

FINAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

MIGRATION

- 1. There is the need for a stronger presence of European Union Institutions in border countries and a more flexible system for the mobility of refugees and asylum seekers, avoiding the concentration of them in some European Countries, more than in others.*
- 2. Integration starts and passes through the direct knowledge of the mutual understanding of both parties.*
- 3. Integration is possible only if different cultures share same spaces, including the possibility to have their voice heard through civil societies which can impact the decision making process. Migrants should be encouraged to integrate into the national space and participate in the integration process.*
- 4. Education frees the potentialities of each person. Integration is possible only through investments in education, which is also the keyword for the participation of migrants in the respective community life. Educators should be given the required training and exchange of good practices to be able to understand different cultures, traditions, religion and other issues that affect the integration process.*
- 5. Social and cultural events, sports and family gatherings should be some of the tools to foster integration and better understanding between migrants and the community.*
- 6. Local Governments and civil societies should be more active in the integration policies of migrants within their territory.*

YOUTH

- 1. Democracy should be encouraged as a holistic system, including educational - formal and non-formal, civic and social, structured set-ups including primary pupils. The democratic process must encourage dialogue, discussion and the notion of "idea ownership". Above all it should seek to be inclusive and should strengthen the consensual culture.*
- 2. In order to let youngsters participate in local and regional democratic life it is important to start with their educational process (primary school, secondary school, high school) to develop skills like responsibility, involvement and social consciousness. This could be done by creating student councils, supporting participation in students' associations and making them aware on social issues. Once we support active participation of children, we should work towards creating participative youth attitude.*
- 3. This must be further empowered by local and regional authorities in formal and non-formal way:*
 - non-formal way: supporting civil society organisations which could provide different training for youth (for example writing skills and expression skills), cultural events and involving them in the social debate.*
 - formal way: on local and regional level, youth policy should be included in the priorities. It means that there should be a separate department for youth and budget allocated. The final objective is creating youth formal structure like Youth Council or Parliament at local and regional level. These structures should be involved in the dialogue with authorities and be able to influence local policy.*
- 4. There are various ways that were discussed and analyzed on how local and regional authorities and youth associations enable youth participation in the decision making process. Most youths do not know what awaits them in life, so they do not have clear goals and targets to achieve in their life.*

5. *Also politics is not part of their world. They do not involve themselves in any meetings or information sessions so they are not interested in what happens around them. Politics is not talked about in schools and politics should not be only related to political parties. We should not be afraid to create the political dialect to get youths interested in the issues that affect them most.*
6. *Young people should be more involved because they come up with very relevant ideas and arguments, if they are challenged in the right ways. When youth come up with ideas, these ideas should be given due consideration, discussed and full feedback provided in transparent way.*
7. *Youth need to have access to politicians and help out when needed. Therefore youth should be put in a position to assist a mature and seasoned politician in order for them to learn and gain valuable experience in politics. This way they are given the opportunity to participate in the political process. This should come after information and adequate incentives are given to them. As a good practice, we should encourage the vote at sixteen years' old at local level. This political measure must be accompanied by resources, which help political and social education and increasing youth activism.*
8. *Young politicians should be exposed to the issues affecting the community and be included in the decision making process at all levels.*

WOMEN

1. *To increase the participation of women in politics;*
2. *To employ more women in leadership positions and greater participation in decision-making process;*
3. *To protect women from all types of violence, in particular domestic violence;*
4. *To promote and protect women's rights, and to improve social and health care;*
5. *Political parties and the media should give more visibility to women's issues and their political cause;*
6. *To support and encourage women to participate in political processes;*
7. *To have cooperation and support of women candidates for City Council by the local civil society organisations, media and institutions;*
8. *To foster gender equality and fight against all forms of discrimination;*
9. *To support better diplomacy, consensus and compromise;*
10. *More stakeholders need to be involved in the planning process;*
11. *Local governments must be aware for new challenges of women in the society;*
12. *The process of action planning needs to be more transparent and open*
13. *The budget for the action plan to be based on the proposed activities*
14. *Create councils in schools – starting with primary school to encourage female participation*
15. *Improve non-formal learning on politics in schools*
16. *Give visibility to women in professional fields typically considered for men – and vice versa.*
17. *Facilitate women's access to work by strengthening welfare tools.*
18. *Introduce gender studies in schools for primary students*
19. *Encourage men to participate to traditionally women tasks;*
20. *Encourage and involve men in gender equality activities;*
21. *Encourage men in children's education, including participation in school activities;*
22. *Involve more men to advocate among their peers gender equality;*

- 23. Encourage positive discrimination in political institutions to encourage more female participation***
- 24. Promote women candidates during elections***
- 25. Promote family friendly measures that provide equal opportunity for women to be active in the community and political life.***