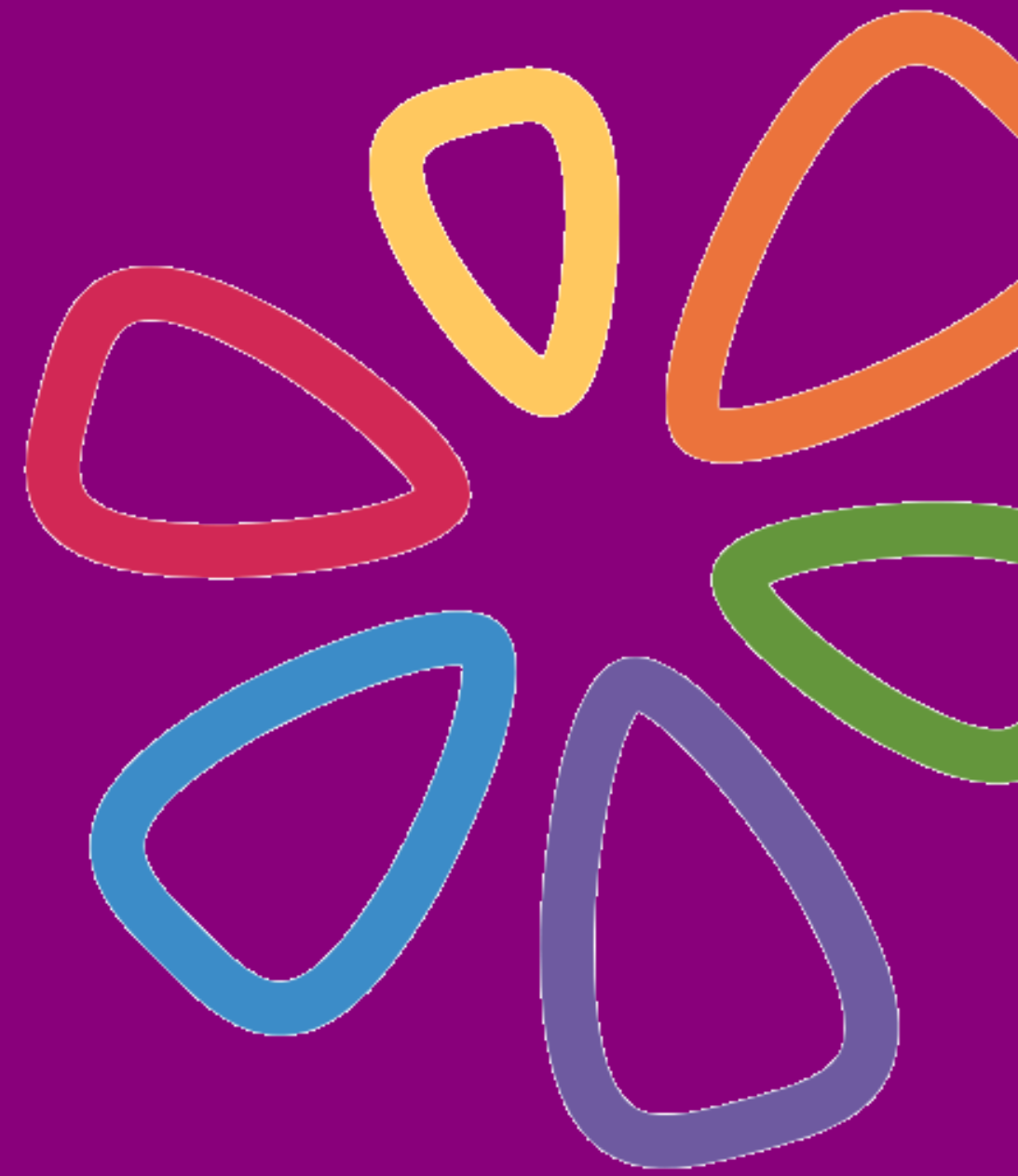EDUCATING FOR INCLUSION

INCLUDATE

EBOOK

SUMMARY

*The lived experiences of diverse
migrant groups in five European cities
& opportunities for positive change*

Comparative Research Network:

Aims – People – Projects – Methods – Results

Disclaimer

Comparative **R**esearch **N**etwork:

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**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Introduction

INCLUDATE project is an Erasmus+ partnership with 5 non-governmental organizations and 2 municipality from 6 cities Berlin, Budapest, Copenhagen, Palermo, Strasbourg, and Gdynia. The aim of the project is to promote inclusive societies by empowering migrant associations and supporting policymakers in Europe. By community reporting and storytelling, the project captures the experiences of people with migrant background living in five cities: Berlin, Budapest, Copenhagen, Gdynia, and Palermo.

We have reflected our experiences back to stakeholders, and seeked to influence policies to foster more inclusive, multicultural cities. First, using two methods (Community Mapping and Community Reporting), we collected data (points on a city map and data in video form) to get the better understanding of the communities in which we function. Then we chose the most important issue highlighted by the migrant communities and prepared local action plans as a response and a tool to aforementioned our communities' concerns and needs. Below you can find the description of used methods and results of the need assessment in 5 involved cities.

Community Reporting

Community Reporting involves residents of selected neighborhoods sharing their experiences through short, uninterrupted narratives. This peer-to-peer approach, developed by Peoples Voice Media (PVM), allows participants to analyze their own stories, fostering trust and reducing language barriers. The method emphasizes story gathering, curation, and sensemaking, enhancing the research process by incorporating the participants' perspectives. This participatory needs assessment is vital for developing inclusive policies based on the shared experiences of migrant communities.

Community Mapping

Community Mapping surveys migrants about their lives in the city through the places they frequent. In Copenhagen, for instance, the mapping event included migrants from diverse backgrounds and explored their experiences in the city. Challenges such as the high cost of living and reliance on budget services were highlighted. **This method helps understand migrants' spatial interactions and the social dynamics of their communities.**

Berlin

The section on Berlin focuses on the lived experiences of migrants in central Berlin. While the city's central location offers many opportunities, it also presents challenges for migrants. Issues like housing affordability, access to services, and social integration are explored through the narratives of the city's migrant residents. The insights gained from these stories aim **to inform local policies to better support migrant communities.**

Copenhagen

Copenhagen's migrant community is diverse, with significant populations from Turkey, Pakistan, Iraq, Poland, and Germany. Community Mapping revealed that migrants face challenges such as high living costs and limited access to affordable services. Despite these challenges, **the city's nature and housing diversity contribute positively to the migrant experience**. The insights gathered aim to enhance support structures and policies for the city's migrant population.

Gdynia

Gdynia experienced a significant influx of migrants from Ukraine, due to the outbreak of the armed conflict and it is estimated that the total number of migrants residing in the city has more than doubled over several months.The Community Mapping and Reporting workshops allowed to gather the opinions and reflections of a diverse group of people with migrant background regarding their everyday lives in new place of residence. Key insights from the stories concerned the role of social support in the integration process, difficulties in communicating and understanding the function or specific of public institutions,and employment challenges. The findings **aim to rise adaptability and community resilience in the face of refugee crisis and to guide local authorities in improving services and support for migrants, enhancing their integration into the community.**

Palermo

Palermo hosts a varied migrant population from countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Romania, and Tunisia. Community Mapping workshops highlighted the experiences of younger migrants and families. **Common themes include the importance of public spaces for social interaction and the challenges faced in adapting to a new cultural environment**. These insights are intended to help shape inclusive policies that support the diverse needs of Palermo's migrant communities.

Budapest

The Budapest section discusses the experiences of migrants in the city's 9th district. Through Community Reporting and Mapping, migrants shared their perspectives on local services, social integration, and urban living. The findings aim to **inform policy recommendations to enhance the inclusivity and support available to migrant communities** in Budapest.

Conclusion

The conclusion synthesizes the findings from all five cities, emphasizing the importance of inclusive policies and practices. It highlights the value of community-based research methods in capturing the nuanced experiences of migrants. The insights gained from the INCLUDATE project aim to drive **positive change and foster more inclusive, multicultural cities across Europe.**