

UnionMigrantNet & Cities Together for Integration

A glimpse of our work 2019-2022











UnionMigrantNet is a European network, created by the ETUC and composed by trade unions, migrants' associations and social economy enterprises. The network provides freely services to Third Country Nationals in order to foster their integration both into the labour market and in society. UnionMigrantNet works through a portal accessible online (unionmigrantnet.eu). It is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, German, French, Russian and Spanish.

Since its foundation in 2013, UnionMigrantNet has online contact points in European countries giving information and advice to migrants in different areas: their rights and duties to access the labour market, their rights at work and working conditions, recognition of skills and qualifications, pre- departure information among others.

The Portal, funded by an EU Project, seek also at enhancing the network by fostering partnerships with local authorities, key actors in the reception and integration of Third Country Nationals. During the implementation of this project (2019-2022), national integration activities where UnionMigrantNet members and local authorities will undertake targeted measures based on specific needs of the Third Country Nationals' community and the local environment in Belgium, Bulgaria, Italy, Greece and Slovenia.

In the meantime, up to 8 exchanges between local authorities and UnionMigrantNet members involved in the project in these five EU countries will be undertaken to learn on how they respectively provide assistance, information and trainings to the migrant population through the organisation of Mutual Learning Programmes.

ETUC







































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BELGIUM









UnionMigrantNet and Cities Together for Integration brings partners from Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Slovenia and Italy together to share experiences and good practices for the integration of migrant workers.

In Belgium, it is supported by the City of Liege, CEPAG ASBL and Monde des Possibles ASBL. It specifically addresses the social and **solidarity economy as a lever for inclusion**.

The social economy can be an original approach to fight against structural unemployment, and constitute an alternative way to the classic socio-professional integration schemes, taking into account the specificities of migrant workers. Municipalities have a key role to play in building this approach.

In this framework, workshops on migrant workers' rights were given to more than 50 participants in Liege. Based on many field experiences in the social economy developed in Europe, an awareness-raising guide with inspiring practices has been written for cities and trade unions. It is available in English and French.

A European **conference** is organized on **June 10th 2022**, from 9.45 am to 12.30 pm in Liege or by Zoom via this link. The opportunity to discover a panel of European projects in social economy that are vectors of inclusion for migrant people, and to present the achievements of Liège related to the motion « Liège Hospitalière ». Among the speakers: ETUC, DIESIS, REVES network, GRDR Paris, Univerbal, Migracoop, etc.

In Liege, the 3 Belgian partners aim to improve the reception of migrant workers. A reflection is currently underway to set up a migration hub intended to encourage experimentation with social economy activities carried out by migrants.

Le Monde des Possibles CEPAG Ville de Liège





































Workshops

In Belgium, the City of Liège, CEPAG and Le Monde des Possibles explored the social economy as an opportunity to improve and recognise the skills of third-country workers. In this context, socio-professional integration workshops were co-organised by the partners, with migrant people.



Social Economy and Inclusion of Migrants | Proceedings UMN Colloquium

In Belgium, the national Unionmigrantnet conference on 10 June 2022 in Liège was attended by 90 participants. The 3 Belgian partners of the project (City of Liège, CEPAG and Le Monde des Possibles) wanted to bring together different stakeholders from the field and from research around a focal question: How can the social economy improve the inclusion of migrant workers?

A varied panel of speakers presented points of view, projects and analyses, in interaction with the migrant workers. Under the supervision of the ETUC, several emblematic European projects were presented, and European structures took the floor: DIESIS, REVES, Univerbal, Parallax, Migracoop, GRDR Paris, as well as Ursula Hönich from the European Commission.

This event succeeded in highlighting sometimes modest, but nevertheless effective, initiatives of inclusion through the social economy as an alternative path, as well as the needs of the sector in Europe to ensure the sustainability of these activities. It was also an opportunity to create synergies and networks around common European projects, to try to capitalise and share energies in favour of the inclusion of migrants, towards further work on the ground.





Awareness Guide | Third-country workers inclusion through social economy in European cities

The UnionMigrantNet Guide "Inclusion of migrant workers through the social economy" is the perfect tool to understand the strengths and challenges of the social economy processes applied to the migrant population who wishes to be integrated into society.

This guide is the result of collaboration between ETUC, City of Liège, Le Monde des Possibles and CEPAG.







Mutual Learning Programme in Liège (Belgium)

From 15 to 18 March 2022, CEPAG, Le Monde des Possibles and the Ville de Liège hosted a Mutual Learning Program (MLP) in the framework of the UnionMigrantNet & Cities Together for Integration project. In this MLP, partners from Belgium welcomed partners from Bulgaria and shared experiences, practices, measures, and instruments that are used in both countries.



Final National Dissemination Conference

The final dissemination conference of the Belgian work package took place in Liège on Tuesday 18th October 2022. A diverse panel took the floor on the following topic: *How a third-place and a communal citizenship card could help to integrate migrants into the labour market?*

The debates were moderated by Laura Lentini, from CNCD 11.11.11., and co-organised by Monde des Possibles, the City of Liège, CEPAG and the Collectif Liège Hospitalière. 63 people were present in the audience, in the beautiful Cité Miroir of the CAL of Liège.

On the agenda for the future of UnionMigrantNet: considering the implementation of a third place and a Carte Communale in Liège!



GREECE









The "UnionMigrantNet and Cities Together for Integration" project aims at exchanging and transferring knowledge, experiences and best practices on integration between 9 UnionMigrantNet members and 8 local authorities from five EU countries, namely Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy and Slovenia.

The project in Greece aims to assist an increasing number of third country nationals, as migrants, asylum-seekers & refugees who have been registered in Greece and live in Athens. The cooperation between the Migrant Point EKA, as a TU contact point of UMN in Greece, the Municipality of Athens and local stakeholders dealing with integration policies aims at easing an equal access at work of all categories of third country nationals through their actions, as a part of a better management of the reception process and preparation to their faster integration through the labour market.

EKA & Municipality of Athens & Generation 2.0 RED, cooperate on labour-related activities like providing training on labour market integration and employability, making skills and competences usable on the Greek labour market, organising awareness-raising event on the benefits of third country nationals labour market, disseminating videos and informational material to raise awareness on the project's targets but also producing a digital guide of good practices on third country nationals' labour market integration in Greece, which aims to prevent further exploitation of them.

EKA & Generation 2.0 RED





































Trainings on labour market integration and employability

During the 3 years project, the partners EKA & Generation 2.0 RED organized and hosted the 30-hour training "Working on equal terms in Greece" for people of migrant background seeking equal & documented employment in Greece.



Newsletters

EKA and Generation 2.0 collaborated on the creation of <u>6 newsletters</u>:



Mutual Learning Program in Athens (Greece)

From 6 to 10 June 2022, EKA and the City of Athens hosted a Mutual Learning Program (MLP) in the framework for the UnionMigrantNet & Cities Together for Integration project. In this MLP, partners from Greece welcomed partners from Italy and shared experiences, practices, measures, and instruments that are used in both countries.



EKA has developed a <u>video</u> in which you can get to know more about the experience of the Mutual Learning Programme, its importance and how the partners' organisations intend to implement a multi-stakeholder approach in their work with the immigrant population.



Final National Dissemination Conference

The final dissemination Conference from the Greek work package took place on 14 October 2022 in Athens after 3 years of fruitful cooperation among international and local partners as trade unions, public authorities and civil society organisations. It was an opportunity to share stories, experiences and collaborative partnerships together with personal dimensions, intersecting the fields of migration, integration and gender.



ITALY









Union Migrant Net and Cities Together for Integration brings partners from Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Slovenia and Italy together to share experiences and good practices for the integration of migrants' workers.

In the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region in Italy, it is supported by Anolf (National Association beyond frontiers) and the Municipality of Pordenone.

The two organizations have worked together with bilateral bodies and local stakeholders through the hard time of the pandemic period to reach out the group of immigrants' women and set up a professional training course for them within the project activities. To this regard, the collaboration of the Service "Orientation to job placement" of the Social Services of the Municipality has been key and it is now working for setting up the traineeships to continue in the process of job placement.

The last months of 2022 have been pretty hectic in terms of activities, since besides the training course, the Mutual Learning Programme with partners from Slovenia, Belgium and Greece has been organized in Italy from 9 to 14 of May, hosting the colleagues from Trade Unions, local organizations and Municipalities in Pordenone on May 12 and in Trieste on May 13 and 14. The focus of this event was to explain the Italian national and local context in Milan and Friuli Venezia Giulia with respect to asylum seekers, refugees and foreign citizens, to describe the Italian reception system, to explain the activities foreseen by the UMN project in Milan, Pordenone and Trieste, and above all to activate a comparison on fundamental issues regarding the local models of integration.

Soon after, all the Italian partners, both from Friuli Venezia Giulia and Milan, have participated in the Mutual Learning Programme in Greece, from 6 to 10 of June, finding many similar challenges to face in the migrants' situation and interesting projects of intervention to take inspiration from.

Anolf Municipality of Pordenone













































Union Migrant Net and Cities Together for Integration brings partners from Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Slovenia and Italy together to share experiences and good practices for the integration of migrants' workers.

Here in Milano, language and professional classes are going on well and now it's time to have face to face meetings with refugees and asylum seekers involved in UnionMigrantNet project!

Individual interviews are important to know better their experience and future aspirations.

The know-how of CELAV - the Center for labour inclusion of the Comune di Milano - Welfare e Salute as well as the competences and the network of ANOLF Nazionale, Fisascat Cisl and Cisl Milano Metropoli Social and the support of bilateral bodies are essential to develop the Italian pilot action of UMN and an efficient labour inclusion project.

We are learning a lot about the personal story and skills of all the participants!

> Municipality of Milano **ANOLF Nazionale** Fisascat Cisl Cisl Milano Metropoli Social









































Trainings on labour market integration and employability

In Milano, individual interviews were held in order to know better the experiences and future aspirations of refugees and asylum seekers involved in the UnionMigrantNet project.

The know-how of CELAV - the Center for labour inclusion of the Comune di Milano - Welfare e Salute, as well as the competences and the network of ANOLF Nazionale, Fisascat Cisl and Cisl Milano Metropoli Social and the support of bilateral bodies were essential to develop the Italian pilot action of UMN and an efficient labour inclusion project.



In addition, Anolf FVG together with the Comune di Pordenone organised courses in Italian language and culture courses to allow Ukrainian migrants to communicate and settle in the best possible way during their stay in Friuli Venezia Giulia.



Vademecum

A <u>vademecum</u> has been produced by the Italian partners which includes relevant information on Italian immigration legislation, information on labour rights, access to services and how to set up in Italy (international protection). This vademecum is mainly addressed to UnionMigrantNet contact points and local authorities' operators dealing with integration measures in Italy, its broader dissemination may be enhanced among third country nationals (main beneficiaries).















LA PROTEZIONE INTERNAZIONALE

La protezione internazionale è un sistema di norme per garantire, tutelare e proteggere i diritti fondamentali delle persone costrette a fuggire dal Paese di cittadinanza o di dimora abituale per il fondato timore di subire persecuzioni personali o danni gravi (Convenzione di Ginevra del 1951 sullo status dei rifugiati).

Se ti trovi in questa condizione, in Italia puoi presentare richiesta di protezione internazionale!

Mutual Learning Programme in Milan, Trieste & Pordenone (Italy)

From 9 to 14 May 2022, the Municipality of Milan, CELAV – Center for Labour Inclusion of the City of Milan, FISASCAT, ANOLF and CISL Milano Metropoli, as well as ANOLF FVG and the Comune of Pordenone, hosted a Mutual Learning Program (MLP). The Italian partners in this MLP welcomed the Greek and Slovenian partners and shared practices, procedures, methods and tools used in these countries.



Final National Dissemination Conference

The UMN Italian Final Conference took place in Milan on the 9th of November 2022 and was hosted by Confcommercio Milano, in the authoritative site of Palazzo Castiglioni in Corso Venezia.

During the meeting, the Italian partners showcased to an audience of about one hundred guests the results of the Italian Pilot Action developed under the UMN project, in Milan and Friuli Venezia Giulia (Pordenone and Trieste).



BULGARIA









The project UnionMigrantNet and Cities Together for Integration aims at exchanging and transferring knowledge, experiences, and best practices on integration among 9 UnionMigrantNet members and 8 local authorities from five EU countries, namely, Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, and Slovenia. The Bulgarian partners include the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB) and Sofia Development Association (SDA).

UMN activities in Sofia aim to improve the integration of third-country nationals in the local labor market. Interventions include collaboration between local authorities, employers, NGOs and migrant organizations; training for third-country nationals; seminars for employers; brochures for migrants wishing to work in Bulgaria; a press conference to present the study on the access of third-country nationals to the Bulgarian labour market; advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns; mutual learning programs with project partners.

In this regard, CITUB organized five trainings for third-country nationals in Sofia and Harmali, covering topics on job opportunities, labour and social rights and obligations, etc. 128 third-country nationals from Syria, Afghanistan, Russia and Ukraine took part in the trainings. A survey was conducted among third-country nationals - asylum seekers, refugees and migrants, which identified their problems and needs regarding access to the labor market. One of the main activities was the production of brochures and posters on labour and social security rights and obligations in Arabic, Bulgarian and English, as well as information campaigns among third-country nationals - refugees and migrants.

Through the established local coalition for labor integration of TCNs, SDA has been able to raise awareness of the benefits of hiring TCNs and build a network of kindred-minded employers who support the creation of jobs for migrants. Working in close collaboration with coalition members, in 2021 SDA, together with Sofia Municipality held the first award ceremony for employers supporting TCNs and refugees. In March 2022, right after the onset of the war in Ukraine, SDA held meetings with city officials, mobilized resources through the Bureau for Information and Consultation Services to Third-Country Nationals, to provide assistance to Ukrainian citizens fleeing from the war.

SDA and CITUB





































Trainings on labour rights for third-country nationals

During the project, a series of trainings were organized by the Bulgarian partners ,especially by the trade union CITUB and Sofia Development Association. Representatives of municipal enterprises, companies, and other civil society organization took the floor in order to highlight the Bulgarian legal framework, requirements and good practices for employers wishing to hire third-country nationals, as well as on the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.





Meetings of the local coalition for integration

CITUB and SDA have made available in the UMN Portal the <u>Coalition Agreement of Local Stakeholders</u> involved in the Integration of Third-country Nationals in the Bulgarian Labour Market as well as the list of the Coalition Members.







COALITION AGREEMENT
of

Local Stakeholders for the Integration of Third-country Nationals in the Bulgarian
Labor Market

Study: Unfair conditions hinder the integration of third-country nationals into the Bulgarian labour market

The language barrier, unfair working conditions and discrimination are the main obstacles to the integration of third-country nationals into the Bulgarian labour market. These are the results showcased in a study conducted by the Institute for Social and Trade Union Research at CITUB.



Brochure: I work in Bulgaria

The Confederation of Independent Trade Unions of Bulgaria and Sofia Development Association developed a <u>guide</u> about the labour and social rights and obligations of employees in Bulgaria that is available in 3 languages.









I work in Bulgaria
A brief guide about labor and social rights
and obligations of employees



I am starting a job



2. What documents is the employer obliged to give me before I start work:

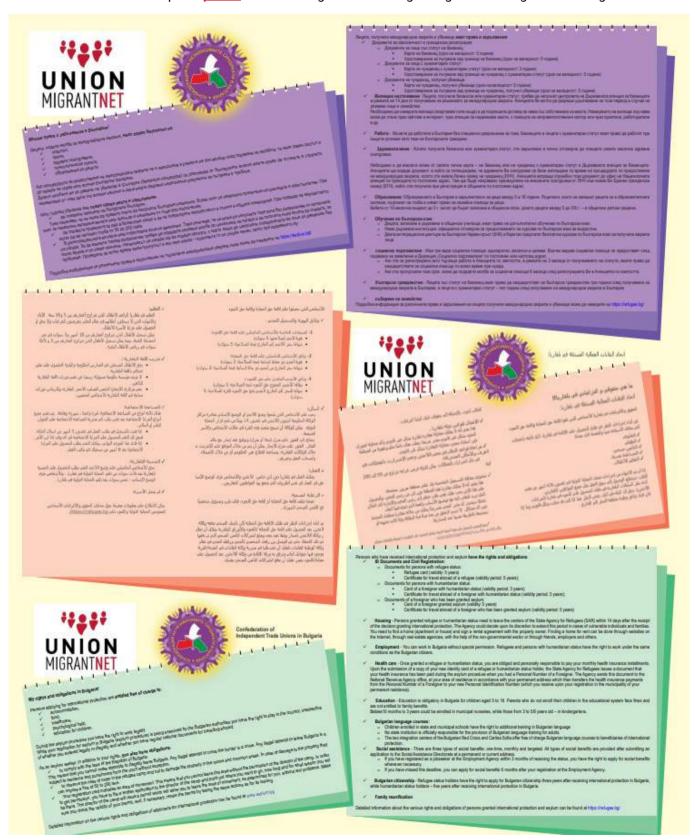
- 1. A copy of the concluded employment contract;
- A copy of the notification he has sent to the National Revenue Agency that he/she has concluded an employment contract with me;
- Job description, in which my rights and obligations are indicated.



3. Employment contract - what is it?

Poster: My rights and obligations in Bulgaria

CITUB and SDA also developed a poster about the migrants and refugees rights and obligations in Bulgaria.



Leaflet

Consult the leaflet developed by SDA and CITUB.

UNIONMIGRANTNET И ГРАДОВЕТЕ ЗАЕДНО ЗА ИНТЕГРАЦИЯ



ПРОЕКТЪТ UNIONMIGRANTNET И ГРАДОВЕТЕ ЗАЕДНО ЗА ИНТЕГРАЦИЯ

се координира от Европейската конфедерация на профсъюзите (ЕКП), с партньори от мрежата на ЕКП и 8 местни власти от 5 страни в ЕС, Белгия, България, Гърция, Италия и Словения. Той ще продължи 30 месеца, от 2019-2022г.

КЛЮЧОВИ ДЕЙНОСТИ:

- ИЗСЛЕДВАНЕ НА ВЪЗМОЖНОСТИТЕ ЗА ЗАЕТОСТ НА ГРАЖДАНИ НА ТРЕТИ СТРАНИ;
- ОБУЧЕНИЯ ЗА РАБОТОДАТЕЛИ;
- ОБУЧЕНИЯ ЗА ГРАЖДАНИ НА ТРЕТИ СТРАНИ;
- УЧЕБНА ВИЗИТА В ЛИЕЖ, БЕЛГИЯ;
- УЧЕБНА ВИЗИТА НА ЕКИПА НА ЛИЕЖ В СОФИЯ;
- МЕСТНА КОАЛИЦИЯ ЗА ИНТЕГРАЦИЯ НА МИГРАНТИ НА ТРУДОВИЯ ПАЗАР;
- ИНФОРМАЦИОННА И ЗАСТЪПНИЧЕСКА КАМПАНИЯ;
- ЗАКЛЮЧИТЕЛНА КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ.

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Mutual Learning Program in Sofia (Bulgaria)

As part of the UnionMigrantNet & Cities Together for Integration project, CEPAG, CITUB and SDA hosted a Mutual Learning Program (MLP) from 13 to 16 June 2022. Bulgarian partners engaged in this MLP with partners from Belgium and Greece to exchange knowledge, practices, measures, and instruments.



Final National Dissemination Conference

The final dissemination Conference from the Bulgarian work package was the international conference organized by the partners CITUB and SDA on 27 September 2022 in Sofia. The conference gathered representatives of local and international organizations – public bodies, NGOs, employers – for a constructive and insightful dialogue on the challenges of integration of TCN in Sofia and in Europe.



SLOVENIA









During the time of the Union Migrant Network project, the Slovenian partner Neodvisni sindikat delavcev Slovenije (NSDS) established the »ONE STOP INFO SHOP« in Ljubljana where information and legal help was offered to asylum seekers and refugees by experts in the field.

Many migrant women became frequent users of this supporting activity and in time they started to express their own problems and concerns towards the inclusion to the Slovenian labour market. Slovenian language was just one of these concerns as in several cases their formal education was not recognized at all or was not enough to secure them a job.

In addressing these challenges partners ZRC SAZU and Municipality of Ljubljana with the help of NSDS offered several migrant women a possibility of a two month »Job shadow« in the Municipality of Ljubljana in October of 2022. Job Shadowing is a structured Career Exploration activity in which a mentee is paired with and observes the workday of a business mentor, interacts with his or her clients or customers and attends meetings and other appointments with the person they are shadowing.

Two women, one from Bangladesh and one from Turkey are already involved with Municipal administration officials and are helping with their knowledge, experiences and (soft) skills. Two others with experiences in art and cultural production will be able to contribute in the Youth theatre of Ljubljana and International centre for Graphic Design. This is an excellent case of cooperation between the three UMN project partners which are building future cooperation on the foundations of the UMN project.

> ZRC SAZU Municipality of Ljubljana































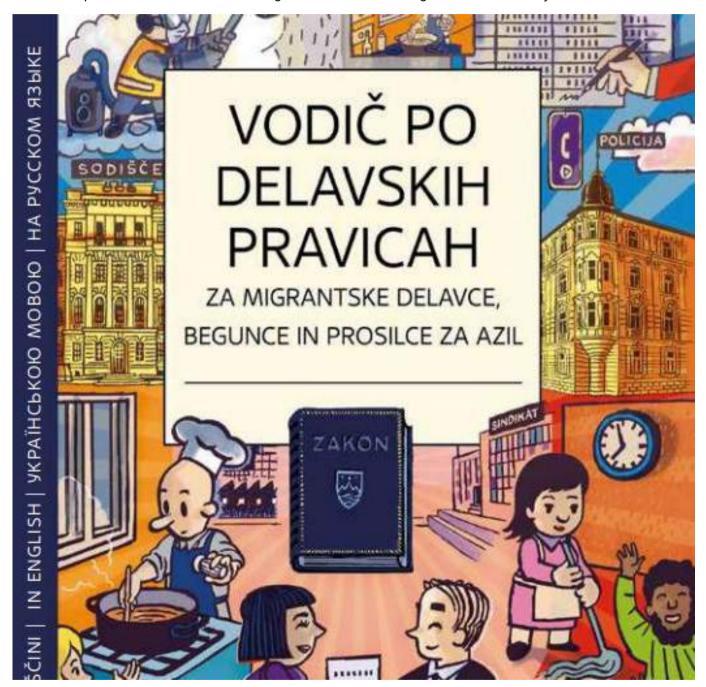




Dissemination materials for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

NSDS developed a <u>video</u> about the Integration of Third-country nationals in the labour market in Slovenia, from September 2020 until September 2021.

In addition, NSDS also developed a <u>Guide for migrant workers</u>, <u>asylum seekers and refugees</u> in Slovenia that relates basic but important information about their rights and duties that foreign workers are usually not aware of.



Workshops for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

In July and August 2022, NSDS held a series of workshops for refugees from Ukraine with temporary protection who were entering or have already entered the labour market. The workshops, which included nearly 60 participants, were

dedicated to labour rights and obligations and problems on the labour market in Slovenia and the EU. The workshops aimed to help integrate Ukrainian citizens into the labour market and help prevent abuse of workers.



"One-stop-shop"

In January 2020, NSDS started activities for the creation of the one-stop-shop: they signed a contract for additional space for personal counselling and information. At the conference of the Peace Institute on 21 January 2020, they presented the project and informed about the plans for the creation of a one-stop-shop at NSDS offices. They started counselling in December 2019 and continued in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Due to the needs of users, NSDS expanded counselling to social topics that are directly or indirectly related to the integration of Third-Country Nationals into the labour market in Slovenia.

NSDS also prepared an internal form for recording contacts with users of one-stop-shop, which also enables the statistics.



Consult here the <u>videos</u> about the one-stop-shop.



Poster designed to tag and promote one-stop-shop:



Study: Employment possibilities for Third-country nationals and their protection against exploitation in Slovenia

Consult here the study by ZRC SAZU.



Možnosti zaposlovanja državljanov tretjih držav in njihova zaščita pred izkoriščanjem v Sloveniji: raziskava projekta Union Migrant Network



Avtor_ice

Marina Lukšič Hacin, Jure Gombač, Špela Kastelic



Mutual Learning Program in Slovenia

NSDS, ZRC SAZU, and MOL hosted the Mutual Learning Program (MLP) from September 7 to 9, 2022. Partner organizations from Slovenia welcomed guests from Italy, ETUC and Croatia's Center for Peace Studies. We discussed Slovenia's practices, methods, and tools associated with its integration process.



Final National Dissemination Conference

ZRC SAZU was the host of the Slovenian Conference of the Unionmigrantnet project, in Ljubljana. This hybrid conference was attended by 76 participants. Representatives from the ETUC, the Ministry of Interior, Government office for the Support and Integration of migrants, Slovenian Employment service were present, as well as representatives from Slovenian, Italian, Belgian and German trade unions and the Centre for Peace Studies from Croatia. The fruitful panel was prepared together with women migrants and refugees and focused on integration experiences of women from Thailand, Palestine and Ukraine. This Conference highlighted the important role of projects like UnionMigrantNet to inform and educate, given the huge work still to be done in this field.



POLAND

Leaflets by OPZZ

OPZZ has produced leaflets on labour rights in Poland in Ukrainian, English and Polish.



Mutual Learning Program in Warsaw (Poland)

On 27 and 28 September 2022, a two-day meeting was held at the OPZZ headquarters as part of the Mutual Learning Program from the "UnionMigrantNet and Cities Together for Integration" project.

This meeting co-organised by the ETUC and OPZZ. It was attended by representatives from Ukrainian trade unions FPU and KVPU as well as the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC).

During the two-day meeting, the situation of Ukrainian refugees in Europe, due to the war in Ukraine, was discussed as well as ways to fully integrate them into the labour market. Best practices were presented from the trade unions and local authorities in Italy and Greece. Attention was also paid to the challenges on the Polish labour market with particular emphasis in the construction and transport sectors.

OPZZ also presented the details of cooperation with non-governmental organizations, including the Association for Legal Intervention, the Center for Organizing Trade Unions and the AFL-CIO, currently the largest international organization dealing with labour rights based in the USA. The programme ended with a visit to the Ukrainian House in Warsaw in where the participants could get acquainted with its daily activities in supporting Ukrainian refugees.











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Mestna občina Ljubijana City of Ljubijana





Comune di Pordenone





