

**miejskie**  
**polityki**  
**migracyjne**



LOKALNE MIĘDZYSEKTOROWE POLITYKI NA RZECZ INTEGRACJI IMIGRANTÓW.  
Projekt zrealizowany przy wsparciu Szwajcarii w ramach szwajcarskiego programu współpracy z nowymi krajami członkowskimi Unii Europejskiej.



local/intersectoral policies in the field of

**MIGRANT  
INTEGRATION**

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# Introduction

**WE ARE PROUD** to present the report summarizing the project "Local Intersectoral Policy for the Integration of Immigrants" ("Lokalne Międzysektorowe Polityki na rzecz Integracji Imigrantów"). The project very important for us – with many initiatives being carried out in Poland for the integration of migrants, it started the process of strengthening cooperation between the main locations where these activities are run and thus goes beyond the perspective of one city or one type of activity. By initiating the Forums – held in various places in Poland, gathering people from different sectors – we wanted to show the importance of cities/self-governments in shaping the situation of migrants in our country. We also strove to engage as many foreigners in the debate as possible.

A year and a half of intensive work – mainly in Warsaw, Cracow and Lublin, has brought a number of important conclusions about the direction of future actions and also proved to be only the beginning of a larger process. We will continue this work, by organizing subsequent editions of Forum as well as i.e. developing a common information platform for immigrants and experts. Now it includes five cities but we hope that in the near future new locations will join it.

OTHER SPACE

FOUNDATION<sub>TEAM</sub>

HOMO FABER

ASSOCIATION<sub>TEAM</sub>

INTERKULTURALNI PL

ASSOCIATION<sub>TEAM</sub>

**FOR OVER 18** months of the project we have learned a lot and gained a lot of new experience. We would like to thank those who actively collaborated or supported this project. In particular, we would like to thank facilitators of the working groups (from the outside of our foundations) that decided to support our project with their knowledge and experience: Magda Bis, Wiktoria Herun, Anna Szadkowska-Cięzka, Magda Sweeklej, Ewa Pogorzała, Leszek Napiontek, Mamadou Diouf, Michalina Jarmuż, Mirosław Bieniecki, Iza Szewczyk, Janet Hiwot, Anna Szapert, Oliwia Ebebenge, Magda Wojno, Iulia Cheromukhina, Ngo Van Tuong, Elmi Abdi, Marija Jakubowicz i Kamila Nocuń.

Forums could not be held in this scale and with this impetus without engagement of many dedicated volunteers – here we would like to thank : Krzysztof Janiak, Agnieszka Małek, Karolina Kępka, Renata Socha, Krzysztof Traba, Marcin Grzymkowski, Anna Rączkowska, Marta Marzec, as well as Piotr Choroś (from the Municipality of Lublin City) and Magdalena Furdzik (from Municipal Centre for Support of Social Initiatives in Cracow) for important expert input in the discussion during Forums.

Furthermore, we would like to warmly thank institutions that host our project: Jewish Community Center in Cracow, Barbara Wybacz – director of Student Cultural Centre "Chatka Żaka" in Lublin, and Marcin Jasiński – director of Bemowo Cultural Centre.

The project could not succeed without substantial support from Municipal Offices from our cities: Lublin, Cracow and Warsaw. We thank a lot for this fruitful cooperation!



*The delegation met  
with representatives  
of institutions and  
organizations working on  
integration of foreigners in  
Vienna and Wiener  
Neustadt. Works, started  
in Vienna, were continued  
during the Forum on the  
Local Migration Policies  
in Cracow...*



# VIENNA

## Study visit in Austria

AUTHOR ► Katarzyna Kościeszka

09–13.08.2013

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THE STUDY VISIT IN AUSTRIA (VIENNA) TOOK PLACE FROM 9<sup>TH</sup> TO 13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2013. REPRESENTATIVES OF MUNICIPAL OFFICES OF LUBLIN, CRACOW, WARSAW AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS OF THOSE CITIES (HOMO FABER, INTERKULTURALNI PL AND THE OTHER SPACE FOUNDATION) TOOK PART IN THIS EVENT.

## THE DELEGATION

met with representatives of institutions and organizations working on integration of foreigners in Vienna and Wiener Neustadt. Works, started in Vienna, were continued during the Forum on the Local Migration Policies in Cracow, to which representatives of the Intercultural Centre (Interkulturelles Zentrum) were invited. A direct result of the visit was an idea of creating migrant radio, which is realized within the next project by the Other Space Foundation with cooperation of Homo Faber Association and Warsaw Municipal Office.

## SITUATION OF MIGRANTS IN VIENNA<sup>1</sup> AND LEGAL REGULATIONS

More than 1.7 millions of citizens live in Vienna, while 77.7% among them have got Austrian citizenship, 7.9% citizenship of one of the EU countries, and 14.4% citizenship of a non-EU country. Moreover, there are about 44% of Vienna citizens with a migration background, which means that they are citizens of other country or at least one of their parents was born abroad. The largest groups of migrants in Vienna come from Serbia and Montenegro, Turkey, Croatia, Romania and Poland. In the capital city the distribution of migrant nationalities is different than in the rest of the country, where the number of the groups is as follows (the list starts from the most numerous): Germany, Turkey, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Romania and Poland.

In terms of legal regulations, Austria has got one of the most restrictive migration policies in Europe. The quota system was in force until 2011 – the country defined a number of foreigners, which they can accept in a given year. Now, it is substituted by a point system. A migrant who wants to settle there must achieve a specific number of points which are given, among others, for education, language skills, age, professional experience. In order to prolong the first permission to stay, the foreigner must prove that he or she fulfilled integration demands (for example, he or she knows the language on a proper level) required in

the first period. The number of immigrants allowed to work in Austria is determined annually.

Members of the family of a foreigner living in Austria can join him or her provided that they individually fulfill conditions to obtain permission for settlement, for example, they speak the language on at least A1 level and have financial resources for their living.

The participants met with the following organizations:

### **Multicultural Centre / Interkulturelles Zentrum (IZ)**

**[www.iz.or.at](http://www.iz.or.at)**

It was established in 1987 in Vienna, and works on the basis of independent non-governmental organization. Its mission is to support central and local authorities in preparation and development of strategies concerning integration of migrants. Besides, IZ also deals with international cooperation in terms of education and teenage exchange. IZ actions were awarded by the Council of Europe twice within the Global Education – in 2000 and 2005. Sample actions:

- **Consulting** of the National Action Plan for Integration for the order of Austrian Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- **Initiation** of network of Austrian non-governmental organizations;
- **Membership** in the Expert Association “Integration and development of rural area” created by the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- **Trainings** concerning development of intercultural competence, solving intercultural conflicts – dedicated for teachers, labour market institutions and companies.

### **Centre of Social and Integration Projects, CESIP / Zentrum für Sozial- und Integrationsprojekte**

**<http://www.cesip.at/>**

A non-governmental organization established in 2010 by a group of people of Turkish origin – academic experts on migrants’ integration. It is the first organization of this type in Austria. The aim of the organization is to facilitate integration of migrants and minority groups in Austrian society, and to counter-count their marginalization. CESIP cooperates

with many actors – local authorities (especially from communities with a high number of immigrants in its population), migrant organizations and individual Austrians with a different cultural background.

### **Municipality Diversity Department of the City of the Wiener Neustadt**

[www.wiener-neustadt.gv.at](http://www.wiener-neustadt.gv.at)

Wiener Neustadt is located to the south of Vienna in north-east Austria. The city's population is estimated at 40 000 residents and 12% of which are immigrants representing more than 100 nationalities. People from Turkey, EU countries and former Yugoslavia are the largest groups.

In 2005 a special institution dedicated to foreigners integration was established in order to ensure social cohesion and peaceful coexistence of representatives of so many cultures. Current name of this institution is the **DEPARTMENT OF DIVERSITY AND CO-LIVING**. Sample areas of its activities include:

- **Education** (e.g. language courses "mums learn German", "Young migrants as an example of perfect mentors");
- **Social campaigns** (e.g. "Sport joins-us", "Friendship joins-us", "Common interests joins-us", "Working together joins-us", "Food joins-us", "Hello neighbour – here I'm at home!") which aims at showing common points for foreigners and Austrians, and raising the awareness about possibilities of migrant integration in Austrian society;
- **Organization of debates** in residential areas / housing estate (settled by a considerable percentage of migrants) with local society often as a "meeting at coffee and tea". The aim of those meetings is to talk about local problems, positive experiences and ideas for improvement of life conditions in a given society;
- **Networking** with migrants and social organizations, collective realization of projects, regular meetings once/twice a year.

### **Radio Orange 94.0 i Radio Afrika TV**

[www.o94.at](http://www.o94.at)

[www.radioafrika.net](http://www.radioafrika.net)

Radio Orange 94.0 is a radio of a civil and migrant charac-

ter. It was established in the first half of the nineties. Currently, it is one of the biggest German-language civil radio stations. Many broadcasts of Radio Orange 94.0 are prepared by immigrants in their native language or in German.

Radio Afrika TV cooperates with Radio Orange 94.0. It was established in 1997 by Alexis Nshimiyimana Neuberg – a journalist from Rwanda. The broadcasting station's programme includes broadcasts about migrants from Afrika and popularizes knowledge about the continent.

### **Vienna Municipal Department 17 – Integration and Diversity**

[www.wien.gv.at/english/social/integration/](http://www.wien.gv.at/english/social/integration/)

[www.integration.wien.at](http://www.integration.wien.at)

Vienna administration department which conducts and funds activities (non-profit projects up to € 5 000 annually) for integration and assurance of equal chances of newcomers like: teaching German, projects for keeping the diversity, advisory programmes concerning legalization of stay and permission to work, empowerment programmes programmes for migrants, campaigns popularizing diversity, integration and multicultural competences. The department puts emphasis on regular communication and cooperation with migrant organizations. It is also involved in research and evaluation activity (**VIENNA INTEGRATION AND DIVERSITY MONITOR**).

The department has also field offices, which aim at closer cooperation with local communities. Examples of projects run by local offices: a platform of cooperation for migrant organizations, projects aiming at integration of foreigners in local community, or volunteers-mediators.

### **The Austrian Association of Cities and Towns**

[www.staedtebund.gv.at](http://www.staedtebund.gv.at)

The organization is for Austrian cities to represent their interests and voices towards governing bodies and public opinion. It consists of 252 cities and communities. The association takes an active part on the international arena – it is a member of **CLRAE** / Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe and **CEMR** / Council of European Municipalities and Regions.

# THE BEST PRACTICES

## The "StartWien" Project, Vienna Municipal Department 17 – Integration and Diversity

The "StartWien" project has been carried out by the city since 2008 with a cooperation of chosen departments and institutions belonging to urban structures of Vienna. It was created on the basis of research about integration projects in other European cities and Canada, expert consultations, and on the basis of interviews with immigrants about their needs.

The target group includes people who migrated to join their families and citizens of so called Third Countries. Within the "StartWien" Project foreigners are offered following services:

### 1. Introductory meeting

One-hour consultations, which are tailor-made to individual needs of a particular migrant. It usually takes place just after the migrant receives permission to stay. The meeting can be carry out in one of twenty-four available languages. During the meeting a foreigner:

- ▶ receives an informational pack with an educational offer of Vienna (including a voucher for German lessons),
- ▶ has an opportunity to get advice concerning key information helpful to start a life in Vienna.

### 2. Vienna language vouchers

New migrants must confirm their language skills on an A2 level within two years after their arrival to Austria. The Municipal Council supports them by offering vouchers worth € 300 for learning German.

### 3. Thematic modules

Thematic modules consist of a two-hour meeting (on a chosen topic), during which migrants acquire necessary knowledge allowing better orientation in Vienna. Participants

receive brochures in their native language with the most important information and addresses. They can also ask questions. The meetings are free and can be conducted in 20 languages, they are open for both new migrants and all interested people. Topics of the meetings: job, acknowledgement of professional qualifications, the right of residence, life in Vienna society, health, education, accommodation, starting a business activity... The trainers include mainly people who have migrated to Austria themselves and are professionals within the topic of their presentation.

### 4. Couching: second level

This kind of support is offered mainly for those who have received the Information Pack about Education in Vienna during the first two years of their stay in Austria. The services are available in 12 different language versions. As part of the couching a foreigner can: clarify doubts appearing on a regular basis which concern daily life and possibilities of integration in Austria, ask for help in contacting other consulting centres, exchange experiences with other migrants.

## EFFECTS OF THE STARTWIEN PROJECT

- ▶ Immediately after arrival, migrants get all necessary information concerning life in Vienna;
- ▶ The most complicated issues are explained in their native language;
- ▶ Information is adapted to individual needs of an individual migrant;
- ▶ New migrants are encouraged to start education as soon as possible;
- ▶ Between October 2008 and April 2014 more than 13 000 Information Packs were distributed, more than 27 500 meetings took place within the Information Module, and more than 4 500 people came for a meeting within couching: second level programme.

In order to provide more effective integration of immigrants, the Administration of the city of Vienna cooper-

ates with different organizations. The list below includes some sample institutions:

#### **WAFF – Vienna Employment Promotion Fund**

**[www.waff.at](http://www.waff.at)**

The agency has been established by the city of Vienna. The fund informs and provides advice on professional carrier and supports vocational trainings. It offers an introductory advice for Vienna newcomers in their native language.

#### **AK Wien – Vienna Chamber of Labour**

**[www.wien.arbeiterkammer.at](http://www.wien.arbeiterkammer.at)**

The Chambers offers free counseling and represents its members in case of problems concerning labour laws, social laws and others. It also provides financial support for upgrading professional qualifications in a form of educational vouchers.

#### **WKO Wien – Vienna Chamber of Commerce**

**[www.biwi.at](http://www.biwi.at), [www.wifi.at](http://www.wifi.at), [www.gruenferservice.net](http://www.gruenferservice.net)**

More than 110 000 Vienna factories and entrepreneurs are members of the chamber. It offers for its members, among other, legal advice, support in starting a business, cooperation, networking. It is one of the most important educational centres in Austria – each year about 70 000 people use its services.

#### **Vienna Business Agency**

**[www.wirtschaftsagentur.at](http://www.wirtschaftsagentur.at)**

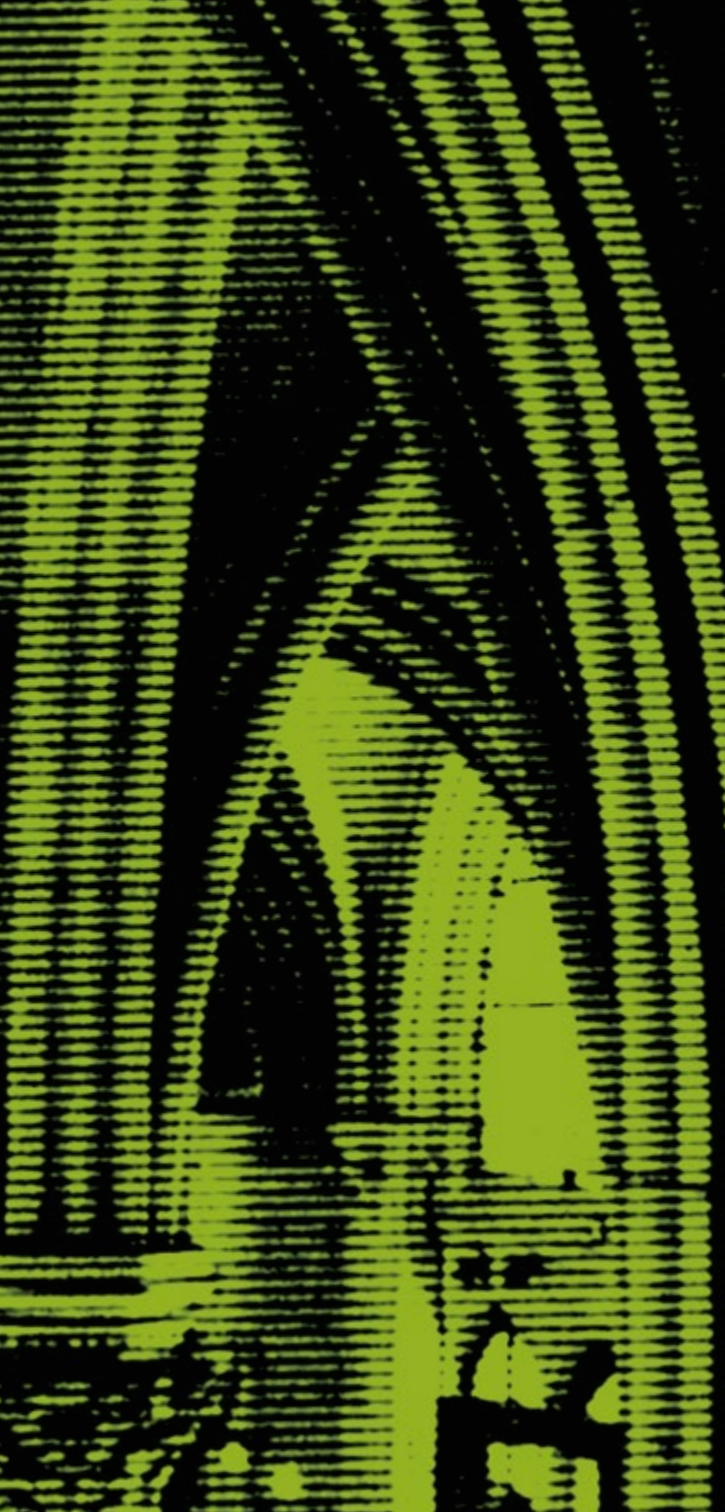
The agency offers financial grants, real estates, individual counseling and other services connected with stating a business activity in Vienna.

## 2.

#### **Vienna Integration and Diversity Monitor (VIDM)**

”Vienna Integration and Diversity Monitor” project is introduced as a part of urban administration, aimed at all of its structures – departments and institutions. Its purpose is





to raise awareness on diversity among higher ranks office workers, coaching of medium and lower rank personnel; and optimization of services. VIDM is a tool of implementation and evaluation of this project.

#### **AIMS**

First published in April 2010. The purpose of the VIDM is a comprehensive and profound analysis of all the fields, in which the immigrants' integration can be measured; it later on serves as a base for creating rational migration strategy. Its watchwords are "Measuring Integration. Shaping diversity". The Monitor allows a particular evaluation of the urban integration policy implementation degree in Vienna; and development of a diversity management system in departments and Vienna's administration facilities.

VIDM concerns two fields. On the one hand, it evaluates current urban structures actions (diversity monitoring). On the other hand, it assists in further development of urban migration policy, through measuring and presentation of the current migration situation (integration monitoring).

#### **INTEGRATION MONITORING**

Purpose: analysis of integration degree of Vienna's society, based on particular indicators, which are designed to be the base for creating/changing/continuing urban migration policy. Integration in terms of Vienna's administration means equal participation of all the groups living in the city, considering the major aspects of the social life.

In the integration monitoring a particular emphasis is put on the individual migration experience of concrete people and their legal position, and analysis of the integration process based upon those factors. Thanks to this approach, urban projects are better profiled, taking into consideration the specificity of individual needs that migrant groups have.

Integration monitoring (apart from demographic data) illustrates the immigrants access to health care, degree of their mobility, education, occupation and market preferences, housing, social and political participation and sense of security. This data is collected and analyzed, then divided into groups according to the nations living in Vi-

# *VIDM watchwords are:*

## **MEASURING** *integration.* **SHAPING** *diversity*

enna, as well as migration generations. The research verifies, whether (and if it does – how?) the fact of being an immigrant influences whichever of the above-mentioned aspects and if the current urban integration strategy ought to be continued/changed.

### **DIVERSITY MONITORING**

Its purpose is the evaluation of integration actions undertaken by Vienna's urban structures. Approximately 30 departments and organizations take part in the research. Monitoring is primarily based on in-depth interviews (IDI) with higher rank office workers; however, additional studies, secondary research or workshops are being conducted.

Diversity monitoring concerns the following areas: urban diversity strategy; education, youngsters and women; occupation and resourcefulness; housing, health care and social issues; infrastructure and access to services; culture and entertainment.

### **Radio ORANGE 94.0** **[www.o94.at](http://www.o94.at)**

The Radio of a civil and migrant nature. It was established in mid 90'. At first it operated illegally because until 1994 all radio related activities were under state monopoly. Nowadays, it is one of the major German-speaking civil radio stations – 400 to 500 volunteers cooperate with the radio. In the association, which functions besides the station itself, approximately 10 people are being hired.

Many broadcasts of **RADIO ORANGE 94.0** are being prepared by immigrants in their native languages or in German. In case of less widely known languages the associa-

tion verifies the content of broadcasts through comments posted by particular broadcast's listeners.

**RADIO ORANGE 94.0** is not a commercial radio station (it does not air ads) and is entirely relying on grants and external donations. From the city (sport and education departments) the radio annually receives € 280 000 and from the country's budget – dedicated for specific projects – € 80 000. The rest comes from projects as well as listeners' donations.

### **Radio Afrika TV**

**[www.radioafrika.net](http://www.radioafrika.net)**

It is an informational and communication platform for Africans, as well as people interested in Africa. Austrians, as well as other European citizens, Africans, Asians and Americans are members of the Radio's team. The improvement of relationships between Europe and Africa, and actions in favour of better migration interaction in Austrian society are the long term aim of the radio station.

Radio Afrika is a part of a broader Austrian informational network concerning Africa; it consists of a website, **AFRIKA TV** and an **Afrikas Tribune** magazine. The broadcasts are in German, English, French and African languages.

**AFRIKA TV** cooperates with a TV station **OKTO** (**[www.okto.at](http://www.okto.at)**), where on Mondays, between 8:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., they run a programme, repeated several times a week at various hours. The programme reports information on migrants from Africa living in Vienna and other regions of Austria. The main aim is to change the image of this continent and its residents, who in the mainstream media are usually presented in the context of poverty, criminality and humanitarian programmes.

## RANGE AND STATISTICS

Within a week **RADIO AFRIKA TV** has over 200 000 listeners/viewers, and the website is being daily visited by 300–400 individual users.

Since 2009 **AFRIKA TV** has a nationwide range. It transmits daily, airing fixed broadcasts in the social Orange radio station and public radio – **ORF**. **Afrikas Tribune** is being published three times a year in 6 000 copies.

## SOCIAL PROJECTS

In addition to broadcasts, **RADIO AFRIKA TV** implements projects aiming at merchandising cross-cultural dialog, integration and counteracting discrimination. Below are examples of some of them:

- ▶ **Stories of migrants success** – migrants featuring migrants,
- ▶ **Workshops for journalists,**
- ▶ **African Quiz,**
- ▶ **CINE Afrika** – cinema for integration,
- ▶ **Africa's Starparade** – presentation of works of art form African artists and musicians living in Vienna,
- ▶ **African perspectives** – panel discussion.

## Mamadou Diouf

► PRESIDENT OF THE  
"AFRIKA ANOTHER WAY" FOUNDATION

Thanks to the meeting in Radio Afrika 94.0, we came up with the idea to create migrant radio in Poland. Currently, we start this project thanks to the EEA and Norway Grants and funds from the European Union.

I met Alexis Nshimyimaa Neuberg, initiator of Radio Afrika TV, during meetings in the framework of Europe Arica Platform in Brussels. I remembered him as he was very active, he talked a lot about this radio. When we started planning the study visit in Vienna, I suggested straight away that we should go to see how they work. Of course, conditions in Austria are very different from Polish ones. They define immigrants in a completely different way. They have different attitude. Anyway, it's in Vienna where the idea to establish migrant radio was born and now we are making it real. I hope in the future we will manage to start some kind of cooperation with our Austrian counterparts and make together a trans-border project combining radio activity and integration of foreigners.

## Wiktoria Gerun

► UM LUBLIN  
COORDINATOR OF THE  
"STUDY IN LUBLIN" PROJECT

The study visit in Vienna has been one of the best I have attended so far. Its organization was, according to me, excellent. From my point of view (a person who deals with immigrant integration and at that time was strongly interested in legal solutions concerning legalization of foreigners stay in a country of their residence), that visit had a huge influence on the further course of my project "Study in Lublin". Many solutions that I saw in Austria, inspired me to changes in Lublin, as well as confirmed my conviction that it is possible to effectively motivate immigrants to learn the language of the host country.

In Vienna we had a meeting with representatives from Austrian universities and we found out that language courses for immigrants are being largely founded by city budget – immi-



grants receive vouchers for courses. It inspired us to find resources for it in the Lublin's city budget for 2015. It starts in a few months time. For the time being, we organize "Lublin with a soul" walks in Polish for foreign students from the East, and in English for the rest of foreign students.

***What do you remember the most from this visit?***

Definitely the meeting with Tatia Skirtladza. It was incredibly honest, direct meeting with a person who has to fight the bureaucracy on a daily basis. A very valuable experience, because of which the myth of the perfect Vienna disappeared. We've noticed that they have their problems too, challenges which they have to face in the future, and majority of the solutions can (often – should) be still perfected.

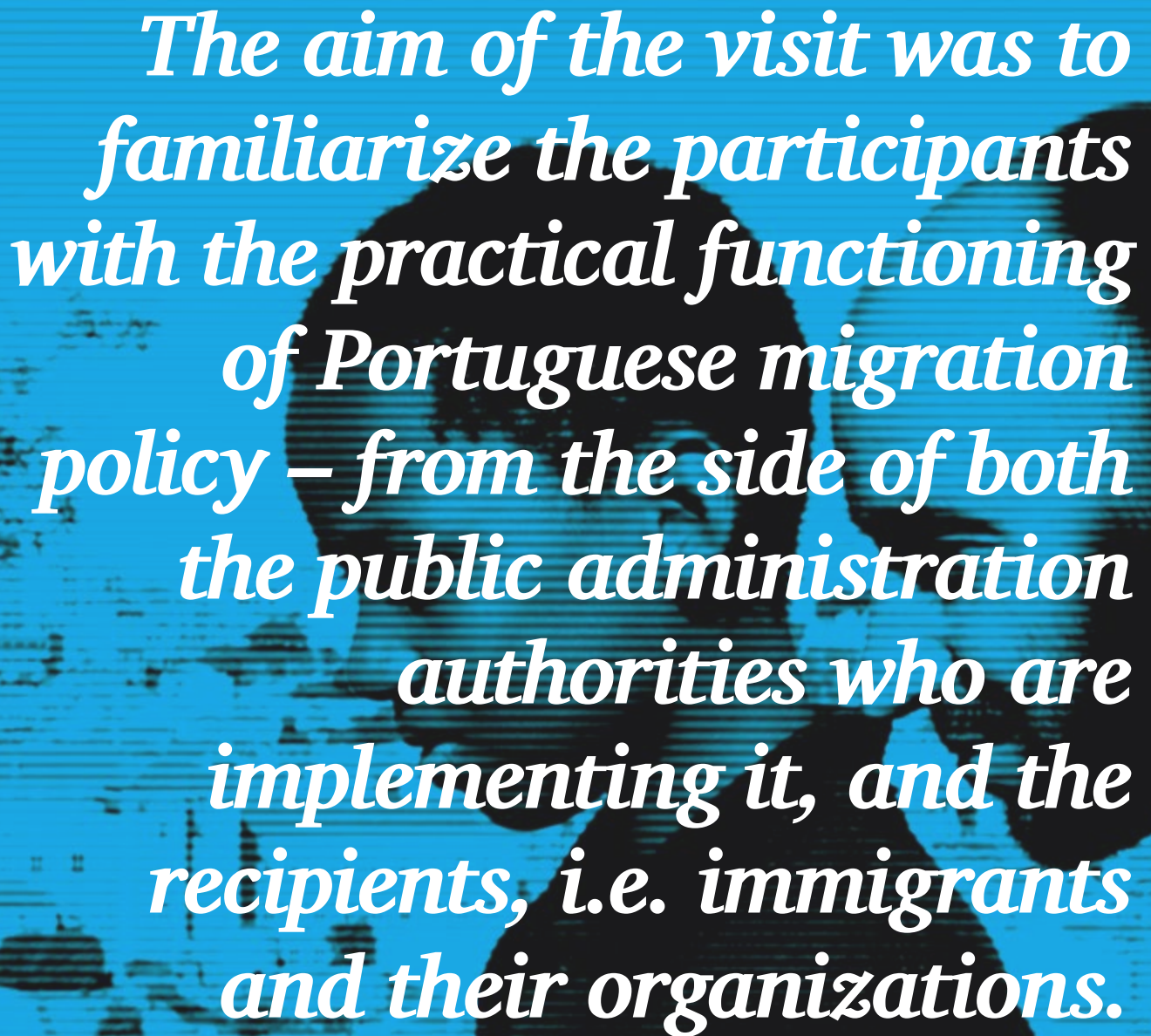
***What could have been done/organized better during the visit? Any sense of insufficiency?***

In my opinion the preparation of the visit was flawless. We had a very busy schedule so it would have been difficult to add anything to that. However, another thing that would have interested me would be more meetings with the immigrants themselves, who had gone through the whole experience of legalization of the residency and who took part in language courses. Furthermore, a meeting in Vienna's province office would have certainly been educational; to be able to first handed see the waiting lines, customer service, and get acquainted with office workers dealing with immigrants, to find out what languages they speak.

***Have you observed that through the project a greater coordination developed, better communication between Warsaw, Cracow and Lublin, or had nothing changed in this respect?***

Thanks to Migrant Policy Forum I found out what is happening in Cracow or Warsaw, unfortunately, under the number of on-going issues I haven't thought to engage further in that matter. Certainly, new acquaintances and continuous communication is very helpful in my work. It turned out that we do not have to start everything from scratch – there are others, who have already done that, there are better solutions and partners, who want to share what they've learned.





*The aim of the visit was to familiarize the participants with the practical functioning of Portuguese migration policy – from the side of both the public administration authorities who are implementing it, and the recipients, i.e. immigrants and their organizations.*

# LISBON

## The study visit in Portugal

AUTHOR ■ Zofia Iwaszkiewicz  
EDITOR ■ Katarzyna Kościeszka

28.04–01.05.2014

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**THE STUDY VISIT IN PORTUGAL (LISBON) TOOK PLACE BETWEEN 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL AND 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2014, GATHERING 14 REPRESENTATIVES OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND NGO'S FROM CRAW, LUBLIN AND WARSAW.**

**THE AIM** OF THE VISIT was to familiarize the participants with the practical functioning of Portuguese migration policy – from the side of both the public administration authorities who are implementing it, and the recipients, i.e. immigrants and their organizations. This experience became a basis for recommendations for migration policy in Poland – mostly at a local level (cities).

## **THE ORGANIZATIONS** WITH WHOM THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE STUDY VISIT MET:

### **Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras (SEF / Foreigners and Borders Service)**

[www.sef.pt](http://www.sef.pt)

Security services and criminal police, which reports directly to the Portuguese Ministry of the Internal Affairs. The role of this institution is to control borders, to investigate and to monitor immigration as well as to issue residence permits. It is one of the institutions which implement migration policy in Portugal.

### **Alto Comissariado para a Imigração e Diálogo Intercultural (ACIDI / High Commission for Immigration and Intercultural Dialogue)**

[www.acidi.gov.pt](http://www.acidi.gov.pt)

ACIDI is an institution in the rank of ministry having both an intersectoral and an umbrella like character. It offers cooperation in terms of formation, implementation and evaluation of public policies in the field of the integration of immigrants and ethnic minorities as well as promotion of intercultural, interethnic and interreligious dialogue.

### **IBISCO Theatre Association (Teatro Inter Bairros para a Inclusão Social e Cultura do Optimismo)**

[www.ibisco.org](http://www.ibisco.org)

The association was created as an effect of integration project for young people susceptible to social exclusion from six suburban areas of Loures. Through art, the IBISCO The-

atre, teaches values such as discipline, team work, emancipation and participation, as well as building self-esteem.

### **The Association of Ukrainians in Portugal (ZUP)**

[www.spilka.pt](http://www.spilka.pt)

ZUP was created in June 2003 and it is a member of ACIDI council, this is a reason why, like other migration organizations in Portugal, it has a real impact on migration policy in the country. The mission of the association is to protect rights and interests of Ukrainian immigrants and their descendants living in or staying in Portugal. ZUP runs 14 branches in Portugal and oversees nine culture and language Saturday schools.

## **DEMOGRAPHIC** SITUATION IN PORTUGAL

The history of Portugal as a host country is not long – it began in the seventies of 20th century. Before that, Portugal was a country of emigration. In 1989, 4 millions of Portuguese were emigrants, now it is believed to be 2 millions, which is 1/5 of the country's population. Portuguese very often when explaining the cause of creating such friendly and open migration policy, bring back the experience of their emigration – they treat newcomers as they would like to be treated in countries where they go.

According to 2007 statistics, in Portugal there are 10 617 575 residents, out of which 332 137 (3,13%) are legal immigrants (among which 51,7% are women and 48,3% are men). In 2010 the number of foreigners with regulated legal status was around 443 055. The biggest group of immigrants are Brazilians (66 354 in 2007), then Cape Verdeans (63 925) and Ukrainians (39 480).

The change in the immigration situation in the nineties of 20<sup>th</sup> century determined the formation of new migration policy. Since 1996 the execution of this policy was assigned to the High Commission for Immigration and Ethnic Minorities (ACIME), today called High Commission for Immigration and Intercultural Dialogue (ACIDI).

## BEST PRACTICE

**ACIDI – Alto Comissariado para a Imigração e Diálogo Intercultural / High Commission for Immigration and Intercultural Dialogue.** ACIDI is a supervisor of CNAI Centros Nacionais de Apoio ao Imigrante / National Immigrant Support Centres also called One-Shop-Stop. ACIDI is mostly responsible for integrating immigrants.

**Proximity** – actions taken in order to minimize the distance between a person and the office and to improve the contact between them.

**Initiative** – active participation of all interested parts in the process of implementation of migration policy is expected.

*The motto ACIDI is:*

**MORE diversity BETTER humanity.**

*The main slogans that drive ACIDI are: equality, dialogue, hospitality, multiculturalism, proximity, initiative.*

### THE ROLE

The main role of ACIDI is defined as promotion and development of cultural diversity in Portugal. ACIDI is responsible for cooperation in terms of formation, implementation and evaluation of public policies connected with the integration of immigrants and ethnic minorities, as well as for promotion of intercultural, interethnic and interreligious dialogue.

**Equality** – foreigner with a regulated legal status in Portugal has exactly the same rights as the citizen of this country (excluding full voting rights).

**Dialogue** – cooperation between offices and ministries, including third sector and immigrants themselves, inviting them all to evaluation of migration policy and to the process of implementation among others through intercultural mediators, who are the employees of OSS.

**Hospitality** – advocating the principle of reciprocity, foreigners are treated in Portugal in the same ways as Portuguese would like to have around 2 millions of their compatriots been treated abroad.

**Multiculturalism** – seen as a value and fortune.

### ACTIONS

Under ACIDI the following operations take place:

- ▶ **Online information platform** in Portuguese and flyers with practical information for immigrants in Portuguese, English and Russian;
- ▶ **B-i newsletter** – containing information about immigration and intercultural dialogue;
- ▶ **SOS hotline for immigrants** – run by intercultural mediators in 8 languages;
- ▶ **Telephone Translation Service (STT)** – addressed to non-Portuguese people spending time in Portugal, and to Portuguese people – to ensure communication between both groups. Currently there are 54 interpreters working for STT, speaking 60 languages;
- ▶ **CNAI – National Immigrant Support Centres** (in Lisbon, Porto and Faro). Detailed description below (in "Recommended Practices" chapter);
- ▶ **CLAII (Centros Locais de Apoio a Integração de Imigrantes) – Local Immigrant Integration Support Centres** – CLAII have a similar role to CNAI, however they are responsible not only for information but also for newcomers' welcoming processes and their integration with local so-

ciety. Currently there are 86 Local Immigrant Integration Support Centres in Portugal.

- ▶ **Outreach Teams** – teams made up of intercultural mediators responsible for mediating and contacting immigrants with CNAI;
- ▶ **”Portuguese for everyone”** programme (PTT);
- ▶ **Programa Escolhas (Choices Programme)** – is a grant programme, which finances equal opportunities projects for children and teenagers from communities susceptible to exclusion;
- ▶ **Nós Programme („We” Programme)** – „Nós” is a TV broadcast (40 mins/week) run in public television RTP2, which aim is to prevent racism and discrimination. It shows the potential and the value of cultural diversity. It has been screened continuously since 2004;
- ▶ **Journalist Diversity Cultural Award** – awarded to media for the input in the fight against racism and discrimination and for educating the society in terms of cultural, ethnic and religious diversity;
- ▶ **OI – Observatório da Imigração (Immigration Observatory)** created in 2003, is based on cooperation between administration and academic communities. OI gathers information regarding immigration, publishes papers on this subject, furthermore it runs an information website, organizes conferences, seminars and workshops;
- ▶ **Democracy Centre** – it is an archive containing publications regarding immigration and intercultural dialogue (both Portuguese and foreign);
- ▶ **International cooperation and Research Projects** – ACIDI cooperates with EU countries in order to exchange experiences and best practices, it also promotes the One-Shop-Stop model according to which all National Immigrant Support Centres in Portugal (CNAI) function. The OSS practice is recommended by the European Commission, whereas ACIDI published a guide on ”How to open a One-Shop-Stop?”;
- ▶ **Professional Centres Network for Immigrants** – in Portugal there are 25 centres, run by non-profit organizations, offering help with job search, as well as training courses and courses increasing competences.

ACIDI carries out their work on the basis of The Immigrants Integration (PII), reviewed every three years. The plan is constructed in the agreement with ten ministries of Portuguese government.

## RECOMMENDED PRACTICE



### NATIONAL IMMIGRANT SUPPORT CENTRES (CNAI)

CNAI / Centros Nacionais de Apoio ao Imigrante / National Immigrant Support Centres, called also One-Shop-Stop.

It is a receptive institution for immigrants, where one can find support offices together with branches of all major offices and institutions, that foreigners may need to begin their life in Portugal. In Portugal currently there are three National Immigrant Support Centres (in Lisbon, Porto and Faro), apart from those in the country there are 86 Local Immigrant Integration Support Centres (CLAII / Centros Locais de Apoio a Integração de Imigrantes).

CNAI improves immigrant service a lot. Thanks to the fact that all institutions are in one place, the immigrant is smoothly directed from one desk to another, without unnecessary misunderstandings and time wasting. After registration at reception desk, where immigrant describes the problem he needs help with, he gets a relevant queuing number and is directed to a place where his case is registered with details. Then he gets information where he should go next (which room number, floor). During the registration foreigner gives an interview – most often in his mother tongue – what is possible thanks to tens of employed intercultural mediators as well as thanks to Telephone Translation Service.

One floor of the CNAI building in Lisbon is dedicated to cases regarding the legalization of one’s stay (for which representatives of SEF, Foreigners and Borders Service, are responsible), that includes deportation cases. At the same time, on a lower floor, an immigrant can receive legal advice, for example when he/she is at risk of being deported.

Foreigners, however, do not need to fear, because all information given by them to lawyers or intercultural mediators is not to be passed on to SEF representatives. In order to better identify where to go with a specific problem, the representatives of appropriate institutions wear different colours of t-shirts. Support offices run by **CNAI**:

- ▶ **GAJI** (Gabinete de Apoio Jurídico ao Imigrante) – Immigrant Legal Support Office (here immigrants can seek legal advice, get useful information or make use of mediation in terms of: citizenship, employment, benefits or legal proceedings etc.);
- ▶ **GARF** (Gabinete de Apoio ao Reagrupamento Familiar) – Office Providing Support to Family Reunification;
- ▶ **GAE** (Gabinete de Apoio ao Emprego) – Support Office for Employment (helps job-seekers, runs courses increasing competences, helps with the preparation of curriculum vitae; **GAE** holds a list of employers and helps with arranging job interviews);
- ▶ **NAE** (Núcleo de Apoio ao Empreendedorismo Imigrante) – Entrepreneurship Support Offices for Immigrants (help for immigrants wishing to open their own enterprise);
- ▶ **GS** (Gabinete da Saúde) – Health Office (it informs about rights and obligations with regards to national health services);
- ▶ **GAH** (Gabinete de Apoio à Habitação) – Housing Support Office;
- ▶ **GAIC** (Gabinete de Apoio ao Imigrante Consumidor) – Immigrant Consumers Support Office;
- ▶ **GAQ** (Gabinete de Apoio a Qualificação) – Qualification Support Centre;
- ▶ **GRES** (Gabinete de Resposta a Emergência Social) – Office for Responses to Social Emergencies (support for immigrants whose socio-economic situation is difficult) and **GAS** (Gabinete de Apoio Social) – Office of Social Support;
- ▶ **GACI** (Gabinete de Apoio as Comunidades Ciganas) – Support Office for Roma Communities;
- ▶ **GATAI** (Gabinete de Apoio Técnico as Associações de Imigrantes) – Support Office for Immigrant Associations (**ACIDI** works with more than 100 migration organizations).

## 2 INTERCULTURAL MEDIATORS

One of good practices is the use of intercultural mediators in **CNAI** – speaking different languages and coming from different cultures. Those mediators run immigration hotline and support immigrants in-house in **CNAI**. Intercultural mediators are often the people who went through the process of legalizing their stay in Portugal – their background and experience make them the best candidates to help newcomers. They enjoy greater trust among newly arriving immigrants, and show them more sympathy. Intercultural mediators in Portugal provide service in 12 languages (Russian, Romanian, Ukrainian, Creole, and Chinese). If a help seeker at **CNAI** or at hotline for immigrants does not speak one of the languages provided, there still is the Telephone Translation Service that offers interpretation in around 60 languages.

## RECOMMENDATIONS THAT CAN BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE

Recommendations listed below can be implemented without legal changes, major investments or human capital. They can quite easily be realized taking advantage of intersectoral cooperation in the atmosphere of partnership and trust – just, as it happens in Portugal.

### MAIN RECOMMENDATION

The main recommendation for all institutions implementing migration policy at a local level is an intensification of intersectoral cooperation through employing migrant NGO's as intercultural mediators.

As Portuguese experience shows, employing experienced immigrants to help newly arriving ones allows better service that additionally creates the atmosphere of understanding and trust.

### OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The propositions below were created during study visit

workshops in Portugal by representatives of: Department of Foreigners of Mazowieckie Province Office, Cracow City Council, Lublin City Council, Homo Faber Association, Interkulturalni PL Association, "Africa Another Way" Foundation and the Other Space Foundation:

- ▶ **Creating Information Points** with hotlines for foreigners in city centres. Information Points initialized by NGO's could act as intermediary between immigrants and offices, like CLAI in Portugal. Treating NGO's as intermediary in such contacts is a good practice that partially worked out in Warsaw\*;
- ▶ **Creating multilingual publications** for immigrants – Welcome pack and „the map of legalization”. These publications should contain the most important information that immigrants might need when arriving to Poland. The legalization guide, created for major cities, should contain information about where and when the immigrant should go in order to legalize his/her stay and to take care of all major matters in terms of immigrating to Poland. It should also contain information on the places where a foreigner could go when he/she encounters problems – to ask for help. All materials should be created by experts and representatives of both public sector and NGO's. The distribution could be assigned among others to information desks (see above).

## Izabela Szewczyk

■ DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGNERS  
MAZOWIECKIE VOIVODESHIP OFFICE

Portuguese solutions are for us in many respects very inspiring. We've already started implementing some of them. We conduct a pilotage in our department – we signed up volunteer agreements with a few foreigners living in Poland (holders of residence permits). In July and August we had volunteers from Ukraine, Belorussia and Mexico. They were responsible for reception of clients in our department – they welcomed foreigners and informed them where they should go next. So they were helping other foreigners to find themselves in the Office's space. The mediators had a short traineeship to get acquainted with the character and the structure of the department. I think that introducing mediators in the Office's space is a brilliant idea – not only it warms up the image of the Office but also facilitates the services for foreigners. Migrants trust more a person that went through the same difficulties as them and that is not an official.

### *Why are they working as volunteers?*

Mediators working as volunteers is a solution that we could implement quickly – we do not need any additional funding for it. There are no formal limitations concerning hiring foreigners in the Voivodeship Office – of course, if they meet adequate requirements. Financial side is the main problem here though. The aim of the pilotage was to check how the foreign mediators would function in the Office's space – what would be the reception not only by clients but also by the other Office's workers... So far, a foreigner was only a client, not a colleague. It turned out that this solution functions well though.

### *Is One-Stop-Shop a solution that we can implement in Poland?*

Some time ago we tried to implement this solution but, unfortunately, this project wasn't completed. There were plans to create Mazovian Centre for Migrations Management, which character and structure was supposed to be similar to the Portugal institution – with representatives of various offices where foreigners

\* Migrant Info Point at Nowy Świat 23/25, Pasaż Italia (a building in the backyard between Nowy Świat, Chmielna and Al. Jerozolimskie street). Open from Monday to Saturday 3 p.m. – 7 p.m., [www.facebook.com/punktinfo](https://www.facebook.com/punktinfo), e-mail: [info@info-migrator.pl](mailto:info@info-migrator.pl), tel.: 048 666 600 566



have to go in order to legalize their stay and work in Poland. Project was to be funded from Swiss-Polish Cooperation Programme.

Currently, we have once again opportunity to implement, at least partly, this solution because the Department of Foreigners is changing its office. Very soon, next year, it is going to be located on Marszałkowska street where will be also Regional Centre for Foreigners. At the Centre migrants will be able to fix all issues linked with work and stay in Poland as well as with Polish citizenship. At the moment they need to visit two places Długa street and Bankowy square. At the new location, there will be also a place for representatives of NGO's advising immigrants.


***Are there any other Portuguese solutions that were inspiring for you?***

What I really liked in Portugal was a very warm, almost family-like character of the interior of **CNAI** building. It doesn't look like a typical office. Pictures of foreigners, expositions presenting different cultures totally change the atmosphere of this place. An important element of the Portuguese policy is a very well developed information section, i.e. helpline available in many native languages of migrants. We would like to do something similar in Poland – we plan to gradually increase the range of languages within our helpline. It is going to be developed by two new languages (English and Russian or Ukrainian) very soon. And it's just the beginning. As soon as funds show up, we will develop it further.

In a long-term perspective, we hope also to get European grants in order to add translation services to our on-line offer and to create a special subpage dedicated to foreigners on the Voivodeship Office website. We are aware that currently it is very difficult to find necessary information for foreigners – it is too scattered in the multitude of tasks carried out by the Office. The subpage, we are thinking about, is also to be as interactive and clear as possible in order that the foreigner had no difficulties to navigate and find all information needed.



*The main recommendation for all institutions implementing migration policy at a local level is an intensification of intersectoral cooperation through employing migrant NGO's as intercultural mediators.*



*The campaign  
"Switch on to Poland"  
is one of the direct  
results of The First  
Intersectoral Working  
Forum on the Local  
Migration Policies  
in Cracow  
(October 2013).*

**SWITCH ON TO**

**POLAND**

**Social campaign**

**AUTHOR** ▶ Katarzyna Kościeszka

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**THE AIM OF "SWITCH ON TO POLAND" CAMPAIGN IS TO ENCOURAGE REPRESENTATIVES OF DIFFERENT SECTORS AND COMMUNITIES TO ACT TOGETHER FOR MIGRANTS IN ORDER TO TREAT THEM MORE SUBJECTIVELY. IT IS DIRECTED MAINLY TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS, MIGRANTS, TEACHERS AND MULTILINGUAL FAMILIES.**

**THE CAMPAIGN** IS ONE of the direct results of The First Intersectoral Working Forum on the Local Migration Policies in Cracow (October 2013). One of the working groups was dedicated to formulate assumptions of a successful social campaign in the field of integration of immigrants, on which the current campaign is based.

## THE AIMS OF THE CAMPAIGN

### **OPEN** *society*

We want Polish society to be friendly for immigrants and ready for integration with them.

### **COMPETENT** *migrants*

We want immigrants to have qualifications and knowledge necessary for taking an effective initiative.

### **FRIENDLY** *cities*

Cities should pursue open policy for immigrants.

## WHAT HAPPENS WITHIN THE CAMPAIGN?

In June 2014 a website – [www.wlaczysiewpolske.pl](http://www.wlaczysiewpolske.pl) – was launched. It encourages cities, Polish citizens and migrants themselves to actively engage in accomplishment of the campaign's postulates.

### USING THE WEBSITE

The website offers modern and clear navigation. The first information, which is seen by the visitor on the website, are the campaign aims. After choosing one of them, one can get acquainted with a list of institutions and recommendations, which are related to a specific issue.

The campaign is addressed, in the first place, to self-governments, immigrants, non-governmental organisations, multilingual families and teachers. Representatives of these groups can quickly familiarise themselves with information by clicking on an inscription ► **WŁĄCZ SIĘ**, and then choosing a bookmark dedicated to them.

### **ACTIVE** *migrants*

We are striving to make the immigrants willing to act for local societies.

### **AUDIBLE** *migrants*

We are striving to make the voice of immigrants noticeable for public opinion and decision-makers.

### **VOTING** *rights*

We want immigrants – residents living in Poland – to have both passive and active voting rights on a local level.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The website includes recommendations intended for the groups and institutions mentioned above, involving information about new tools, standards or legal solutions, implementation of which will contribute to realization of the campaign aims.

### GOOD PRACTICES / A CALL FOR CIVIL ACTIVITY

Apart from recommendations, this portal includes examples of good city practices realised until now, which were identified within the "Open Cities" Action (details of the campaign below). Thanks to it, residents of different parts of Poland can see where their city is located in terms of policy of friendship and openness towards foreigners in

comparison to the rest of the country. The website also encourages users to take a lobbying action for facilitation of supporting migrants in their place of residence by offering a quick method of sending an email to local authorities from chosen cities.

#### SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT OF MIGRANTS

One of the most important elements of the portal is a clear and direct call for engagement of the migrants into creation of integration programmes – both municipal and non-governmental. The portal has links to other websites with information about programmes realised by other migrants, workshops and information about ways of establishing your own organisation or how to carry out a project.

#### VOTING RIGHTS PETITION

Participation of migrants in social life is also connected with a voting rights petition to the Council of Ministers placed on the website, to grant voting rights to long-term residents and to sign the Convention on the Participation of Foreigners in Public Life on a Local Level, adopted by the Council of Europe in 1992. The petition underlines international obligations of Poland and points at sometimes undemocratic character of current solutions. The petition finishes with a phrase: "Currently, the group in question will include about 58 000 people, which are only 0,15% of Poland's population. Without a big effort we could implement extension of voting rights to immigrants (and check the consequences of this solution without major risks) before more foreigners come to Poland. It is worth to prepare the ground for their arrival and encourage them to choose our country."

Thanks to a link to avaaaz system, users of the website can quickly and efficiently express their opinions on the issue. So far (data available on 7 September 2014) the petition was signed by 355 people.

## OPEN CITIES CAMPAIGN

EDITOR ▶ Natalia Klorek  
THE FOUNDATION FOR SOCIAL DIVERSITY



Open Cities Action aims at promotion of the best local authority's initiatives for integration of immigrants. Despite the lack of universal solutions in this field (character of migration is always specific, depending on a given location), we want to encourage municipal offices to exchange their experiences and to be inspired by actions undertaken by local authorities in different locations.

The choice of local actions, distinguished by the Open Cities Action, was a two-step process. First, an analysis of various practices of integration was conducted; then, initiatives nominated for being awarded were assessed by jury of six people, which included immigrant activists from different sectors and living in different cities in Poland.

The ranking included solutions, which considered the following criteria:

- ▶ **Engagement of local authorities:** among awarded practices there were both – those initiated by the local authorities and those which were initiated by non-governmental organisations and immigrants societies – always with an active engagement of the local government;
- ▶ **Long term nature of the initiative:** permanent solutions allow answering the needs of migrants in a systemic way; they make the issue independent from the changing office staff;
- ▶ **Comprehensiveness:** self-government's actions take into consideration aspects of immigrants' situation and they aim at solving key problems for foreigners.

## SUMMARY OF AWARDED LOCAL PRACTICES

The jury of Open Cities consists of:

**Ilaha Karimova** (Azerbaijan/Wrocław)

**Larry Ugwu** (Nigeria/Gdańsk)

**Mamadou Diouf** (Senegal/Warszawa)

**Natalia Gmurkowska** (Ukraine/Lublin)

**Pham Phu Cuong** (Vietnam/Gliwice)

## SYSTEM OF MANAGEMENT OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY

**Awarded city: LUBLIN**

Municipal Office in Lublin develops a model of management of cultural diversity. Despite the fact that the action is financed from external sources, it is meant to be a permanent solution. On one side, it supports local cooperation concerning cultural diversity of the city; on the other, it introduces mechanisms so that the Municipal Office can better respond to the demands of foreigners living in Lublin.

## CITY STRATEGIES BEING IN FAVOUR OF MULTICULTURALISM

**Awarded city: BIAŁYSTOK**

At the end of 2013, the City Council accepted the “Białystok for Tolerance” programme. It is the first document of this type in Poland, which not only underlines active role of local authority in facing the problem of discriminations, racism or xenophobia, but also points at a precise plan of the action.

## INVITING MIGRANTS

**Awarded city: LUBLIN**

Lublin is the third city in Poland in terms of number of foreign students. It is mainly a result of actions undertaken by the Municipal Office in Lublin within the “Study in Lublin” programme. It is based on providing honest information about the city, educational offer of universities in Lublin and procedures connected with legalization of a stay to people interested in studies in Lublin.

## EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGNERS IN LOCAL OFFICES

**Awarded city: LUBLIN**

Despite widely quoted arguments according to which employment of foreigners in offices requires too complicated or almost impossible to accomplish procedure, in the Municipal Office in Lublin people without Polish citizenship are employed as office workers.

## PLATFORMS OF INTERSECTORAL COOPERATION

**Awarded city: WARSZAWA**

By the initiative of non-governmental organisations the Social Dialogue Committee for Foreigners was established in 2012 at Warsaw Municipal Office. About 30 NGO's declared their participation in the Committee. The Social Dialogue Committee for Foreigners points at areas concerning foreigners' functioning, which should be taken into consideration within financial cooperation of the Municipal Office with non-governmental organisations. It also consults legal acts and documents (issued by both the Municipal Office and central authorities).

## GRANT COMPETITIONS FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

**Awarded city: WARSZAWA**

Despite the fact that multiculturalism and issues connected with integration of migrants have not been recognized as a priority in the strategy of Warsaw development, these elements can be found in strategic documents concerning specific areas of Warsaw Municipal Office activity. Thanks to this, for a few years NGO's can obtain financial support for conducting actions in the field of migrant integration, multiculturalism etc. within open grant competitions announced by the Office, which are dedicated to these issues. Departments of Culture and Education of Warsaw Municipal Office are examples of the entities that announce above-mentioned competitions.

## FRIENDLY SPACE FOR MIGRANTS

# 7.

### Awarded city: WARSZAWA

Efforts in order to establish Warsaw Multicultural Centre has been carried out for a few years. It is an initiative within which self-governmental authorities and non-governmental organisations (including representatives of migrant communities) work in order to create a place of meetings and development for foreigners living in Warsaw or arriving to the city. Representatives of different departments of Warsaw Municipal Office are engaged in concept works concerning the process of establishing the Warsaw Multicultural Centre. The Municipal Office gave a place for the Centre's office and foresaw financial support for its operation.

## SHELTERED HOUSING FOR FORCED MIGRANTS

# 8.

### Awarded city: LUBLIN

In Lublin people who have a refugee status or a subsidiary protection, along with fulfilment of some additional criteria, can use three sheltered housing apartments. The apartments were given by the city and remain its property. The Municipal Family Support Centre takes care of the apartments. Other activities supporting the process of integration of forced migrants in Lublin are held thanks to financial resources from the European Union.

## COMPREHENSIVE ACTIONS FOR EDUCATION OF MIGRANTS' CHILDREN

# 9.

### Awarded city: WARSZAWA

For many years Department of Education of Warsaw Municipal Office has been carrying out actions which allow increasing the chances of children of migrants to an equal access to education. Among the most important are the following: taking into account a group of foreign students in the Programme of development of education in Warsaw in 2013-2020; helpful publications for teachers working with migrants' children, or financial cooperation with NGO's working for foreign students.



An illustration from "Multicultural Dictionary = Multilingual" publication edited by Natalia Boshorishvili-Kurek, the Other Space Foundation, Warsaw 2013.





# info migrator

Informational platform

**AUTHORS** ► Katarzyna Kościeszka, Ewelina Pachytel, Anna Tomaszewska

**WWW.INFO-MIGRATOR.PL**

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**INFO-MIGRATOR** IS A COMPLEX AND MULTILINGUAL PLATFORM FOR MIGRANTS, WHICH CONTAINS BOTH INFORMATION RELATING TO POLISH LAW OR PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OBLIGATORY FOR IMMIGRANTS IN POLAND, AND LOTS OF PRACTICAL, LOCAL GUIDELINES CONCERNING EDUCATION, NON-GOVERNMENTAL OFFERS OR MUNDANE LIFE IN A PARTICULAR CITY.

## FOR WHOM THE INFO-MIGRATOR HAS BEEN CREATED?

### 1 For "receivers" of the migration policies - immigrants in Poland.

The structure of the website has been created in a way that allows faster navigation. It contains an all-Poland bookmark and local subpages concerning particular cities. So far five urban subpages were created on the platform. However, in the long term perspective the Info-Migrator platform is planned to contain bookmarks of all the cities in which migrants live in Poland. We invite you to work with us!

Info-Migrator has been created in order to collect all the scattered data in one place, allowing migrants a comfortable and fast access to information they are looking for. Editors of the platform are trying to place possibly complete, accessible, practical and local information relevant to migrants - matters concerning everyday life as well as legalization of a stay and work, education in Poland, accommodation or social assistance. Moreover, the platform's aim is also to encourage immigrants to take part in social activities in Poland. In order to accomplish this goal, information on current events, non-governmental projects, as well as advice how to establish and run one's own organization are being published. The portal particularly promotes actions of immigrant activists, who are the best example that being an immigrant in Poland, one can successfully act and influence the reality in which he/she lives in.

### 2 For "creators" of migration policy – Polish and migrant experts and activists, representatives of local and central authorities as well as institutions and organizations dealing with immigration and immigrants.

The platform is designed to be a tool for communication and cooperation for above-mentioned groups. This separate expert mode is developed in order to collect current and most important analysis and research on integration at one

place and initiate debates on most important topics in this field. A "migration social network" is being created, which will enhance cooperation and communication between organizations, experts and offices. It is crucial, especially when it comes to advocacy and interventions in highly sensitive matters.

## HOW TO USE THE WEBSITE?

The platform's home page has a nationwide character. In the left top corner, there are icons of individual cities' subpages, where we can find distinct information for every city – important from immigrants' perspective. Right from the start subpages of five cities are available. There is a possibility of creating cards for other Polish cities, what we sincerely encourage!

On all the subpages (both all-Poland and local) users can find following headings:

### News

► **News** concerning events (initiatives, conferences, workshops, cultural events) connected with migration – Poland-wide (on the all-Poland site) and local (on the cities' subpages).

### Worth reading

► **Worth reading** – articles and columns connected with the subject of migration, written by Polish and migrant experts and activists. There is a possibility of publication of your own text – proposed subjects can be sent to the editorial office.

### Adverts

► **Adverts** – current information about workshops, training courses, conferences, cultural events, job offers or voluntary service offers.

Furthermore, on the home page, basic information about Poland as well as key regulations and legal requirements for immigrants can be found. On the other hand, city cards contain practical information about every city as well as a bookmark entitled “support”, which provides sort of a guide, how to start a life in particular city and where to find – if needed – help.

Very important quality of the Info-Migrator is its interactivity. Users are encouraged to take part in co-creating of the network: in adding advertisements about events, entering discussions with the articles’ creators in the bookmark ”worth reading”, and in case of advice or law information, in evaluating its’ helpfulness as well as in assisting in improvement of the accuracy of the information. Adding comments is possible after logging in. In order to be up-to-date with all the information, the website offers signing up for the newsletter.

## HOW TO JOIN IN AND CREATE A SUBPAGE OF A CITY?

The organization that wants to join in developing the platform and create a subpage for their city, immediately becomes a local coordinator of the website. The organization signs a contract regulating mutual commitments with the project coordinating organization that is the Other Space Foundation. The project's coordinator offers to the organization that wants to join in the platform the following elements:

- ▶ **Graphic layout** of the website, the server, the website control systems as well as administrative panel and support of the webmaster;
- ▶ **Workshop** on administrative panel, before complementing new information;
- ▶ **Advertising** and evaluation of the nationwide website;
- ▶ **Cooperation** and consultation with organizations in other cities, which run similar activities;
- ▶ **Support** in raising funds for development of the local subpage, potential consultations in writing applications for financial support, partnership in projects concerning

the platform.

Local coordinator of the subpage has to undertake management of the site for at least 6 months from its establishment. It consists of creating full information resources about given city (not only selected fields) as well as constant actualizations of published information; it is facilitated by website’s reminding system.

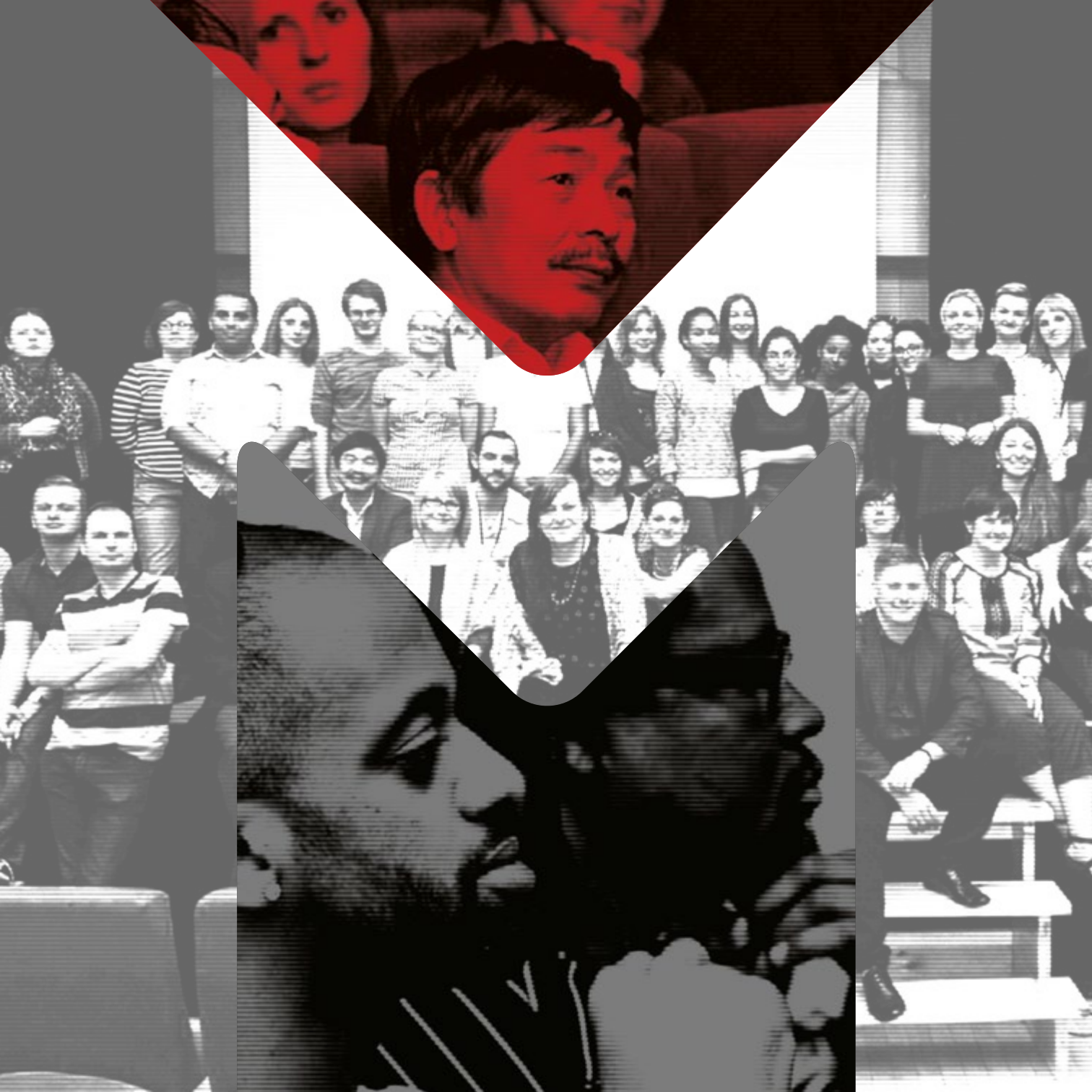
It is up to the local coordinator of the Info-Migrator to advertise the website locally and to actively look for financial resources (public or private). It is important in this respect to start cooperation with local governments and local migration communities.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'infomigrator Warszawa' website. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Portal dla migrantów', 'Portal dla rodziców', 'Forum dla rodziców', 'Forum dla dzieci', 'Blog', and 'Kontakt'. The main header features the 'infomigrator Warszawa' logo and the date '28 września 2014 | niedziela'. Below this, there's a search bar and a 'Wspierki i pomoc' section with a 'Wspierki i pomoc' sub-header. The main content area contains several news articles with titles like 'Wspierki i pomoc', 'Wspierki i pomoc', 'Dla kogo i jaka pomoc?', 'Placówki kuchi na emigracji', 'Dziękuję Wam wszystkim', 'Najlepsze Wspaniały', 'Najlepsze Wspaniały', 'Fundacja Publicznej Pomocy Migracyjnej', and 'Fundacja Instytutu Bessacji'. Each article includes a small image and a brief text snippet. On the right side, there are social media sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. The bottom of the page features a footer with the 'infomigrator Warszawa' logo and the text 'MultiScale'.

**WE INVITE YOU**  
*to work with us!*





# INTERSECTORAL WORKING FORUMS

on local migration policies

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**INTERSECTORAL WORKING FORUMS** ARE THE FIRST EVENT OF THIS KIND AND SCOPE – THE PLATFORM ASSOCIATES BOTH POLISH AND IMMIGRANT EXPERTS AND PRACTITIONERS (ACTIVISTS AND OFFICE WORKERS) IN THE FIELD OF INTEGRATION FROM ALL OVER POLAND.

**THE AIM** OF THE FORUMS was to initiate discussions about current and possible to implement solutions – on both central and local levels. A particular emphasis has been put on the role of the cities in shaping and enforcing migrant policy as the fastest and the most effective way to a real change of immigrant situation.

The present chapter is to conclude work that was done by Forums' participants during the three meetings, as well as to show the learning process that the organisers of the Forums – Other Space Foundation, Homo Faber Association and Interkulturalni PL Association – went through.

## **THE ORGANISATION** OF THE FORUMS / LEARNING PROCESS

The primary subject of the Forums has been shaping of the local migrant policies. However, each meeting had its own slightly different profile.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Forum primarily concerned legislative problems occurring during the implementation of the local projects in the field of immigrants' integration. The meeting initiated the discussion on creating long-term migration policies, taking into consideration, among others, legal issues as well as cooperation with local and state administration.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum, the stress has been put primarily on the analysis of the cities' offers for immigrants, mapping them, as well as analysing their needs and setting out the directions for further evolution of those offers. Moreover, the works on inter-city Internet platform for migrants and on social campaign have been initiated.

Throughout the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum, so called "Migrant Forum", the participants continued work started on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum. This time the main goal was to engage migrants themselves into the work. During the recruitment special measures have been undertaken in order to attract this particular group.

Due to the working character of the Forum, plenary sessions have been limited to minimum and the major emphasis has been put on meetings in working groups and

elaborating on specific solutions and recommendations. Participants have been assigned to particular topics based on declarations in their applications. They had approximately 10 hours for elaborating recommendations in their working groups that have been divided into 3-4 days. The respective teams included representatives of Polish and immigrant non-governmental organisations, as well as office representatives of both local and central level.

**Katarzyna  
Kaca**

▀ UKRAINE  
CHAIRWOMAN OF POLISH-UKRAINIAN  
MEDIA FOUNDATION

Participants of the Forum come from various communities, and I have an impression that through this opportunity to work together, over few days, thanks to conversations and recommendations worked out in working groups, we can have a real impact on changing the migrant situation in Poland. In my group we focused on the situation of immigrants on the labour market. I think that during our work some very interesting points and ideas have emerged. However, it has to be underlined that focusing on (taking my group as an example) the relation: state – employer – employee – society, we have to remember about "the other side". In discussions we say very often "we", "our problem", but we don't even try to see the point of view of our fellow speaker or of our partner, with whom we are working together at the moment. In my group we examined each side of these four-sided relation. We tried to take into consideration determinants and look for optimal, but still practical, solutions. I really appreciate the work of migrant part of our group as well as the rest of its participants. There were no barriers or hesitations. Everybody was taking active part in the work. Besides, the entire community, gathered at the Forum, was friendly and open.

Since the beginning of the project, one of our key concerns was to facilitate possibly the most intensive information exchange between various cities, organisations and



communities. To that end, during first two Forums we organised working plenary sessions, which enabled the consultations between different groups. It created the opportunity to confront the experiences, demands, and postulates from other groups, as well as provided a new insight, thanks to which the groups could have verified or enriched their previous conclusions. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum, however, we gave it up in order to organise presentation session of integration solutions implemented in particular cities. Apart from the opportunity to gain knowledge about projects from various parts of Poland, presentations were to provide inspiration and additional materials to use during working groups final session.

From one meeting to another the dynamics of working in groups and character of the recommendations have been changing. On the 1<sup>st</sup> Forum it was not clear for everyone yet how the work in groups should look like and where it should lead to. The purpose of the project for many people was abstract. The questions occurred: for whom are those recommendations and what should be done with them? From one Forum to another the purpose was becoming more clear. We, as organizers, learned to communicate better our idea of intersectional and inter-city cooperation engaging immigrants. Participants, by getting to know each other better and continuous work, began to take greater responsibility for created recommendations. We learned from each other and it became apparent that we would work together in order to start implementing the developed ideas. We are glad that in opinion of many participants the Forums began to be a platform that supports their projects – shows directions to further development, helps in finding new partners or inspirations.

## Armine Ozga-Margaryan

► ARMENIA  
ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER  
CENTER IN LUBLIN

I've been working in the group on empowerment of migrant communities since the beginning. If I was to compare the three Forums, I must admit that during the first one we definitely had





a lot of doubts, where is it all going? What is the purpose of it all? What are we working on? We have not solved the problem back then. Between Cracow and Lublin Forums we wanted to stay tightly in touch but it didn't happen. The team of our group in Lublin have changed comparing to Cracow. Probably, that's why during the second Forum we had exactly the same problem and the same doubts. We were told that we were working in order to come up with the best diagnosis of migrant situation in Poland, and to try to take up joined actions with various organizations, not necessarily from the same cities. It calmed us down to some extent. But I must honestly admit that, at that time, rumors spread that supposedly the Other Space Foundation organized Forums in order to collect ideas and recommendations for its own benefit – to continue to function. Now, however, during the Warsaw Forum, it turned out that it was not the case. Everybody here focuses on working together. Some very specific ideas have already appeared. The recommendations worked out in my group make sense only if we work together because individual organizations are simply not able to fulfill those goals.

In principle, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum was supposed to be a "Migrant Forum", that is why we have gone the extra mile in order to encourage immigrants to take part in the meeting. As a result, more than 100 people took part in the Forum, approximately a quarter of participants were immigrants. We perceive this result as a success, although in following projects we will try to further engage migrants, improving our actions in those communities.

**Agata  
Ferenc**

► **NOMADA ASSOCIATION  
WROCLAW**

It is my third Forum, and with each Forum I participate more and more willingly in its work. I also hope it is not the end and that we will continue to meet in the same group, hopefully complemented by new communities of migrants. I suppose it will give us even greater potential in building a platform bringing together people dealing with migration, and that the platform will indeed

matter. Some doubts may appear when it comes to demands and ideas that we work on – for instance fear connected with future of our postulates. But at this point it should be highlighted that it is us, as a group, as a community which we are building here, who are responsible for our recommendations. The third Forum gives the feeling that we have worked something out together.

Naturally, we cannot stop now. Especially because, as it turns out, we are a community which thinks alike and that gives us the opportunity for further support in various actions. The postulate of the previous Forum, which emphasized the need of increasing the number of migrants taking part in group works, has been fulfilled – there are more immigrants in groups. I even took part in a discussion in which immigrants where the majority. It was fascinating! I had the possibility to experience how people from various cultures discuss together. We can listen, advise, join in, but we are not deciding what should happen. A discussion among migrants emerged whether they should create an independent group that from the beginning, starting from the debate, would determine one common view. Of course, it is not about excluding Polish people from that process. It simply seems needed and also interesting.

**Elmi  
Abdi**

► FOUNDATION FOR SOMALIA  
FACILITATOR OF THE GROUP INTEGRATION  
THROUGH CULTURE

Apart from Warsaw Forum, I also took part in the first meeting of the cycle – in Cracow. Those meetings are really needed, because organizations most often act on their own, and here we have opportunity to talk with people from different communities, organizations, foundations and offices. The only thing that I'm a bit sorry about is the number of migrants taking part in our work, because it is about them, the panels and discussions. I do not know the reason for it. I believe that this initiative has been sufficiently publicized. Immigrants, especially the ones who live in Poland for a long time, probably assume that they should not take part in the event; that it, in their opinion, consists of vague and hardly concrete talks. They presume that no future benefit will emerge from those conversations for them. The thing that positively surprised me is the fact that in the working group I





facilitate out of eight participants up to six were migrants. I am truly glad because it is them who can tell us what are their problems, and together with them we can look for solutions to those problems.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The working groups at each Forum were elaborating sets of recommendations in their respective areas. As it was mentioned above, those recommendations evolved, developed, became more accurate and during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum the all-year project resulted in creating a set of mini-projects – demands, what should be changed, together with realistic plan of actions. Out of this set we will pick a few projects, which will be fulfilled by the participants in the following months. They will receive financial support. The information about selected projects will appear on the website: [www.politykimigracyjne.pl](http://www.politykimigracyjne.pl)

When it comes to implementation of recommendations, it is particularly important for us to involve in it office representatives – both on a local and central level. Without it most of the projects would not have any chances to be successful. Below there are few opinions, how the Forums were perceived by representatives of public institutions.

**Izabela  
Szewczyk**

► DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGNERS,  
MAZOWIECKIE VOIVODESHIP OFFICE,  
FACILITATOR OF THE LAW AND  
MIGRATION GROUP

I took part in the first Forum, which took place in Cracow, now I am taking part in the third one in Warsaw. In my opinion it is a wonderful initiative. Comparing the first and the third Forum I can see a huge difference – the evolution throughout the process. The first Forum was very general, representing theoretical speculations. All the problems and needs have been articulated there, both real and not. Here in Warsaw, the main emphasis

was put on the concretization. We have tried to find out what should be done, who should do it and how. And if now we are not able to implement even small, but still significant, ideas or solutions, we will be left with regret for the lost time and a lack of motivation for the future actions. However, I think that there are chances for doing something meaningful; it's my opinion as an office representative, and as a person who is aware of real limitations that appear during projects' implementation and all changes in general.

## Paulin Babis

► MINISTRY OF LABOUR  
SOCIAL POLICY

The Warsaw Forum was in a large extent a continuation of the Lublin Forum and thanks to that we were able to achieve more. How do the recommendations look like? They are generally interesting, although some of them seem totally unrealistic... Yet, those seemingly unrealistic are often also inspiring... Let's take a look at a recommendation to allow foreigners to get a job immediately after the application for the asylum. It is unrealistic, because then everybody would apply for the refugee status. The Office For Foreigners would never agree to that. We can, of course, think about reducing the waiting period... The things that are missing, for me, are specific plans for implementation of those recommendations; that is why my group has a clear plan and timetable of actions. I suppose that this is the purpose of the Forum. We all know what to do; it is about time to start doing it.

## Anna Szadkowska -Cieżka

► MUNICIPALITY OFFICE  
OF LUBLIN

It was my second Forum, after the one in Lublin, and I hope it is not the last one. The space, which the Other Space Foundation, Homo Faber Association and Interkulturalni.pl were able to create, where migrant organisations, migrant spokespersons and workers of Central Offices as well as Municipality Offices can meet, in my opinion, is essential. Building any conscious local po-

licy is not possible without such meetings. I have the impression that events like that increase consciousness of the necessity of supporting cross-cultural integration on the local level. I dream that there will be another Forum (hope there'll be!) in which more migrant representatives will participate and the greatest possible amount of local self-governments!

## Leszek Napiontek

► MUNICIPALITY OFFICE OF WARSAW  
FACILITATOR OF THE ACTIVATION  
OF MIGRANT COMMUNITIES GROUP

During this Forum we were elaborating on postulates and recommendations outlined in Lublin. It is important because the weak side of the whole cycle of Forums is subsequent implementation of the developed during Forums projects. We need to think how to organize works after Forums so that the recommendations reach their audience and really influence migrants' situation. It is essential, of course, for each individual Forums participant to get involved, not only to wait for somebody else to do it for us. Hence the idea of creating a coalition, a platform. We already have some precise propositions of projects to implement. Thanks to the fact that it is our third meeting we got to know each other a little bit better and this led to closer cooperation. Besides, the organisers suggested that there are certain funds for implementing the recommendations. It is not even about how large these funds are but about selecting right people for implementation of the recommendations, people who will find the time for it.

# TOPICS OF THE WORKING GROUPS. RECOMMENDATIONS

## 1<sup>ST</sup> FORUM

OCTOBER 2013

### CRACOW

New Act on Foreigners and Polish Migration Policy

Duties of the local government concerning immigration

Polish Policy on Foreigner Integration MPiPS

Offers of Polish cities for migrants

Inter-city Internet platform for migrants

Migrants' participation in public life

Social Campaign

## 2<sup>ND</sup> FORUM

MARCH 2014

### LUBLIN

Labour market (legal and illegal)

Education of migrant children

Cities' offers for students

Evaluation of integration on a local level

Migrants empowerment methods

Actions meant for the host/local society

## 3<sup>RD</sup> FORUM

SEPTEMBER 2014

### WARSAW

Migrants on the Polish labour market

Migrants' children in Polish education system

Law and migration

Foreigners at universities. Students and scholars

Evaluation of Local Integration Policies

Migrant communities empowerment

Informational activities for the host society

Integration through culture

You can find below a choice of recommendations that were recurring during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum, except issues that were thoroughly covered during the last Forum.

## **1. Permanent Info Points**

Permanent Info Points should be created in places of larger migrant concentration. They will refer migrants seeking help to the right places (a particular non-governmental organisation, office or institution).

## **2. Welcoming system (i.e. "showing around the house")**

The key issue is to work out rules for helping foreigners during their first days after their arrival to Poland. In Western Europe such actions are often covered from public money on a local level. Grants financing integration projects could favour actions dedicated to the newcomers.

## **3. Changing the integration projects' financing into a mixed scheme (budget-fund scheme)**

This solution is especially recommended for areas essential for effective integration, like language courses, "showing around the house", or professional and legal counselling.

## **4. Improving communication and stocktaking of the resources**

Particular emphasis should be put on communication between organisations, migrants, offices and institutions at various levels. Moreover, it is recommended to create a database that will allow identifying in which areas good solutions were established and where further work is needed. A good idea is also to establish a virtual library, where all materials created during the projects funded from EFI will be available.

## **5. Enhancing Integration Policy on a local level**

There should be created legal framework for local integration policies based on a country strategy. Projects that take into consideration the partnership with the self-government should be promoted by the donors.

## **6. Changing the management on a central level**

It is recommended to create the unit for migrant integration within the MPiPS frameworks that will be responsible for coordinating all the works on migrant integration, provide substantive supervision of project funded from the public means and monitor the needs. This unit should use the potential of the already existing Working Group for Foreigner Integration (under MPiPS) that works within the framework of the Group for Migration (Ministry of Internal Affairs).

Closer cooperation of the Department for Social Integration with the Department for Labour Market is also recommended. The stress of integration should be moved from the social assistance onto professional empowerment of migrants, taking into consideration the needs of a local labour market.

## **7. Including migrants in decision-making processes and works of Municipality Offices**

Migrants should be included in the preparation process of the concept and implementation programs for migrants, as well as in the structure of Polish Offices and institutions, for example by introducing the function of a cultural mediator with migration background. We also recommend increasing the intensity of the cooperation between Polish non-governmental organisations and migrant communities.

## 8. Migrants learning Polish

Free and easy access to language courses for migrants (for children and adults) is the key factor in their successful integration.

## 9. Intercultural education

Intercultural education should be included in the curriculum of Polish schools (for migrants – lessons of the Polish culture). Schools should also take into consideration religious differences.

## 10. Consulting legal documents

Changing the system of consultation and implementation of legal acts concerning migrants into more open and participatory one is recommended.

## 11. Monitoring and evaluation

The lack of monitoring of the effects of the carried out integration projects constitutes a serious problem (for non-governmental organisations, as well as for state institutions).

## 12. Granting rights

Granting voting rights to long-term foreigners on a local level is recommended.

# FROM THE ORGANIZERS' POINT OF VIEW

**Anna  
Dąbrowska**

► HOMO FABER ASSOCIATION  
LUBLIN

Organising the Forums itself is for me a great success – for the first time so many people from different sectors and cities met to talk, share their experiences, learn from each other and to think together how to solve problems that everyone has to cope with in their daily work. People opened themselves toward each other – in an intercity, inter-department, inter-organisation and intercultural way. We were able to create an atmosphere of openness, where everyone could talk about successes in their organisation/office/city, failures, difficulties. People from the third sector stopped to compete with each other for the funds, that are always not enough, and started to cooperate and to think together about the projects and visions of the future for which we are fighting. The Forums were a celebration.

For me personally – a citizen and an activist from Lublin – the very important thing was mental and physical decentralization of the dialogue. It was shown i.e. by the fact that we met also in our city. I still haven't got an answer for the question what's next. What about the recommendations? Who is responsible for implementing them? Who will supervise it? At the same time I am aware of the fact that, as a participant of the Forum, the answer also depends on me – some ideas I can try to implement here in Lublin, and for the bigger ones I can look for a coalition, for example with organisations that I have met here.

From the strategic point of view, the important thing in organizing Forums is to outline areas of the working groups in the way that the topics from the one Forum could be discussed during the next one – in the same or slightly changed form. This will allow to continue the works and to see their real results.

Stronger involvement of migrants in the works seems to be necessary as well. It is important though to pick people that are able to add value to the discussion through their knowledge and experience. Being a migrant does not mean necessary that they are experts in the fields of migration or integration.



## Adam Bulandra

► INTERKULTURALNI.PL, CRACOW

Forum in Cracow allowed us to tighten our cooperation with the Municipality Office, which was started when the strategy for the countermeasure against racism and the promotion of diversity for Cracow was created. We had met with different institutions and presented good practices before but the Forum finally allowed us to tighten our cooperation and to show that integration policy for migrants can be administered on a local level. It was new for Cracow Municipality Office. People thought that migrant integration issues were not up to local government but only to the central authorities. But during the Forum the office workers saw positive examples from Lublin, Białystok and Warsaw showing that it is possible to administer the integration policy on a city level. Thanks to the Forum, they realized that migrants constitute a certain category of citizens, a group that needs to be taken into account in order to allow them use all the city's services on the same terms as other citizens do. This requires implementation of some compensatory actions because migrants constitute a group susceptible to exclusion. Anyways, our strategy is to be implemented this year, seemingly before the elections. Such declarations come from the Municipality Office of Cracow.

## Witek Hebanowski

► THE OTHER SPACE FUNDATION  
WARSAW

We cannot expect that Forums will be a substitute for departments responsible for creating migration policies. Nevertheless, Forums can suggest how to create such a policy. They proved that Polish government has partners with whom it can create accurate, open and responsible long-term migration policy for Poland. It is worth to take advantage of this situation, but, of course, it will require making courageous decisions by the creators of the policy, mainly by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which is its actual executor.





# Conclusion

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**A YEAR AND A HALF** has shown that the activities carried out within the project answered a real need for an intercity integration of the people professionally dealing with migration. Together with our partners and participants of the Forums, we started a process which can result into a real change in this respect and into the increased effectiveness of the projects in the field of migration. We are happy to inform that we managed to ensure funds for continuation and further development of these activities. We are planning to support some of the ideas of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum, organize next Working Forum in the first half of 2015, develop Info-Migrator (the informational platform for migrants) and IMI Radio (the first migrant radio in Poland).

Please stay in touch and follow our activities on:

[www.politykimigracyjne.pl](http://www.politykimigracyjne.pl) and: <https://www.facebook.com/PolitykiMigracyjne>

**AT THE END** WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK all the organizations that contributed to the working groups and debates during the project:

Culture Centre in Lublin, COSM (Switzerland), Diaspora Events, EWL Work Agency, Africa Connect Foundation, Foundation for Somalia, Civic Initiatives Development Foundation, Cultures Without Borders Foundation, Foundation for Social Diversity, Our Choice Foundation, "Okno na Wschód" Foundation, Ternopilska Foundation, Transkultura and Intercultura Dialogue Foundation, "Z Nadzieją" Foundation, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Institute of Public Affairs, Institute of Migration Studies, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Continent Warsaw – Warsaw of Many Cultures, Mazowiecki Voivodeship Office – Foreigners' Affairs Department, Municipal Family Support Centre in Lublin, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ministry of Internal Affairs – Centre of European Projects, Asyl in der Kirche Berlin, Central State Archive "Ukrainika Zagraniczna" (Kiev, Ukraine), Majdan Museum, "Nasze Słowo (Our Word)" Magazine, Greek Catholic Church in Lublin, Polish Humanitarian Action, Polish Ukrainian Media Foundation, "Pępek świata" Internet Platform, eR Radio, Russian Cultural – Educational Association in Poland with the Headquarter in Białystok, Volunteer Centre Association, "Dla Ziemi" Association, Homo Politicus Association, Association of Legal Intervention, Nomada Association, Global Solidarity Association, Somali Community in Poland, Social-Cultural Association of the Vietnamese People in Poland, Free Word Association, Friends of Ukraine Association, Belsat TV, Jagiellonian University, Warsaw University, Wrocław University, City Council of Cracow, City Council of Lublin, City Council of the Capital City of Warsaw, Higher European School, Higher School of Management in Wrocław, Integration of Foreigners Association "SIC!", Foundation in Support of Local Democracy (Łódź), Polish Women's Lobby, "Africa Another Way" Foundation, World Within Hand's Reach Foundation, Provincial Police Headquarters (Lublin), UMCS Career Bureau, Polish Council of Youth Organizations.



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THANK YOU and  
see you soon!

