

NEWSLETTER

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NOTE: Networking Closing Conference of the UnionMigrantNet and Cities Together for Integration project- 13-14 December 2022 in Brussels.



UnionMigrantNet and Cities Together for Integration

Actions in solidarity with Ukrainian refugees

Trade unions across Europe responded directly from the beginning of the war to the needs of Ukrainian citizens, and especially women and children trying to escape from the war zones, and offered practical assistance, solidarity actions and support for the rights of movement and protection within the European Union. Therefore, additional local activities of the **UMN project** partners for Ukrainian refugees were carried out.

The **“Peace Watch”** briefing notes were launched as a way for the **European Trade Union Confederation** (ETUC) affiliates to share information on countries’ response to the war in Ukraine, the temporary protection for displaced persons from Ukraine and trade unions’ actions in solidarity on the ground throughout Europe considering the specific vulnerabilities of women and children.



Mutual Learning Program (MLP) in Warsaw

On September 27-28, a two-day meeting was held at the **All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions (OPZZ)** headquarters as part of the Mutual Learning Program of the project "Unions Migrant net and Cities Together for Integration". **OPZZ** is the largest nationwide umbrella confederation of trade unions in Poland, comprised both of unified nationwide trade union organisations and the sectoral federations of trade unions.



The MLP meeting was dedicated to the war in Ukraine, the situation of the Ukrainian refugees in Europe and ways to integrate migrants and refugees in workplaces. Attention was also paid to the challenges of the Polish labor market integration of migrants and refugees, with particular emphasis on decent work for everyone and issues of abuse in the working environment. In addition, Ukrainian trade unionists from Consultation and Information points of OPZZ presented their activities on support of the Ukrainian refugees and particularly women, children and elderly people including

psychological support services.

Good practices and experiences on local collaboration were shared between representatives from the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), Municipalities and Trade Unions from Italy, Greece, Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania and Romania. The MLP ended with a visit to the Ukrainian House in Warsaw which since the beginning of the war has turned into a crisis response centre.

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Athens International Final Conference

“Exploring the gender perspective of TCNs’ integration in the labour market”



In the context of the completion of the **UMN** project, the **Municipality of Athens** and the **Migrant Point EKA** organized on Friday, October 14, 2022, a Final conference dedicated **on the gender dimension of third country citizens' access to the labor market**.

The conference took place in Athens and presented the results of the cooperation among international and local partners as Trade unions, Public authorities and Civil Society Organisations in relation to the labor integration of female refugees and migrants. It was an opportunity of sharing stories, experiences and collaborative partnerships together with personal dimensions intersecting fields on migration, integration and gender.

Representatives of the **European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)**, the **Athens Labour Unions Organisation (EKA)**, Public authorities and the **National Contact Points** of the **UnionMigrantNet** network of the Trade Unions of Greece, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Italy, Germany and Belgium participated, as well as representatives of the Civil Society.

The activities of the Greek Trade Unions and particularly the **Athens Labor Unions Organization (EKA)**, the **General Secretariat of Demographic and Family Policy and Gender Equality** and the Network of Migrant Women in Greece "**Melissa**" were presented. Furthermore the **Municipality of Athens** highlighted the relevant actions of the **Migrant Integration Center (KEM)**, the new **ENFEM** program, as well as the work of the **Center for Combating Gender-Based Violence and Multiple Discrimination**.

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Finally, a round table was held with the participation of representatives of **European trade unions**, the **Migrant Point EKA** and the **Generation 2.0 RED**, where the social partners exchanged their experiences in supporting and integrating women from third countries, as well as local actions to combat and prevent gender-based violence, exploitation and human trafficking. The conference raised various concerns regarding the labor and social problems faced by female migrants and refugees, as well as communities and collective organizations of the Civil Society, including Trade Unions dealing with issues of labor integration, while was emphasized the importance of building alliances for prevention and intervention against any inequality in the field.



EVENTS OF THE MONTH

Multaka – Intercultural Tours in Athens



The **Multaka** program of the **Municipality of Athens** on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25, organized tours at the Ancient Agora, a place symbolic of the position of women in ancient Athens with interpretation in Greek, English, French, Arabic and Farsi by multicultural interpreters with refugee and immigrant backgrounds.

Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality & Diversity – A week dedicated to motherhood & Employability



A week dedicated to motherhood and employability in the frame of the project: **“Worldplaces-Workplaces Working with Migrant Women”** was implemented by **Generation 2.0 for Rights, Diversity & Equality** in

EVENTS OF THE MONTH

November for immigrant and refugee women who, in addition to being mothers, are also workers or actively looking for work.



The project aspires to be the bridge to inclusion in the labour market by supporting, on one hand, companies to design inclusion policies and, on the other, by empowering women of migrant background with skills and tools important not only for their employment integration, but for life itself in which they are called upon to play many roles, as mothers, professionals and women.



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Seminars on: “Prevention and response to gender-based violence”



Diotima Center organized for the Ukrainian population a series of seminars on: “Prevention and response to gender-based violence” (October- November) about Gender Inequalities and Gender Roles, Stereotypes and Myths in

Greece and Ukraine, with interpretation in Ukrainian language.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Two-day even: “Building Bridges for employment in the Greek region”



A two-day event of the **Network of Cities for Integration** will be organized in Athens on December 8 & 9 with theme: “Building Bridges for employment in the Greek region” and the aim of highlighting the integration prospects of refugees in municipalities of the region. In the context of the event, agencies and Municipalities - members of the Network will share good practices for connecting with employers and will look for tools and solutions that facilitate integration into the labor market. The **Network of Cities for Integration** is a network of 18 Greek Municipalities that exchange and plan together implementation of good practices in the field of integration of refugees and immigrants.



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