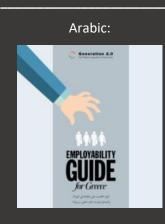




NEWSLETTER

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Greek:



Free Non-Formal Education Programs in Athens



Here is an updated list of Free Non-Formal Education Programs in Athens created by G2RED.

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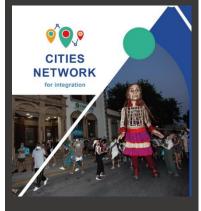
UnionMigrantNet and Cities Together for Integration

EKA (The Athens Labour Unions Organization), the City of Athens and Generation 2.0 RED are currently cooperating under the project "UnionMigrantNet and Cities Together for Integration", which fosters partnerships with local authorities, key actors in the reception and integration of Third Country Nationals (TCNs). Before the launch of this collaboration, the Migrant Point EKA and Generation 2.0 RED have been actively participating in the network of the Livelihoods Committee of the City's very successful initiative "Athens Coordination Center for Migrant and Refugee issues", whereas among the three partners there is an ongoing collaboration on case management of TCNs, offering accordingly their expertise and relevant services through their referral systems.

<u>Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality & Diversity (G2RED)</u> is an initiative launched by a group of young people with migrant origins. Operating as an informal group as far back as 2006, referred to as "Second Generation", their mission had been focused on securing the rights of the otherwise invisible generation of children, born and/or raised in Greece from migrant backgrounds. Today, G2RED is a non-profit organisation and consists of an interdisciplinary team, representing a mix of ethnicities and social backgrounds, sharing the common vision that all people should enjoy the right to equal and active citizenry on an individual and communal level.

The services provided by G2RED, aiming to promote human rights, equality and diversity, fight racism, xenophobia and discrimination are the Legal Counselling and Intercultural Mediation, with expertise and knowledge on residence permits, procedures and prerequisites for citizenship acquisition and the naturalization process; the Employability Service which currently is emphasising on women of migrant background residing in Athens, by implementing the project "Worldplaces-Workplaces Working for Women Integration" through individualised interventions and group trainings, while the Thursday Job Adverts have been bringing to job seekersthe latest job openings in the Humanitarian field and in Various fields for the past 7 years; the Advocacy, which monitors legislative and

Cities Network for Integration: The 3rd CNI Newsletter



The Cities Network for Integration (CNI) gladly shares its 3rd newsletter, in which you will find information about the new initiatives that have been developed recently within CNI and you will discover actions from many cities in Greece, in fields such as employment, awareness and civic engagement.

Support for Refugees with disabilities



The programme is carried out in close collaboration with the Immigrant Integration Center (KEM) of the City of Athens and aims through a series of support services to facilitate the access of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection with disabilities to social welfare procedures.

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administrative developments in the areas of immigration policy, citizenship and equal treatment, intervenes with proposals for improvement and participates in consultations with the state and other bodies. At the same time, it provides information, aiming to empower the migrant community and to support it through legal advisory services, regarding residence permits, the acquisition of citizenship and other rights.

In addition, Greek language courses are offered on a beginner and advanced level, as well as preparation courses for the naturalisation examination within the <u>Non-Formal Education</u> service, while the <u>Diversity in the Workplace</u> initiative, inextricably linked to the Employment Service, was launched in 2017 with the goal of equal inclusion for people of different cultural backgrounds in the Greek labour market but aiming, also, to prepare employers for the implementation of best practices in terms of inclusion in the workplace, achieving corporate sustainability and innovation.

Athens Coordination Center for Migrant and Refugee issues (ACCMR) - a City of Athens initiative -functions as a coordination hub for the fruitful exchange of good practices and know-how between local and international NGOs, international organisations, institutions and the City of Athens. The main goal of ACCMR, which counts over 100 members, two of which are <u>Generation 2.0 RED</u> and <u>EKA</u>, is the better interconnection and cooperation between institutions and the City of Athens in order to promote the integration of immigrants and refugees at the local level and to ensure social cohesion. ACCMR has been identified by the OECD as a recognized good practice of multistakeholder coordination at the local government level.

The <u>ACCMR digital mapping and interconnection platform</u> provides stakeholders in the field of support and empowerment of immigrants and refugees with information on available services, actions and broader initiatives in the City of Athens, facilitating cooperation between them and improving the access of beneficiaries to them. The ACCMR has also taken a central role in the formation, coordination and transfer/exchange of knowhow, within the <u>"Network of Cities for Integration (CNI)"</u>, which so far consists of 18 municipalities in the country. ACCMR operates within the framework of the Department for the Support and Social Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees of the Directorate of Social Solidarity (City of Athens). Since April 2020, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration have been supporting both ACCMR and CNI, on the basis of a trilateral cooperation with the Municipality of Athens.

As a pillar of the social action of the City of Athens, <u>the Immigrant Integration Centre (KEM)</u> functions as a local point of reference for the provision of specialized services such as psychosocial support, legal advice, assistance in submitting applications for social benefits (social solidarity income, rent allowance, disability allowances etc.), provision of information and support in relation to administrative procedures, assistance in application for housing of asylum seekers and for the issuance of a Temporary Social Security Number (PAMKA) for the implementation of the vaccination against COVID-19 but also the referrals to competent services and organisations according to the requests. This set of specialised services aim to improve living standards, access to labour market and social integration of the respective populations.

In this manner, several social inclusion actions for adults are being organised, including Greek language courses for beginners and Greek language, history and culture courses as a preparation for Greek language certification exams, English language courses for beginners and intermediate students as well as preparation for English language certification exams (A2), computer courses and preparation for the basic computer skills certification exams (Windows, Word, Excel and Internet) as well as Individual professional counselling sessions. Additionally, intercultural activities are offered, emphasising on the organisation of theatrical and other artistic activities aimed at children and youth of refugee origin, citizens from third countries and Greeks.

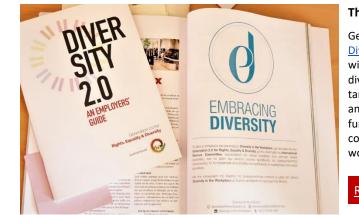
The activities of KEM are implemented with the co-funding of the European Social Fund-National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) 2014-2020.

Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality & Diversity Projects



Launch of the project "Worldplaces-Workplaces Working with Migrant Women"

Generation 2.0 RED is now implementing, along with other prominent European partners, the project "<u>Worldplaces-Workplaces Working with Migrant Women</u>", which is addressed to women of migrant background residing in Attiki, regardless of age. Through this project, the Employability service is going to provide a gender-specific programme exclusively for women who are willing to integrate or re-integrate equally into the Greek labour market, focusing at the same time on the achievement of work-life balance in their life. Participants in the programme will benefit from lindividual Career Counselling sessions, Job Readiness groups, Work-Life Balance trainings and Basic Child-care skills trainings.



The 1st Guide for Employers - "Diversity 2.0 - An Employers' Guide"

Generation 2.0 for Rights Equality & Diversity published, under the initiative <u>Diversity in the Workplace</u>, in March 2019 the "Diversity 2.0-An Employers' Guide", with the support of <u>ENAR</u>, addressed primarily to companies and organisations on diversity management in the workplace. The <u>Guide</u>, apart from presenting the tangible benefits of diversity, it also suggests step-by-step practices, provides tips and makes recommendations on efficient diversity management. Moreover, it can function as an introductory tool for those wishing to navigate into the migration context in Greece, in terms of the different types of residence giving the right to work.

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Employability Guide & Tutorial Videos on CV Writing & Online Job Searching

As a part of our "Facilitating Access to Work for Vulnerable Populations in <u>Athens</u>" programme, implemented with the support of the <u>International</u> <u>Rescue Committee</u> Hellas, an <u>Employability Guide</u> was published in Greek, English, French Farsi & Arabic, aiming to provide all the tools for a newcomers needs for an easier access to the Greek labour market. On the other hand, 2 <u>tutorial videos</u> have been published with the possibility of use of subtitles available in English, Arabic & Farsi, on CV writing using the Europass format, and on job search through the most popular websites in Greece.



Informative Meetings on Naturalization

The new naturalisation system brings with it new procedures, such as the Item Bank, written exams and financial criteria. Questions from the public come in daily and there is a strong necessity for additional information. That is why Generation 2.0 RED is launching a round of informative meetings for the migrant population on the new naturalisation system. The first meeting took place on the 19th of April at the organisation's offices while, in May, three more meetings will follow to inform those willing to go through the process of naturalisation to be aware of the steps to follow.

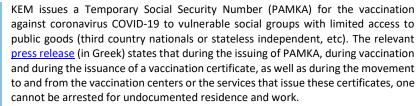


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City of Athens Projects

KEM of the City of Athens: Issuing PAMKA for vaccination against COVID-19





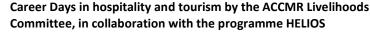
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War in Ukraine: Emergency mapping of services to support displaced **Ukrainian citizens**

ACCMR, responding to the new and ever-increasing needs arising from the arrival in Athens of displaced Ukrainian citizens, has implemented an emergency mapping of services provided in the city and accessible to this population. The purpose of this mapping is to inform all professionals serving Ukrainian citizens who are in Athens. It is a "live" mapping that is updated on a regular basis and is available to all service providers, in order to facilitate effective information exchange and efficient coordination.

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The Employability & Livelihoods Committee of the City of Athens Coordination Center for Migrant & Refugee issues (ACCMR) with the support of IOM under HELIOS programme has twice organised career days in the field of hospitality and tourism. The aim of these initiatives is to create a channel of communication between the private sector and candidates from a migrant or refugee background and enhance their equal access to the labour market, without excluding the participation of the local population. During the last Job Fair which was organised in February 2022, 350 refugees and migrants and over 30 businesses participated with physical presence in career days in Athens and Thessaloniki, while 300 people participated in a virtual conference. The relevant Press Release is available in Greek here.

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Preparatory Seminars for the examinations for acquiring Greek citizenship

The award-winning Greek writer Soti Triantafyllou but, also, other collaborators voluntarily offer to refugees and immigrants preparatory seminars for the exams for the acquisition of Greek citizenship, in the framework of their cooperation with the City of Athens and KEM. The seminars for the preparation for the competence and skills certificate and the acquisition of citizenship through naturalisation are offered free-of-charge and are conducted online in two-hour weekly courses.

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