

# Urban Academy on Integration

## General Programme

16-18 April 2018

Brussels

Please note that all activities, unless stated otherwise, will take place at Hotel le Châtelain, Rue du Châtelain 17, Brussels

### MONDAY 16 APRIL 19.30-22.00

19.30 Drinks and Informal dinner at Cospaia Restaurant, Rue Capitaine Crespel 1, Brussels

Joint dinner with members of the European Integration Network: <https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/network/european-integration-network>

### TUESDAY 17 APRIL 2018 7.30 – 17.30

7.30-12.00 Field visit to integration projects in Mechelen

Jointly with some members of the European Integration Network. See 'Mechelen field visit programme' for distribution of participants over integration projects.

> Please meet outside Hotel le Châtelain at 7.30 am sharp for pick-up by bus

12.00-14.00 Transfer back to Brussels and lunch at the hotel

14.00-14.30 Introduction to the Urban Academy and link with the EU Urban Agenda Partnership on the Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees:

- Antoine Savary, Deputy Head of Unity, Legal Migration and Integration, DG Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission
- Sabina Kekic, City of Amsterdam, coordinator of the Partnership on the Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees
- Ceri Hutton and Sue Lukes, facilitators: introduction to the modules

14.30 Start of thematic sessions (see schedule below)

Participants will be split up in their respective modules. Please check the thematic sessions overview to see which case studies are handled during which session. Module 1 is facilitated by Ceri Hutton and Module 2 is facilitated by Sue Lukes, both from MigrationWork.

<b>MODULE 1</b> <b>Education in relation to integration</b>	<b>MODULE 2</b> <b>Integration and working effectively with civil society</b>
<p><b>14.30-15.00: Introduction to the topic</b>  <i>Aliyyah Ahad, Migration Policy Institute Europe</i></p> <p>15.00-15.15: Q&amp;A with Aliyyah Ahad            15.15-15.30: Coffee break</p> <p><b>15.30-17.00: Thematic session 1</b>  <b>"Qualifications, skills and employment issues"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations of case studies by participants</li> <li>▪ Group work: peer-feedback on case studies from participants</li> </ul> <p><b>17.00-17.30: Conclusions and reflections</b></p>	<p><b>14.30-15.00: Introduction to the topic</b>  <i>Thomas Huddleston, Migration Policy Group</i></p> <p>15.00-15.15: Q&amp;A with Thomas Huddleston            15.15-15.30: Coffee break</p> <p><b>15.30-17.00: Thematic session 1</b>  <b>"Securing and promoting effective migrant involvement and/or participation"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations of case studies by participants</li> <li>▪ Group work: peer-feedback on case studies from participants</li> </ul> <p><b>17.00-17.30: Conclusions and reflections</b></p>

Please note that there is no evening programme on this day, participants are free to make their own plans.

**WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL 2018 9.00 – 17.00**

<b>MODULE 1</b> <b>Education in relation to integration</b>	<b>MODULE 2</b> <b>Integration and working effectively with civil society</b>
<p><b>9.00-9.30: The morning after: reflections on day 1</b></p> <p><b>9.30-11.00: Thematic session 2</b>  <b>"Combating segregation and encouraging integration"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations of case studies by participants</li> <li>▪ Group work: peer-feedback on case studies from participants</li> </ul> <p>11.00-11.15: Coffee break</p>	<p><b>9.00-9.30: The morning after: reflections on day 1</b></p> <p><b>9.30-11.00: Thematic session 2</b>  <b>"Working with migrant organisations"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations of case studies by participants</li> <li>▪ Group work: peer-feedback on case studies from participants</li> </ul> <p>11.00-11.15: Coffee break</p>



<p><b>11.15-12.30: Thematic session 3</b></p> <p><b>"Creating plans and strategies to engage multiple players in providing effective education"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations of case studies by participants</li> <li>▪ Group work: peer-feedback on case studies from participants</li> </ul> <p>12.30-13.30: Lunch break</p> <p><b>13.30-15.30: Thematic session 4</b></p> <p><b>"Enabling rapid integration and learning for young, non-native speaking refugees and migrants"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations of case studies by participants</li> <li>▪ Group work: peer-feedback on case studies from participants</li> </ul>	<p><b>11.15-12.30: Thematic session 3</b></p> <p><b>"Promoting, developing and securing volunteer involvement in migrant settlement and integration"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations of case studies by participants</li> <li>▪ Group work: peer-feedback on case studies from participants</li> </ul> <p>12.30-13.30: Lunch break</p> <p><b>13.30-15.30: Thematic session 4</b></p> <p><b>"The role/s of civil society organisations in migrant settlement and integration"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations of case studies by participants</li> <li>▪ Group work: peer-feedback on case studies from participants</li> </ul>
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*Participants from both modules will join together for the final part of the Academy.*

<p><b>Joint part</b></p> <p>15.30-16.00: Coffee break</p> <p><b>16.00-17.00: Reflections and 'How to move forward?'</b></p> <p><i>The joint session is an opportunity for participants from the two modules to exchange experiences and to discuss how to implement lessons learned.</i></p>
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# DESCRIPTION OF THEMES

## MODULE 1 EDUCATION IN RELATION TO INTEGRATION

Cities and local authorities are at the forefront of efforts to receive and integrate newcomers. Their responsibilities are wide, from providing housing, healthcare and basic services for refugees and other migrants, to facilitating a welcoming environment of acceptance through social cohesion. Education is central to all of these efforts, especially as migrant children and adults need support in order to integrate to new societies and cultural norms, through language acquisition and adaptation to different educational systems. In the case of refugees and asylum seekers, the challenge is even bigger, given that they have interrupted their education/training in the process of escaping war or persecution.

This module of the Urban Academy on Integration will put forward for discussion some of the main challenges local authorities face in the field of education when addressing migrants' and refugees' needs in this area. Local authorities face a wide range of challenges including the provision of language training for migrant adults, the adaptation of educational curricula to newcomers' needs or funding for specific measures for refugees and migrants. A sudden influx of migrants or refugees can be difficult to cater for in light of multilevel governance challenges and early budget planning. We will discuss how to overcome such challenges and assure the access to and appropriateness of services by sharing good practices and experience with peers.

## MODULE 2 INTEGRATION & WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

In recent years, there has been a substantial increase in the number of migrants coming to Europe seeking safer environments and new opportunities for themselves and their families. Dealing with this new migratory situation would not have been possible without the support of civil society organizations. As these organizations play a fundamental role in the cohesion of our societies, promoting good governance and enhancing long-term stability (World Economic Forum 2013<sup>1</sup>), it is essential to assure a strong cooperation with this sector in order to facilitate a common, integrated approach to shared goals.

This module of the Urban Academy on Integration is aimed at finding the best ways to cooperate with the civil society. One key area of cooperation is the provision of services, which is particularly challenging given the diversity of the target group, one that continues to grow in size, experiences stigmatisation or trauma and has a wide spectrum of needs. The module will also include discussions on the ways to ensure the involvement of migrant organisations in the area of policy-making, as well as how to best work with volunteer organisations at local level. The module will give the possibility to share success stories and reflect upon frequent challenges encountered in cooperating with the civil society.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_FutureRoleCivilSociety\\_Report\\_2013.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_FutureRoleCivilSociety_Report_2013.pdf)