



EMBRACE: Empowering Migrants to Be Representative Actors in Community Engagement

EMBRACE is a two-year, EU-funded project promoting **newcomers' participation in designing and implementing integration policies** alongside local decision-makers.

The project stems from the need to meaningfully involve newcomers in decision-making and is based **on the testing of pilot activities in 11 territories, across 6 European countries**. A two-pronged training path will be developed, aimed at building the capacity of newcomers to engage socially and politically, and at developing in local governments the competences needed to include them in policy development. **Listening sessions and workshops between migrants communities and policymakers will bring these groups to cooperate**, negotiate proposals and practically implement new policies. The framework will be completed by establishing local groups of newcomers undertaking **public leadership internships**.

The project builds on close cooperation between NGOs working in the field and local/regional public authorities. Careful **monitoring and evaluation combined with strategic dissemination activities** will validate the model for replication in other contexts, for the benefit of other EU institutions and communities.

Expected project outcomes:

- at least **198 newcomers take part in pilot activities** across 11 territories in Greece, Portugal, France, Italy, Slovenia, and Belgium;
- **110 relevant local stakeholders** develop the capacity to involve newcomers in decision-making processes;
- **structured activities** of mutual listening and collaboration take place;
- **5 newcomers** per location participate in **public leadership internships**;
- **11 public authorities** gain the competences needed to meaningfully engage newcomers in the designing and implementation of policies and tackle challenges together;
- **a unique model for newcomers' participation** is tested and made available for replicability at a local, national and European level.

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