

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Welcoming Cities:

**Good practices of Participation of Youngsters
with a migrant background**

Study visit to Lisbon, Portugal

7th – 12th November, 2022

Organized by:



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

This Study visit will be organized by DYPALL Network in cooperation with Migrafrica with the support of Lisbon Youth Centre.

DYPALL Network (Developing Youth Participation at Local Level) is a European platform of over 70 civil society organizations and local authorities from more than 30 countries, that aims to involve young people in decision-making processes at the local level, and thus enable



municipal and regional authorities to address the needs and interests of youth, engage young people as active actors of problem-solving and increase the level of ownership, commitment and involvement of an important part of our communities.

YP Lab is a resource and mobility centre within DYPALL Network with a focus on research development and capacity building in the field of local youth participation.

In order to realize this ambitious and challenging initiative, DYPALL Network has the following objectives:

- Develop structures and mechanisms for youth participation in decision-making at the local level;
- Identify best practices and introduce innovative approaches on public governance in cooperation with local authorities and civil society organizations active in the field of youth;

- Foster youth engagement and inclusiveness in representative and participatory democracy processes;
- Build capacity and provide technical assistance on various areas and processes like policy-making, advocacy, structured dialogue, co-management, and more;
- Mainstream youth policies at local and regional levels (such as youth Guarantee schemes) to develop cohesive and engaged societies.

For more information: <http://dypall.com>

Migrafrica is an NGO based in Cologne (Germany) that was founded on 2013 by young African refugees and migrants to facilitate the integration and participation of mainly African refugees in Germany and Europe in the social, political and economic life in their welcoming host communities. The organization focuses on direct support to refugees, helping professionalize migrant diaspora organizations and facilitating the link between migration and sustainable development.

For more information: <https://www.migrafrica.org/>

STUDY VISIT

This Study Visit is designed for **youth municipality officers** and **youth workers** from Germany, North Macedonia, Portugal and Spain to share and get in touch with good practices on the integration of young migrants and young with migrant backgrounds in the decision-making process at the local level.

During the Study visit, the participants will be able to see a variety of good practices of participation in decision-making for young migrants and young people with a migrant background in Lisbon, Cascais and Sintra. The study visit will be also the opportunity for the participants, coming from different backgrounds, to discuss the obstacles young migrants and youth of migrant backgrounds might face in their communities. Moreover, the Study visit will allow participants to learn about their role and develop a deeper understanding of the possibilities of “unblocking” participation in decision-making for young migrants and young people of migrant backgrounds. We expect that the Study visit becomes a safe space for everyone to enhance the trust between Civil Society Organisations (CSO), Local Public Bodies and the youngsters.

The Study Visit “Welcoming Cities” is part of the framework of the project “Cities of Welcome” which aims to map and improve the conditions, overall integration and participation of young migrants and youngsters with a migrant background in their local communities by sharing good practices and examples of integration.

Moreover, we have identified the importance of allowing municipalities and youth workers in partner countries to exchange best practices, learn from each other’s realities, compile experiences and integrate ways to facilitate and support the participation of young migrants and youth with migrant backgrounds to ease their integration in society. The main need is to alleviate some of the challenges that municipalities are facing when it comes to integrating the participation of migrant young people, such as structural and

social barriers. We realized that the specific needs of target groups regarding civic and political participation fall between the cracks of existing youth and inclusion policies. We expect that the Study visit will raise awareness of local authorities and youth workers to avoid the “tokenization” of young migrants, ensuring that their inclusion in participation is meaningful, which is a requirement for their full integration.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY VISIT

As stated in the UNESCO report “Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants”, Lisbon is considered a good example of a “welcoming city” to migrants. The Study Visit in Lisbon will be a space for the development of competencies, dialogue and sharing of experiences of integration and participation of migrant youth, particularly by discovering, seeing and hearing the local good examples of participation of this target group to be found in Lisbon, Cascais and Sintra. The study visit will allow us to build trust between different local stakeholders and learn firsthand about the barriers young people experience in participation. We also expect that the project will contribute to a better understanding of municipality officers and youth workers on how to support the integration and participation of young migrants and youth from a migrant background even more efficiently.

The specific objectives of the Study visit are to:

- ❖ Increase knowledge of municipality officers and youth workers in the field of integration and participation of youth from a migrant background;
- ❖ Develop awareness of the gaps in policy-making directly addressing the participant of migrant youth face to access participation structures;
- ❖ Disseminate and raise awareness on the need to serve and support the participation of young migrants in decision-making processes and the

need for specific policies for this target group;

- ❖ Develop competencies for local representatives and youth workers to improve the access and the conditions of participation for migrant youth;
- ❖ Listen directly to the views of participants with fewer opportunities in terms of their needs and wishes to be supported in taking part in decision-making processes in their hosting societies, to be included in the guidelines and quality indicators;
- ❖ Network and build trust between local and foreign stakeholders taking part in the Study visit.

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

This study visit is targeting youth municipality officers and youth workers. Moreover, the participants must:

- be able to work in English;
- be willing to contribute with their experience to the Study visit;
- be residents of Germany, North Macedonia, Portugal or Spain;
- be able to attend the whole duration of the Study visit;
- have relevant experience in the topic of the integration of young migrants and young with migrant backgrounds in the decision-making process at the local level,
- be highly motivated towards learning about good practices on the integration of young migrants and young with migrant backgrounds.

Six participants will be selected **per country**, a part for Germany in which the number of participants selected will be seven, namely:

1. Municipality officer (working in youth, employment or other departments relevant to the topic of the Study visit), working within the municipality.
2. Local youth workers working with and for youth and young people, particularly young migrants and young people with a migrant background.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Travelling days and expenses

- **Arrival day** is 7th November 2022 (preferably by 6 pm), and **departure day** is 12th November 2022.
- Travelling **maximum** 2 days before **or** 2 days after the designated travel dates is allowed; otherwise, the ticket will not be eligible for reimbursement;
- **Flight tickets** shall be bought **only after confirmation from the organizers**. Travel expenses to and from the venue will be reimbursed up to a maximum per country/per participant (including all travel costs from the participant's home to the venue and, if needed, COVID tests): Germany – 275 €; North Macedonia - 360 €; Portugal – 180 €; Spain - 275 €. However, in the case of **green travel** (e.g. taking the train or bus instead of a flight), you will have the right to a bigger travel budget, such as Germany – 320€; North Macedonia – 410€; Portugal - 210€ and Spain – 320€.
- **Reimbursement** will be done via bank transfer **after** the Study visit (approximately in one month);

- **Accommodation and meals** will be provided by the organizers in Youth Hostel in Lisbon Youth Centre. Please note that the accommodation will be provided in shared rooms/dorms and that the rooms do not necessarily have a private bathroom. There is no possibility to be accommodated in a private room.

Other information

- An **info-pack** with further details on accommodation and programme will be shared with the selected participants;
- There is **no participation fee**.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

To apply for participation in this Study visit, please **fill in the online registration form**: <https://forms.gle/kGSVnzCJxgxw3PuJ9>. The deadline for applying is **16th September 2022 by 12 p.m. (midday) CET**.

FUNDING

The activity is co-funded by the Erasmus + Programme of the European Union, implemented by the German National Agency for the Erasmus+ programme. For more information: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

CONTACTS

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