

TRANSNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Communities of practice – “old” and “new” members of society in integration process

07.06.2019. – Friday

Hotel Dubrovnik, ADDRESS: Gajeva 1

Zagreb, Croatia

The transnational conference *Communities of practice – “old” and “new” members of society in the integration process* in Zagreb is the highlight of the WELCOMM project which connects NGOs, civil society, officials and Third Country Nationals (TCNs) from four EU member states through discussion, creation, and integration. Austria, Croatia, Italy and Slovenia have different degrees of experience with regards to the integration process; however, their shared historical and cultural background, as neighbours, offers a great potential for knowledge transfer and sharing of experience. While Italy and Austria, as larger counties and “older” members of the EU can rely on decades of experience with reception and integration of refugees and migrants from various cultural backgrounds, Croatia and Slovenia have only recently been faced with the challenges of receiving and integrating refugees and migrants. Even though, in recent history, both Croatia and Slovenia experienced forced displacement of people due to war, integration challenges - although present, were not as pronounced as in current political crisis regarding refugees and migrants.

WELCOMM has three main objectives: to facilitate, to strengthen and to enhance the capacities of the participating countries in facilitating the integration process for third-country nationals and receiving society. After developing information and training tools for different actors in the integration process, the project partners will present their achievements to the transnational community of practice in the region and invite them to learn from each other, rethink, discuss and act on better-integrated society.

The conference will mainly focus on existing integration initiatives – the ones that have been created by refugees and migrants themselves, and also those initiated by “old” society members. This indeed is the keystone of WELCOMM, emphasizing that integration cannot be done only by migrants, or “natives”; integration is a two-way process which requires the active participation of old and new members of society. Successful integration requires constant dialogue and creating new solutions that make living together easy and enjoyable.



This project was funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.

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AGENDA

- ❖ 09:30 – 10:00 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**
- ❖ 10:00 – 10:30 **CONFERENCE OPENING**
press conference of Coordination for Integration *Opening of the 6. Refugee Week*
*speakers will be additionally announced
- ❖ 10:30 – 11:15 ***Contemporary context of EU integration practices***
Moderator: Tea Vidović, Centre for Peace Studies (Croatia)

Panelists:

- Dragana Knezić, Rehabilitation Centre for Stress and Trauma (Croatia)
- Prince Wale Soniyiki, Africans Society in Croatia (Croatia)
- Leila Salehiravesh, Südwind (Austria)
- Magdalena Schrempf, NGO LungaerInnen für Menschenrechte (Austria)
- Roberta Lo Bianco, CESIE (Italy)
- Batch Mballow, president of a Gambian association (Italy)
- Asja Hrvatin, No-Border Craft (Slovenia)
- Ognjen Radivojević, Slovene Philanthropy (Slovenia)

- ❖ 11:15 – 12:15 ***How did we get here? – Socio-historical background in which initiatives, collectives and communities of practice that discuss integration are established and developed***

Moderator: Maddalena Avon, Centre for Peace Studies (Croatia)

Panelists:

- Richard Braude, member of Porco ROSSO and activist (Italy)
- Davor Konjkušić, member of Welcome! Initiative, activist, journalist (Croatia)
- Jana Milovanović, Terra Vera (Slovenia)
- Katharina Rußwurm, Caritas Bildungszentrum (Austria)
- Shokat Ali Walizadeh, Neuer Start (Austria)



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- ❖ 12:15 – 13:30 **Community and practice in integration - what do we do and why we do it?**
Moderator: Dragana Knezić, Rehabilitation Centre for Stress and Trauma (Croatia)
 - Ali Ahmad Safa, Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (VIDC), Gender trainer (Austria)
 - Katharina Rußwurm, Inclusion at work, Caritas (Austria)
 - Achraf Halouani, member of ARTE MIGRANTE (Italy)
 - Adam Darawsha, Deputy Major on Culture (Italy)
 - Cyrille Cartier, Živi atelje DK - Collective Women to Women (Croatia)
 - Franci Jazbec, Association Odnos (Slovenia)

- ❖ 13.30 – 14:30 **LUNCH BREAK**

- ❖ 14:30 – 16:00 **Future of Communities of Practice – our best hopes?**
Panel will be organized in working groups based on the main three areas of interest defined by members of communities of practice. Panel and working groups will be facilitated by the moderators.

- ❖ 16:00 – 16:30 **Wrap up and closing of the conference**
Moderator: Tea Vidović, Centre for Peace Studies (Croatia)

- ❖ 17:00 **Public event on the streets of Zagreb – joint action/effort**
*location will be additionally announced



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