

**Your Opinion DOES matter!**  
**CivAct Newsletter January 2018**



**“Building the skills and capacity of migrants, refugees and the EU citizenship to actively and democratically participate in the civic domain of EU”**

Building the concrete actions of a project, aimed at should be connected to the local realities in order to have the maximum possible effect. Our understanding of the activities are structured as an integral process whose priority will be to combat the stigmatization of immigrants and the construction of counter narratives that allow and promote mutual understanding and intercultural commitment by the populations in our 7 regions. The slow drift of the EU towards Euroscepticism after the economic crisis of 2008 has been self-evident and explained by most analysts on the basis of the higher flows of migration and refugees mainly fuelled by various global disasters. But how true is that analysis really? Those are the questions we set out to answer by asking all the good questions like...

Would you welcoming to refugees and migrants in your country? How about in your city? Do you believe that the Government has a moral obligation to help refugees? Do you believe migrants are a boost or throttle to the economy? How about security, do you think it's more likely for migrants and refugees to be criminals or terrorists? Do you believe migrants should integrate migrants or just



accept them? Should migration and refugee policies be in the purview of the state or there should be a coherent European Response? Based on what framework should we choose to deal with migrants, a national, with emphasis on securing minimal impact on the economy and culture or transnational one based on human rights that we consider ubiquitous? Do you feel the EU relates to your daily struggles? Do you agree at the EU as a concept? Do you agree with the EU in practice? These are important information points that will frame the way that we implement the activities.

The results of the survey by more than 120 people in all 7 regions as well 7 face to face focus groups in all our countries in order to gauge ideas more in a participatory and qualitative context. This actions showcased that the participants, mainly 20 to 49 are on the left of the Gaussian curve in terms of acceptance of migrants but lack on specific knowledge to counteract hate speech, are vulnerable to negative stereotypes and to know how they can become EU citizens through a more thorough understanding of the process that the EU works. Becoming devoted EU citizens by default makes them immune to nationalistic, Eurosceptic tendencies.

**Partners in our Project**

Cyprus



Spain



Italy – Umbria



Italy – Sicily



Portugal



France



Greece



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