



intercultural cities

governance and policies
for diverse communities

Detailed information on the
programme, pilot cities,
partnerships and participation
opportunities is available at:

www.coe.int/interculturalcities

Joint action of the Council of Europe and the European Union



Education and Culture DG



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Intercultural cities

How can a city develop a pluralistic, inclusive identity and adapt its institutions and policies to a diverse citizenry? How can it learn to explore and manage the potential of cultural diversity to stimulate creativity and innovation, and manage conflicts positively and proactively? By becoming an intercultural city.

What is the intercultural city?



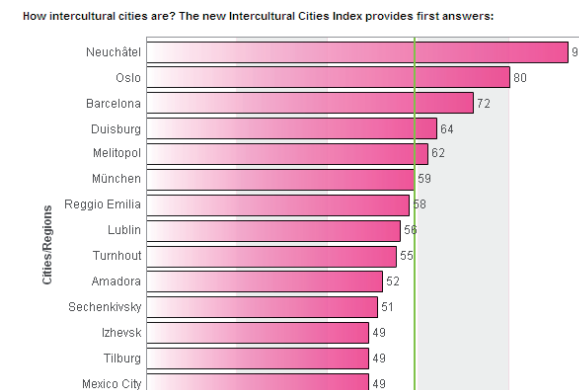
The Intercultural cities video on YouTube

The intercultural city has people of different nationalities, ethnic origin, language or faith who share a feeling of belonging to the local community. Diversity is central to the city identity and this is reflected in the official discourse. Public policies deal with diversity as a resource for development; institutions are culturally competent and representative of the diverse citizenry. The city actively promotes human rights, combats discrimination and adapts its governance and services to the needs of a diverse population. The city has a strategy and tools to deal with cultural conflict. It encourages mixing and interaction between diverse groups in the public space in order to foster cohesion and realise the diversity advantage.

Becoming an intercultural city

Building the intercultural city takes strong political commitment, leadership and a strategic approach. The Intercultural cities joint action of the Council of Europe and the European Union offers a methodology and a set of tools to support cities in adopting an intercultural approach to integration. A group of experts accompany the cities in reviewing and adapting their policies, and engaging citizens in developing an

intercultural vision and strategy for the city. Peer exchanges provide inspiration and support in making complex and delicate choices. A step-by-step guide, a methodology for reviewing policies from an intercultural perspective, hundreds of examples of policies and initiatives, and an INDEX to measure progress, help cities focus and structure their efforts.



In its new phase starting in 2011, the Intercultural cities programme will

- consolidate the Intercultural cities methodology by monitoring progress in pilot cities and supporting a group of new cities to implement the Intercultural integration approach
- develop an evidence base to demonstrate the benefits of the intercultural approach for urban cohesion and development
- build pedagogical tools and enlarge the expert pool enabling a larger-scale take-up of the Intercultural city approach in the future
- develop further the a community-driven method for shaping the intercultural

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