey on the intercultural competences** (125 Participants / 16 Cities / 6 Countries) that was completed by a set of frontal interviews (15) with key-actors in each one of the cities involved.

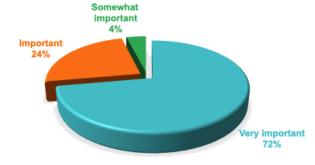
The survey was conducted by three senior experts, Kseniya Rubicondo (Ukraine Network of Intercultural Cities & ICC Expert), Jorge Frozzini (University of Quebec) and Bob White (University of Montreal & ICC Expert).

Regarding the **main conclusions**, this survey data analysis indicates a gap between the needs of participants and the trainings offered, mainly regarding abilities to integrate intercultural competences into policy design. There is a tendency for trainings to remain theoretical and survey participants express a need for practical forms of applied learning based on concrete examples and situations. While some trainings focused on anti-discrimination and systemic forms of inequality, other trainings put emphasis on intercultural communication and openness. These two approaches need to be more well integrated in order to have a fuller understanding of intercultural competences. Training on intercultural competences tends to focus on individual knowledge, skills and attitudes, but municipal organizations must also ensure that these principles are included in policy design, project implementation and guidelines for professionals.

#### **NET-IDEA SURVEY PARTICIPANTS BY COUNTRY**



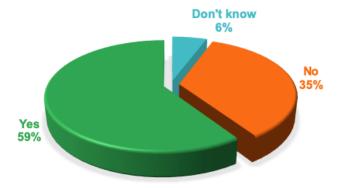
# HOW IMPORTANT IS ICC COMPETENCE FOR YOUR WORK?



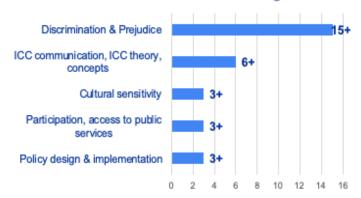
# RESPONDENTS BY TYPE OF ORGANISATION



HAVE ICC TRAININGS BEEN OFFERED BY YOUR ORGANIZATION INTERNALLY OR EXPERNALLY?



# Themes Covered in Trainings



The preliminary results of the survey and the interviews were shared with partners and cities representatives at the **First Transnational Meeting in Barcelona** (September). The debate around these results lead to a brainstorming on the content and methodology of the training in intercultural competences. Based on the survey results and the debate developed in Barcelona, a new curriculum on intercultural competences is being currently elaborated and tested for the training process.

Also, the meeting in Barcelona was the first occasion to start working on the transnational cooperation based on the **exchange of practices**. In the weeks prior to the meeting, ICEI and DIVERSIT-ACI requested from the cities involved to send a good practice in the field of Anti-Discrimination & Youth. In Barcelona it was organised a session of speed dating on the practices, that gave the chance to all the cities to present their practices and reflect on some elements that could be the base of a process of knowledge and practice sharing. This field of action will be strengthened by the development of a community of practice, that will give all the cities the chance to develop training activities on specific topics, but also will be the space for the interaction among the cities and the sharing of practices.



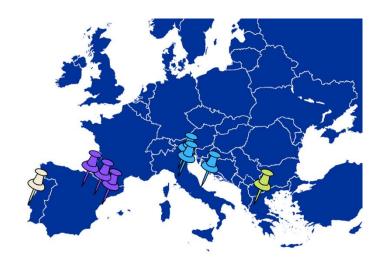
Finally, the meeting ended with a study visit at the **Centre of Resources in Human Right** / **Anti-Discrimination Observatory** of the Barcelona City Council.





The **DIVERCITIES Project**, submitted by ICEI to the European Commission within the Call CERV-2022-CITIZENS-CIV, was formally approved and financed by the EC. ICC Programme / CoE will support the project implementation, as associate. The project aims to promote an effective bottom-up approach boosting the citizens participation in the elaboration of local intercultural policies in 8 European Cities / 4 Countries.

DIVERSIT is based on a **transnational partnership** that involves three national networks of intercultural cities (ICEI / Italian Network, DIVERSIT-ACI / Spanish Network & Portuguese Network) and eight intercultural cities:



# **ITALY**

- Modena
- Montesilvano
- Pontedera

#### **SPAIN**

- Castelló de la Plana
- Zaragoza
- Logroño

### **PORTUGAL**

— Loures

## **GREECE**

— Ioannina

Working with the 3 ICC National Networks and the 8 Intercultural Cities, DIVERCITIES will:

- Strengthen the competences and methodologies of 8 European Cities in the implementation of effective bottom-up democratic processes, in cooperation with local stakeholders.
- Increase citizens contribution in the decision-making and awareness-raising in the field of interculturalism and diversity promotion.
- Facilitate the mainstreaming of project results and good practices to other European Cities.

The project will officially start on November, 01<sup>st</sup>, will last twenty months and is currently organising a first activity of state of art analysis and study on the participatory processes linked with interculturalism. KoM will take place in Italy in the beginning of 2023.

Finally, ICEI started the support to the **City of Milan for the elaboration of the Municipal Anti-discrimination Plan.** This initiative is at a preliminary stage and will be developed in the coming months with an analysis phase (carried out by a private Foundation), a participatory process with local stakeholders and the elaboration of the Municipal Plan in cooperation with the staff of the City of Milan.

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

A new municipality is joining Rete Città Del Dialogo, **Zagarolo** near Rome! It will be the thirtieth intercultural cities in Italy.

The membership process is almost complete, waiting for their letter of intent to be signed.