

REGIN Final Event

23-24 February 2022 -online Zoom platform

Connection details will be provided to registered participants before the event

ABOUT REGIN

The Regions for Migrants & Refugees Integration - [REGIN](#) Project aims to mainstream migrant and refugee integration within social cohesion policies at regional level, by building a common framework to facilitate, guide and improve the performance of regional authorities through innovative tools. Specifically, the project aims to enable regional policy-makers to use evidence-based, feasibility tested cutting-edge research to underpin policy-making on integration.

The project is coordinated by the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions - [CPMR](#) as leader of a consortium consisting of 10 partners including [Azores](#) (Portugal), [Campania](#) (Italy), [Catalonia](#) (Spain), [Murcia](#) (Spain), [Partnership Skåne](#) (Sweden), [Puglia](#) (Italy), [Instrategies](#), [Migration Policy Group](#) and [CIDOB](#).



CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE EVENT

Regional authorities are increasingly active in the field of migrants' integration. They enjoy the advantage of being close to the population and have first-hand knowledge of the challenges and needs of the local society.

The new [EU Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027](#) published on 24 November 2020 reinforces the importance of regional and local authorities as crucial actors, as most integration and social inclusion measures are implemented at local level and are key to fostering integration and mutual trust.

However, regional authorities are having to deal with several challenges, such as lack of experience or knowledge in the field, lack of human and financial resources, and a political and societal environment not always favourable to migrant integration. Furthermore, due to the variety of competencies of regions across the EU, the regional dimension has been so far understudied and there is a lack of instruments and tools that analyse and help regional governments to improve their public intervention.

REGIN has attempted to fill some of the existing gaps by exploring to what extent EU and national policies require regional action for their implementation and which are the crucial regional policies devoted to migrants' integration. It has established a common framework for migrants' and refugees' integration in the regions based on indicators and evaluation tools and has developed training and capacity building actions. Beyond the six pilot regions, REGIN has been fostering cooperation and knowledge-sharing at the wider European level to promote innovative actions on migrants' integration at regional level.

This final conference will present the main results and recommendations of the project and explore how to further consolidate and promote the role and action of regional authorities within a multi-governance, multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach to integration and inclusion.



Agenda

23 FEBRUARY MORNING: HIGH LEVEL SESSION
(9.45 - 12.30 CET)
Interpreting: EN, ES, IT, PT

9.30: Connection of Participants

1. OPENING INSTITUTIONAL SESSION: INTEGRATION AND INCLUSION AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL IN A CHANGING EU MIGRATION LANDSCAPE: 9.45-10.15

- Introduced and moderated by **Eleni Marianou** Secretary General of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)

Introduction

What are the integration and inclusion challenges at regional level in the context of the new Pact on Migration and Asylum, the EU action plan 2021-2027 and the Conference on the Future of Europe? How REGIN is helping to provide answers at the regional level.

- **Keynote speeches**
 - **Ylva Johansson**, European Commissioner for Home Affairs (video address)
 - **Annika Annerby Jansson**, Chair of the CPMR Migration Task Force, President of Region Skåne

2. PRESENTATION OF THE REGIN PROJECT: 10.15-11.00

- **Introduction** by **Claire Street**, Senior Administrative and Policy Officer, CPMR, and short video presentation
- **REGIN indicators**: The importance of creating a relevant evidence base to underpin regional policymaking, by **Francesco Pasetti**, Senior Researcher, CIDOB
- **Testimonies** from representatives of CPMR Regions involved in REGIN:
 - **José Andrade**, Regional Director for the Communities of the Azores Government
 - **Katarina Carlzén**, Director Partnership Skåne
 - **Isabel Franco Sánchez**, Councillor for women, equality, LGTBI, families and social policies and Vice President of the Regional Government of Murcia

COFFEE BREAK: 11.00-11.15

3. PANEL DISCUSSION: CONSOLIDATING THE ROLE OF REGIONS IN VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL COORDINATION: 11.15-12.25

The panel provides insights and experiences on multilevel governance and multistakeholder partnerships within a cross-cutting approach to regional integration strategies and actions. Discussions will feed into the reflection on the needs and future actions on capacity building for regions and their stakeholders

Moderated by **Saray Espejo**, Head of European Affairs, Instrategies

- o **Anita Vella**, Head of Unit C.2 Legal Pathways and Integration, European Commission DG HOME
- o **Claire Charbit**, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD
- o **Antje Grotheer**, Vice-President of Bremen State Parliament, Committee of the Regions rapporteur on the New Pact on Migration and Asylum
- o **Gianpietro Nicola Ambrogio Occhiofino**, Expert in Migration Policies for the Presidency of the Apulia Region
- o **Eunice Romero Rivera**, Director-General of Migration, Refuge and Anti-Racism, Catalan Government

Debate

4. SUM UP OF MORNING DEBATES: 12.25-12.30

By **Eleni Marianou**, Secretary General of the CPMR

24 FEBRUARY MORNING: "PRACTITIONERS" SESSION
(9.30 - 13.00 CET)
Interpreting: EN, ES, IT, PT

9.15: Connection of Participants

The second day session is dedicated to practitioners with interactive sessions including regional testimonies from REGIN pilot regions, lessons learnt and exchanges with participants

1. INTRODUCTION: 9.30-9.45

- o Welcome and introduction to the "Practitioner's session, **Claire Street**, Senior Administrative and Policy Officer, CPMR
- o Presentation of the Cities and Regions for Integration Initiative and the Partnership with the European Commission on supporting cities regions, and rural areas in migrants' integration, **Bert Kuby**, Head of Unit, Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs (CIVEX)

2. THEMATIC SESSIONS

THEMATIC SESSION 1: 9.45-10.30

- **Ensuring the effectiveness and sustainability of regional integration actions: keys for success**

Led by **Gemma Pinyol**, Head of Migration Policies and Diversity, Instrategies

- Introduction and overview of REGIN tools: stakeholder mapping and capacity building guidelines, training modules, evaluation framework, Integration Lab
- Contributions from REGIN partner regions Azores, Campania, Puglia
- Exchange with participants

Questions to orient the debate:

- Which are the elements (commitment, participation, etc.) needed to guarantee the sustainability and continuity of integration policies?
- What are the tools needed to keep working: evaluation/capacity building tools/training
- Which has been the added value of the REGIN tools?

THEMATIC SESSION 2: 10.30-11.15

- **REGIN Indicators, gaps revealed and future prospects for use of MIPEX-R at European level**

Led by **Francesco Pasetti**, CIDOB / **Giacomo Solano** and **Carmine Conte**, MPG

- Introduction: MIPEX-R rationale and aim in the REGIN project
- Key-findings (focused on gaps identified by MIPEX-R) as regards:
 - Outcomes
 - Competences
 - Governance
- Benefits of using MIPEX-R to improve integration governance? Regions' point of view.
 - Contributions from Catalonia
 - Contribution from Murcia
- Q&A
- Conclusion

COFFEE BREAK: 11.15 -11.30



THEMATIC SESSION 3: 11.30-12.15

o Methodologies for building a regional ecosystem for sustainable integration and inclusion support

Led by Partnership Skåne (PS): Katarina Carlzén, Klara Steinvall, Ziad Jomaa

With Henrik Nilsson, Process leader NÄTVERKET (“*the network*”) and responsible for the PS coordination of activities within civil society

- Presentation of the Skåne model
- Interactive debate

The work of establishing the multilevel governance platform [Partnership Skåne](#) started in 2007 and has since been published several times by the World Health Organization as key learning example to actions relating to migration, participation, and health equity for migrants.

In 2019 Partnership Skåne model for health diplomacy was introduced in the WHO book [“Health diplomacy - spotlight on refugees and migrants”](#)

The workshop will introduce and discuss the key components and learning points of Partnership Skåne.

3. FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES AT EU LEVEL FOR DEVELOPING REGIONAL ACTION: 12.15-12.50

Moderated by Claire Street, CPMR

Presentation of EU funding opportunities for migrant integration, Iulia Barbu Vlachopoulos, Programme Manager, Unit E4 Union Actions and Procurement Migration and Security Funds; Financial Resources, European Commission DG HOME

Open discussion on capitalising on REGIN in the context of the new [AMIF work programme 2021-2022](#) and [toolkit on EU funding](#)

4. CONCLUDING SESSION: 12.50-13.00

Final remarks and takeaways by Bert Kuby, Head of Unit, Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs (CIVEX)

Wrap-up and close by CPMR