



PRESS RELEASE

Immigrant Integration in Italy: Policies, Practices and Actors

Athens, 15/3/2013

On Friday 22 March 2013 takes place in Rome the second Workshop aiming at Developing an Immigration Mediterranean Network (iMnet), entitled **Immigrant Integration in Italy: Policies, Practices and Actors**, organised by the Harokopio University, the National Centre for Social Research (EKKE) and the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP). The workshop will be hosted at Centro Convegni "PALESTRO" (Via Palestro, 24, Roma) and will be held in English and Italian with interpretation service.

The aim of the workshop is to discuss immigrant integration policies, as well as to evaluate the forms of collaboration between different actors involved in designing those policies, and identify best practices developed and experiences gained in the arena of migrant integration in Italy. The event will host representatives of local and national government involved in designing migration policies, as well as insights offering academic perspectives on the implementation and impact of these policies, and will analyse examples of best practices and initiatives undertaken by civil society actors.

The event forms part of a series of workshops organised in the framework of the iMnet project in order to exchange information and experiences on immigration and integration policies in the four Southern European member-states: Greece, Italy, Spain and Greece. The workshops specifically focus at three different levels of integration policy and practice; 1) innovative policies designed and launched in the member states; 2) cooperation schemes among stakeholders; and 3) best practices for the successful integration of third country nationals. The last Workshop will take place in Athens in June 2013 and will focus on the comparative evaluation of results in the participating countries.

The Immigration Mediterranean Network will involve various stakeholders (public, private or civil society actors) in Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal, and other EU member-states, through online subscription on the project's web platform: <http://www.immnet.eu>. The platform offers those enrolled full access to all project material, including workshop results and project deliverables.

The Workshop is organized in the framework of the project entitled: "Developing a cooperation network to link representatives of Mediterranean Member States facing similar challenges as Greece in respect to the integration of third country nationals" (Project 4.1a./2011) financed through the European Integration Fund by EU funds (75%) and national funds (25%). Annual Programme 2011, Priority 4: "Exchange experience, good practice and information on integration between the member states", Action 4.1/11: "Building Cooperation Networks in the field of migration and integration". For additional information you may address to professor Apostolos G. Papadopoulos, Project's Leader (tel 210-9549318, fax 210-9514759, email: metanastes@hua.gr).

