



Invitation to the Urban Academy on Integration on 21-22 May

Dear Madam/Sir,

We are delighted to invite you to participate in the **Urban Academy on the Integration of Migrants and Refugees**, which will take place in Antwerp on 21 and 22 May 2019.

The Urban Academy on Integration is a training programme for practitioners and policy makers working on integration at the local, regional and national level. It also provides the opportunity to create networks of peers working on similar integration issues across Europe, which can provide advice and support beyond the Academy itself.

The Academy is organised as a mix of experts' inputs as well as peer exchanges on individual policy-dilemmas and professional challenges between the participants. There will be a lot of space to discuss and explore innovative solutions for the specific challenges participants are facing in their city, region or country in the field of integration.

The Academy was launched in 2018 under the framework of the Urban Agenda Partnership on the Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees¹, which brings together cities, Member States and the European Commission to jointly develop and put in place actions to foster the integration of migrants and refugees.

This year, the two thematic strands of the Academy will be **integration into the labour market** and **housing for migrant inclusion**. You will find more details in the draft programme attached. These themes were selected through a survey conducted among European cities.

How can you participate?

To be able to participate you should be working at strategic or policy level for a local or regional authority in one of the following fields:

- Migrants' integration into the labour market
- Housing for migrant inclusion

In order to apply, you will be asked to present a case study from your city or region on which you would like to receive feedback from your peers during the academy. This can be a policy dilemma, a new policy or project that you are going to start in your city/region or a specific challenge that you are facing. The case study should if possible fall under one of the specific thematic modules that you will find in

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/inclusion-of-migrants-and-refugees>

the programme. However, if you have a burning issue that does not fall under one of the specific thematic modules, let us know and we will try to accommodate your need.

If you are interested in participating in the Academy, you are invited to apply by returning the completed form attached by e-mail to HOME-EIN@ec.europa.eu by 1 April 2019 at the latest.

All costs of travel, accommodation and meals will be covered for selected participants.

If we receive more applications than the place available, we may have to make a selection. This will be based on criteria such as geographical spread and gender-balance as well as an assessment of the relevance of the case study on which you would like to receive feedback.

Your participation will be confirmed early April. If your application is successful, we will contact you to organise the practicalities of your travel and stay and to help you prepare for the Academy.

The working language of the event will be English. Interpretation from and into other languages will not be provided.

Should you require any further information, please send us your queries at the following e-mail address: HOME-EIN@ec.europa.eu.

We are much looking forward to receiving your applications and working with you in this exciting initiative.

Yours faithfully,



Laura Corrado

*Head of Unit
Legal Migration and Integration
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