

An effective multi-level governance as the key tool to face migration emergencies

21 June | 9:30 to 12:30

The House of European Municipalities and Regions

Square de Meeûs 1, 1000 Bruxelles

Hybrid event (in English)

Background

The Russian invasion of Ukraine caused the most massive and rapid migration wave that Europe has experienced since the Second World War. Due to this situation, a very particular policy response from the European Union has been activated for the first time: the Temporary Protection Directive ([TPD](#)). This was necessary as, following recent statistical [data](#), more than 6 million of people from Ukraine are currently displaced in the European Union. Local and Regional Governments (LRGs) all over Europe are playing a crucial role in the management of this new migration wave as well as in the integration process of the newcomers.

Despite the fact that some of the people coming from Ukraine might decide to remain (or not) in the country in which they are currently settled, the inclusion process needs to be implemented in order to ensure that they can learn the local language, go to school and start their journey in the labour market. This refugee crisis not only calls for emergency management, but also reminds us the urgency of establishing better coordinated and more sustainable integration strategies that take into consideration the local perspective as the most relevant one. One of the first priorities for LRGs is to provide refugees with safe, affordable and suitable housing. Education, financial support, entry into EU labour market, and access to healthcare are the other urgent challenges LRGs are facing nowadays.

For all these reasons, [IncluCities](#) has kicked off a series of debates on core issues related to the current migration crisis. In the framework of the **World Refugee Week 2022** (20-26 June), our high-level debate taking place on **21 June** will cast light on the importance of an effective multilevel governance as a key tool to face migration emergencies.

Objective

The main objective is to highlight the necessity of a systematic communication and coordination structure between the different tiers of governments - notably at EU, national and local level - when the topic of migration is at stake. Indeed, we strongly believe in the additional value of initiating a positive and fruitful exchange of ideas between LRGs and the European Institutions. In this case, MEPs' and international organisations' experiences would be extremely relevant for CEMR members, and the concrete and everyday experiences LRGs face may be interesting and inspirational to our guests.

Therefore, the event is aimed at answering some of the most pressing questions that LRGs across Europe currently have regarding migration, particularly with the implementation of TPD and with reception of migrants fleeing the war in Ukraine. This is why we will offer space and time for an open discussion between our member associations and our honourable guests. The idea is to open a platform for discussion between different stakeholders to underline the importance of an effective multilevel governance.

Draft agenda

9:00 - Welcoming coffee

9:30 – CEMR's role in the multilevel governance on migration. **Marlène Siméon**, Director of Operations, Council of European Municipalities and Regions – CEMR

9:45 - Roundtable presentations

10:00 - The TPD and the New Pact: the latest update on the work of the LIBE committee.
MEP Birgit Sippel (DE, S&D)

10:15 - Open floor for the participants (Q&A)

10:30 - Coffee break

10:45 - OECD presentation on Rights and Support for Ukrainian Refugees in Receiving Countries.

Mr. Thomas Liebig, Principal Administrator, Migration and Integration, OECD Paris (online)

11:00 - Open floor for the participants (Q&A)

11:15 - The European Perspective: Asylum and Migration Pact, the triggering of the Temporary Protection Directive, and the need for refugee protection in Europe.

MEP Damian Boeselager (DE, Green/EFA)

11:30 – The protection of displaced women and children fleeing the war in Ukraine.

MEP Fabienne Keller (FR, Renew)

11:45 – Open floor for the participants (Q&A)

12:15 Wrap up and conclusion. **Maria Grazia Montella**, Project and Policy Officer, Migration and Integration, IncluCities project – CEMR