

Official Launch of “Moving Cities”

⌘ Online Conference ⌘ Thursday, 21 October, 10-14 h (CET)

On 21 October 2021, our website “Moving Cities” will be launched. It presents detailed research on 28 progressive solidary-cities in ten European countries and their strategies for welcoming migrants and refugees. The platform is especially aimed at municipal employees, local politicians, and civil society activists, who are involved in solidarity-cities and are looking for suggestions and strategies for changing migration politics in their locals.

A presentation of the website and individual examples of successful migration policy are planned, as well as a discussion on their political significance. This will be followed by workshops for municipal employees, local politicians, and civil society on ways to achieve solidarity in municipal politics.

The event will be simultaneously translated into German, English, and Greek.

* The website – available starting 21.10.2021: www.moving-cities.eu

THE PROGRAM

- 10.00 h** **Welcoming address from the initiators**
- **Dr. Ellen Ueberschär**, Chairperson, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung e.V
 - **Daniela Trochowski**, Chairperson, Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung e.V.
 - **Liza Pflaum**, Cofounder of the Seebrücke movement
- 10.15 h** **Panel discussion: “Why does the local level matter?”**
- On the role and potentials of the local in receiving and integrating refugees, with (among others):
- **Prof. Barbara Oomen**, Project manager of “Cities of Refuge”
 - **Tareq Alaows**, Expert on asylum and migration policy
 - **Katja Dörner**, Mayor of the City of Bonn
- 11.00 h** **Official launch of the website and a zoom-in** to the local level with select examples

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THE PROGRAM

12:30 h

Parallel Workshops

→ **Workshop for municipalities and the local level:** Housing, language courses, care, education, employment opportunities... these are just a few of the challenges when it comes to the reception and integration of refugees and migrants in European cities. Local administrations need to act and come up with adequate responses that respect these fundamental needs and rights of people in search for protection. This workshop brings together city representatives to draw inspiration from the Greek city of Livadia and the Dutch city of Utrecht, and to discuss successful implementation strategies, how one deals with difficulties, financing models etc. The workshop is also open to civil society representatives and academics with an interest in local governance and integration.

→ **Civil society as a motor for a solidarity-based migration policy:** A closer look at the various practical examples of Moving Cities shows that civil society is the motor driving cities to act. Whether with protests, signature lists, public relations work, or information stands, people are fighting together to improve the living conditions for refugees. In this workshop, we will introduce different approaches to cooperation between cities and civil society and will discuss them with Marijana Hamersak (Zagreb sanctuary city), Malisa Zobel (HVGP), Giulia Fellin (HVGP), Alina Lyapina (Sea2City), and Liza Pflaum (Seebrücke).

13:30 h

Closing statement and outlook

Anna Lisa Boni, Secretary general of the city network, EUROCITIES

Moderator Alia Fakhry, Policy advisor specializing in migration

Information For further information please write an email to info@moving-cities.eu

Registration The event will take place over Zoom. Click here to register:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_64YqBYaPQkWvLWdDHLVSHg

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