

A CALL FOR STORIES:

## **Sharing the European Dream**

**The history of the development and growth of the cities has been linked to immigration. It was one of the most important factors in forming today's cities. The massive migration can be taken not only as a challenge but also as a chance for further development. All inhabitants, no matter from which background they come, contribute to the local well-being.**

Being a follow-up of the conference on the impact of the European refugees crisis in the Baltic cities, organized in Rostock in March 2016, the UBC Conference on Integration "**Sharing the European Dream**" addresses the questions on the role of migration in the cities development. Its aim is to draft the vision of an inclusive city of the future.

In 2016, more than a million uprooted people flooded Europe following the vision of the European Dream promising safety, peace, as well as a chance for a decent life including a future for their children. Many of them arrived in the Baltic Sea Region. The cities had to provide shelter, food, clothing, transportation, etc.

Today, two years after, the situation is less tense, although many people are still reaching us. It seems to be sure that most of them will stay for long or even forever. The main concern for both newcomers and the cities is integration: language learning, schooling, housing, professional education, jobs, culture, participation in the society.

The next Bulletin will provide a space for further discussions after the Conference in Rostock and will be devoted to the integration. How to make a shift in thinking: 'from a stranger to a neighbour'?

### **Sharing the European Dream**

The Editorial Board would like to invite the cities to present their experiences in the integration process. What measures have been taken to welcome the migrants in our societies? How to master the integration of new citizens as full members of the society? How to live, work and learn together to share the European dream? The ideas are welcome on:

- how to communicate beyond the stereotypes and media picture?
- how to ensure the equal access to relevant, reliable information?

- how to ensure an equal access to education?
- how to create a more inclusive economy and job market that allows all people to use their competences and potential?
- how to ensure safety?
- how to involve inhabitants so that they feel responsible for the city development?
- how to make a city inclusive?
- what kind of features should a city have to generate positive energy from cultures' cohabitation?
- how do we as cities/communities welcome the others, get to know them, change ourselves, exchange on our religious beliefs, in a true dialogue?

As usual, apart from the main theme, we are looking forward to receiving stories on interesting events and daily news from our member cities.

**Please forward this message to your city officials and workers who work with integration issues.**

Looking forward to your reply,



Paweł Żaboklicki  
UBC Secretary General

## **GUIDELINES**

- Deliver the story by e-mail to: [anna.dargiewicz@ubc.net](mailto:anna.dargiewicz@ubc.net) in MS WORD format. Please expect confirmation of reception. Lack of confirmation means that the message is not delivered.
- Each member city may submit two articles - one related to the cover theme and one to the chapter "News from Member Cities". All stories shall be sent in English.
- Each article may have max 400 words, no more than 1 page A4, font TimesNewRoman 12pt. The editorial board sometimes needs to shorten the stories in order to include more stories into the Bulletin. It is also important to include the author's name and contact details for any follow-up questions related to the story.
- Please make all efforts to include 1–2 good quality photos to illustrate the article (JPG format, min. 300 ppi, one e-mail - one picture, the file should not exceed 3 MB).
- The deadline for stories to the Bulletin is **28 March 2018**. Please respect this timetable as we are unable to publish the stories received after this deadline.

If you have interesting issues to report, please do not hesitate to send them.

The bulletin will be published online.