



Culture Programme



Education and Culture DG



Regione Puglia



“Local communities and the policies of hospitality and integration in Europe and in the Mediterranean – Forum of the Intercultural Cities”

Bari, 11 December 2009

Ethnic diversity could be a nuisance or an opportunity depending on the way we perceive it and deal with it. If we treat diversity as a resource, it could generate great economic, political and cultural advantages.

A city can minimise the threats and maximise the potential of diversity by developing, negotiating and implementing a comprehensive strategy cutting across institutional silos and mobilising politicians, officers, businesses and civil society behind a new model of integration based on intercultural interaction and inter-ethnic trust.

- A city can create a sense of identity based on the pride and appreciation of diversity
- It can create a governance model for the genuine empowerment and participation of all members of the community, regardless of their origin or status
- It can break the walls between ethnic groups and the vicious circle of poverty and exclusion which goes hand in hand with ethnic segregation
- It can identify intercultural innovators in public institutions and civil society and through them ensure that city policies encourage intercultural interaction
- A city can create a media partnership and a balanced media attitude to diversity and thus encourage a positive perception of migrant and minority groups

The eleven cities¹ participating in the Intercultural cities joint pilot action of the Council of Europe and the European Commission www.coe.int/interculturalcities have demonstrated that all of this is possible given the strong political will and commitment.

The conference “*Local communities and the policies of hospitality and integration in Europe and in the Mediterranean – Forum of the Intercultural Cities*” will stimulate a discussion about the Intercultural cities principles and methodology and its potential for re-shaping city governance and policies in increasingly diverse local communities.

Participants in the conference will be intellectuals, international, national and local policy-makers, integration professionals, journalists and civil society representatives.

¹ Berlin Neukölln (Germany), Izhevsk (Russian Federation), Lublin (Poland), Lyon (France), Melitopol (Ukraine), Neuchâtel (Switzerland), Oslo (Norway), Patras (Greece), Reggio Emilia (Italy), Subotica (Serbia), Tilburg (the Netherlands)

Programme

The conference will be preceded by a two-day production session which will involve journalists from a range of different countries. The journalists will prepare reports about the way in which the people of Puglia experience diversity and the action taken by various institutions and services to accommodate diversity and turn it into a real asset for the region.

Venue:

Consiglio Regionale della Puglia
Via Giuseppe Capruzzi 204 / Sala Tarricone
70124 Bari, Italy

OPENING SESSION	moderated by Silvia Godelli, Councillor for the Mediterranean, Regione Puglia
------------------------	--

09.30 – 11.30

Opening by Pietro Pepe, President of the Council of Regione Puglia

Address by Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Speeches

Luigi Vitali, President of the Italian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Nichi Vendola, President of Regione Puglia

Michele Emiliano, Mayor of Bari

Giuseppina Marmo, Representative for the Region of Apulia at the Congress of local and regional authorities of the Council of Europe, Regione Puglia

Franco Cassano, Professor for Political Sciences at the University of Bari

Elena Gentile, Regional Councillor for Social Affairs and Migration

11:00–11:30 - COFFEE BREAK

11.30 – 12.45 International perspectives on integration and intercultural relations: Round table with high representatives: Helena Barroco, Alliance of Civilisations of the United Nations; **Dhouha Boukhris**, Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO); **Alberto D'Alessandro**, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research (UNICRI); **Carmela Godeau**, International Organisation for Migration (IOM); **Yahya Pallavicini**, Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)

Chair: Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Director General of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport, Council of Europe

13:00-14:15 - LUNCH BREAK
At the Hotel Excelsior (5min walk)

14.30-18.00 WORKSHOPS

Session I. Intercultural Cities: adapting policies and services to diverse communities. General introduction and presentations by pilot cities members of the Intercultural Cities Network

Time	Workshop 1
	Moderated by Irena Guidikova , Head of Division, Cultural Policy, Diversity and Dialogue, Council of Europe
	Presentation of the Intercultural cities programme (IC) by Phil Wood
14.45	Presentation of the IC Pilot City Reggio Emilia by Franco Corradini , Deputy Mayor
15.00	Presentation of the IC Pilot City Neukölln by Jean-Philippe La Ville
15.30	Presentation of the City of Torino by Ilda Curti , Councillor for Integration Policy

	Abdellah Bousouf , Secretary General, Consultative Council of Moroccans living Abroad
	Antonella Valmorbida Director of the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies
	Rosa Marquez Cabrera , Minister of city development and equity of the communities of the government of Mexico-City federal district
	Abderrahim Filali Baba , former Mayor of Fez
	Giulia Manica , Consultant for UNESCO, Division of Cultural Policies and Intercultural Dialogue
	Elvis Bajram , Mayor of Suto Orizari (Skopje)
	Discussion

16.30-16:45 – COFFEE BREAK

Session II. Migration, Participation, Media and Citizenship. Interculturalism and the Media and open space for participants input

Time	Workshop 2
	Moderated by Reynald Blion , Media and Diversity Manager "Speak out against discrimination" Campaign, Council of Europe
16.45-17.00	Presentation on Interculturalism in Belgium by Marc Sinnaeve
17.00-17.30	Presentation by Journalists of their Bari production session
17.30-18.00	Input by participants and discussion

Concluding remarks by Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Council of Europe and **launch of the "Speak out against discrimination" Campaign in the Region of Apulia.**